



## PARENT BULLETIN

FRIDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2020

### Message from the Principal

A short bulletin this week. I think it is important to make you aware that we have 5 members of staff who have been identified as Clinically Extremely Vulnerable and as such are not currently able to work in school. This is in addition to an understandably higher than normal staff absence rate during the current time, so this will mean times when your child will not have their normal teacher. We have spent a lot of time trying to minimise the impact of this and I would like to thank the staff who have volunteered to take on duties above and beyond the normal expectations, but please bear with us. We are trying our best.

Although they remain technically allowed, providing we maintain consistent 'bubbles' we have now cancelled all routine assemblies and we are increasingly asking students to wear face coverings during lessons or parts of lessons. Please continue to support us with these requests to try to keep everyone safe. Overall, students have adapted to these changes brilliantly.

I have copied below some of the work our Year 9 students completed for Remembrance Day.

Take care,

Shaun Simmons



### Years 11 and 13 Pre-Public Examinations (PPEs)

The first week of Year 11 and Year 13 PPEs has gone superbly well, student behaviour has been exceptional and it is clear they are very focused on achieving well. Student attendance has also been excellent despite current circumstances; averaging over 96% daily. Students are tired but it is important that they keep this momentum going as they have their final week of examinations next week. I would like to thank you for your continued support of your child and the Academy.

### Year 11 External Public Examination

There will be a real public examination on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November for all students who take the NCFE Health & Fitness course. This is NOT a mock examination and results will count towards students' final grades. Students must be in the Academy by 8:30am, the examination will start at 9am sharp.

### Music Lessons

We are pleased to announce that individual peripatetic music lessons have now started at The Marsh Academy through Kent Music. Clearly, at the current time, lessons need to be COVID secure and are subject to change/cancellation, but we have a few slots still available for students to learn how to play the guitar, drums, bass guitar, ukulele or piano. If you would like to sign up please contact Kent Music through their website. <https://www.kent-music.com/music-lessons/>

### Online Safety Tip

What issues online could be affecting your children?

A good resource in answering the question is the <https://www.internetmatters.org/> website.

This website covers a range of topics with regards to internet safety, It aims to support adults with keeping children safe on the internet. They can offer support in reporting inappropriate content, setting controls and privacy settings and covering a wide range of online issues.

### Diary Dates

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December – Year 11 Parents' Evening

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Last day of Term 2

**WEEK NUMBERS TERM 2 2020/2021**

Week beginning Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November | Week A