

Dear Parent/Carer

Parental Update 62

Welcome back! I trust you and your family had a relaxing half-term, even if it seems some time ago now. As I'm sure your son or daughter will have told you, life is back in full swing here – Teacher Assessed Grades, Admissions Appeals, and planning for next year (*eg* in drawing up next year's timetable) have all featured prominently in our work this week, as well (of course) as the day-to-day business of providing the great lessons your children deserve!

However, we have had another positive Coronavirus case this week – the second in two school weeks – and just over 40 Year 7 students are having to self-isolate as a result. Please do remember all those involved in your thoughts and prayers.

Art competition

Liverpool's Ethnic Minority and Traveller Achievement Service – affectionately known as 'EMTAS' throughout schools in the City – has organised a poster competition as part of Refugee Week (which starts next Monday). The theme this year is "We cannot walk alone", and as part of their Art homework a number of Year 7 students have



been working hard to create some provocative pieces reflecting the theme.



I must admit I was

genuinely moved by a couple of boys' work in particular, and I wanted to share their creations with you. Both have been submitted from our school to EMTAS' City-wide competition, where I'm sure they'll be equally well received. A big 'well done' to all those who worked so hard to produce such outstanding work – and particular congratulations to the two boys whose work is featured here.

The school diary for the upcoming half-term

A number of school events this half-term are dependent on when (and whether) all pandemic restrictions will be lifted. We understand the Prime Minister will be making an announcement about the 'roadmap' (which currently anticipates a lifting of all restrictions in 10 days' time) on Monday 14th June.

In the meantime I'm afraid that decisions about the Year 11 Leavers' Service, Year 7 induction, Sports Days *etc* are being carefully postponed! Apologies for the inconvenience, but we'll let you know what's happening as soon as we are able to.

Academic plans, however, can be made with a greater degree of certainty. We published plans about Assessment Weeks for Years 7 to 10 before half-term, and yesterday Year 11 parents should have received communication about the bridging courses we're putting on. If you missed any of these letters they can be accessed from our website here and here.

Dr Silverstone's section

Dr Silverstone, our Director of Pastoral Care, writes:

"Please be aware that on Wednesday next week, I will be sending out a survey to all students in Years 7 to 11.

"The survey asks questions about safeguarding in school and about our pupils' experiences of St Margaret's. The responses we get will help us make sure that as we plan for next year, we are taking into account the views of our pupils.

"I will send out a link to all pupils' school email accounts on Wednesday morning, and I will ask them to fill in the survey from home. Please do remind them to fill it in so that their views are taken into account."

Different formats

Do you need letters from school, such as this weekly *Update*, in a different format, such as large print, or Braille? Would it be helpful to have them in a different language? If so, do please get in touch with me (through <u>this address</u>) and we'll do whatever we can to help.

Finally...

I'm sure many of us will be enjoying the start of the Euros this weekend. We've found in our family that sporting occasions such as these often afford opportunities to talk about different countries, different cultures, different traditions — and of course the more we can do so, the more we can help promote a healthy respect for those who are different to us.

Whatever your weekend holds, we hope it is as restful as it can be. We'll be in touch as usual next Friday.

Yours faithfully

Stephen Brierley

Principal.