

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been great to see our students back in school after their half term break and we look forward to the many opportunities that are ahead this half term. In this week's update, we wanted to share with you a few key messages/information.

### **Covid-19 Measures**

You will have seen in the news, that Greater Manchester has moved to an 'Enhanced Response Area' due to the rise of Covid-19 cases in the region. In Manchester, the Covid-19 infection rates are rapidly increasing and in the past week rates have practically doubled. We have, therefore, been advised by Public Health to return to the use of face coverings for students in classrooms and communal areas. We will also be sending out new testing kits. Public Health England has stated that **twice weekly testing is one of the most effective methods** recommended to keep everyone safe.

This news is clearly disappointing as we were potentially looking forward to an end of term free of restrictions. Once again, we want to thank you for your ongoing support in this matter.

### **Mobile Phones and Digital Safety**

As we highlighted before half term, we have put together a new mobile phone policy which will be available on our website over the next few weeks. In advance of this, we wanted to share some key points with parents.

- It is a zero-tolerance approach. If a mobile phone is seen out during school hours it will be confiscated.
- The first time a phone is confiscated by a member of staff, students will be able to pick it up from the canteen area at the end of the day. However, if the phone is confiscated again we will be asking parents to come into school and to collect them.

This week we have been alerted to a disturbing video on the social media platform, TikTok. This has also been highlighted in the national press. We strongly recommend that students are not signed up to this platform. We will ensure that have continuing conversations around their digital safety.

### **Clean Air Day – Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> June**

Next week the school will be supporting the **Clean Air Day initiative**, as we strongly believe that we all deserve to breathe in less polluted air. We have several activities planned with students to mark this day and we wanted to ask parents and staff to support this too. It is a great opportunity to put away the car keys and make use of our public transport system, pedal bikes or even increase our daily steps. We are hoping to see a significant reduction in traffic on this day, and hopefully in the future, as we will be encouraging all students to make their own way to school. As you will be aware, since the measures have eased with regards to Covid-19, there has been an increase in traffic on the roads and with that an increase in road accidents for pedestrians and cyclists. This is a great opportunity to reduce the risk by reducing the volume.

### **Big Bike Revival**

On Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 9am until 1pm, Big Bike Revival will be based in our school and are offering students free basic bike repairs and bike safety checks (bike repairs include fixing punctures, brake adjustment and cables replacing). If students would like to take up this opportunity, they need to bring their bikes on this day and take them to the area in front of the Astro Turf where Big Bike Revival will be set up.

**Progress checks reminder**

Progress checks, for all Year groups, start next week. Students have been given home study planners with their English, Maths and Science dates already added and they can use these to add in the dates for their other tests. Information on what will be on the checkpoints can be found on our website.

Have a wonderful and, hopefully, sun filled weekend.

Kind regards,

Chorlton High School

