



SEATON VALLEY FEDERATION OF SCHOOLS

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19 March 2021

Good afternoon

I, like many others have been thinking have we only been back 2 weeks and the answer is yes. We have slipped back into the routines of school so easily it feels as if we have never been away and I am sure that many of you and your children are feeling the same.

After the euphoria of last week being back into school this week seems to have been a lot harder which is to be expected and understandable. This last lockdown was a lot harder for so many of us and many of our young people seem to have had more struggles this time. Most have adapted to the return to school really well and I would like to thank them for that. Some pupils have struggled with the return to school. If your son or daughter is having any issues please do contact us so that we can see how we can help them.

Alongside the return to school last week there were also the terrible events down in London and the sad death of Sarah Everard. As a Federation I am aware that we need to reflect the national mood and also prepare our young people for their future lives. We will be looking at how we can continue in our work to educate our students with regard to respecting all members of society and the role that we all have to play in this.

Hopefully by now if you are a parent of a year 11 or 13 pupil you will have had a letter setting out how we are going to gather the evidence which will be used to give grades this summer. As we receive more information from the Exam Boards and Ofqual we will share it with you.

The home testing is going well and thank you to all those families taking part in this. If you are having any issues please contact the schools and we will help you as best we can. I must be clear if a home test is positive and that is reinforced by a full test then all the pupils who have been in close contact with the positive case will be sent home to isolate. To avoid this happening please remind your children to follow Covid secure practices which we are all aware of. Hands, face, space.

Like you I am waiting to hear if the government is going to make any changes to their guidance with regard to face coverings in class. As soon as we hear we will let you know.

In these strange times it is worth reminding ourselves that normal things can still happen even if they are socially distanced. Today we had Red Nose Day in the Middle Schools and that went really well. Thank you to everyone who took part in and organised the events. At ACHS hot chocolate with the Head saw nearly 40 pupils joining Mr Scott to mark the great work they had done.

Life is not normal but staff and pupils are trying very hard to make things still seem normal and we should be grateful for that.

Next week is the last week before we break up for Easter. I must remind you that the first Monday back after Easter is a training day and so schools are not open for pupils. I hope we all have a good week next week and that this very strange term can end on a positive note.

I hope everyone has a good weekend and as always please take care and be safe.

Yours sincerely

John Barnes
Executive Headteacher