

Friday 29th January 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope all our families are safe and well. This week, we continue to be very happy with our students' work and their resilience during these difficult times. Well done to you all.

Earlier this week the Prime Minister announced that the Government are working on a plan to reopen schools from the 8th March and that they would hope to publish further details in the week of 22nd February. This means that, unfortunately, we will not be able to welcome our students back straight after half term, and we are saddened by this news.

We will write to the parents of Year 11 students again next week with further details of how they will work with their teachers online for their Spring assessments. Mrs Banger will speak to the students about this next week in assembly.

A reminder that next Wednesday (3rd February) we will be running Year 9 Parents' Evening virtually. Specific details about the evening have been sent to Year 9 parents already. However, we wanted to remind **all parents** that during Periods 3, 4 and 5 on the Wednesday students, **in all Year groups**, will be completing their distance learning independently. **There will not be any live lessons during this time.** Students will access their lessons via the Files section of their subject Class Team on MS Teams. We will remind students about this next week.

Our Choose Love show takes place every year to raise awareness and much needed funds for refugees in need. We work closely with local charity, Refugee Aid Chorlton, and global charity Help Refugees Last term we raised over £1000 for this cause. Please join us at 6pm on Thursday 11th February to join together as a community and support those in need. You will be treated to an arts extravaganza of singing, dancing and musical delights from our talented students who continue to thrive in their passion for the arts.

At Chorlton High School, we prioritise **mental fitness** for all our staff and students. This year, as in previous years, we want to take to time to spotlight this in advance of **Time to Talk day**. This will take place on Thursday 4th February 2021. Although Time to Talk day will look different this year, it is a fantastic opportunity for our community to talk about mental fitness and to listen and support each other.

This years' Time to Talk focus is "The Power of Small" which highlights the importance of talking through the small things, how this can make a huge difference to our mental fitness and ultimately our happiness. Over the coming week, students will have the opportunity to:

- learn about the strategies our staff use to open up and talk about their mental fitness,
- provide feedback on their wellbeing,
- voice any concerns,

- highlight areas we can focus on more and
- speak to members of staff about how they are feeling.

We encourage our community to come together and support Time to Talk day, as we work hard to remove the stigma attached to mental health issues.

Although school may not be physically open for the majority of students, we would like to take this opportunity to remind our parents and students that staff are still available daily, and any concerns can be directed to Year teams. There are lots of resources on our school webpage, that can be accessed through **Distance Learning – Happy**. This is where you will find strategies to boost qualities of mental fitness and a large range of external agencies available for support.

We are looking forward to working with our students on this very important subject over the course of next week.

We hope you have a good weekend.
Chorlton High School

