



29th January 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

The government announcement this week about the delayed reopening of schools came as a disappointment to us all, but is understandable given the current national picture. The Prime Minister has stated that he hopes to start bringing schools back safely from the 8th March; it is my opinion that this will be a moveable target and that secondary schools may be subject to a staggered return once the green light is given.

We are proud of our remote learning offer and our engagement to all lessons continues to grow, standing at 91.4% currently. Thank you for everything you do as parents day in, day out to support this impressive figure alongside all of your other commitments.

In light of the prospect of a further three weeks of remote learning, and feedback from parents, staff and our student leaders about screen time, we want to make sure our engagement, motivation and morale stays high. To this end, we have decided to have a 'Wellbeing Wednesday' afternoon during the final week of half term.

This is how the afternoon will work:

- on **Wednesday 10th February** only, live lessons will end after lesson 3 (that's 1.10pm for Y7, Y8 and Y10, and 12.40pm for Y9, Y11 and VI Form);
- students will be provided with a special 'Wellbeing Wednesday' LIFE bulletin full of ideas to spend their time during the afternoon - away from the screen, or they could simply read a book or go for a walk by themselves or with their family;
- students who are currently coming into school can either be collected at the end of period 3, or the senior leadership team will ensure there is an exciting afternoon of socially-distanced activities - again, with no screens in sight!

Naturally, we value education highly and that is why we have worked hard to provide as close a replication of normal schooling as we can during lockdown. However, we also know working at a screen all day can be tiring, so we hope you will agree that this small change at the end of a long half term will benefit everyone by giving our dedicated students, and staff, a chance for a meaningful change of scenery during daylight hours.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs H. L. Millett
Headteacher

