

**Weekly Communication update 07/05/21**

<p><b>General Update</b></p>	<p>This term is always incredibly busy. The main focus has been on getting Year 11 students ready for the next phase in their educational journey. Year 11 have been working hard with staff to ensure that they have all the necessary evidence to be awarded their correct examination grades. Pupils in Years 9, 11 and 13 have also been having Careers Interviews with an experienced external provider. Our college transition days have also started and a number of Year 11 groups have been attending college one day per week.</p> <p>If you have a child in Year 10 you will be receiving information about Year 10 work experience which is set to take place from the 5th-9th July. Now is the time to start looking for a placement for your child. Our Music Therapist, Ian, and our Intervention teacher, Laura, continue to work with pupils on Tuesdays as part of our catch-up offer.</p> <p>If you have any good quality, spare school uniform could you please send it in as we are always in need of spare clothing. Many thanks.</p> <p>Starting with this update, all updates and letters will also be available in spoken form on the website for those who prefer to listen instead of reading.</p>
<p><b>Lateral Flow Testing</b></p>	<p>Testing at home needs to continue. Please check your child's bag as they will have been given a box of tests. You should be testing your child on Sunday and Wednesday evenings and reporting a positive result to the school office.</p>
<p><b>Free School Meals</b></p>	<p>There is funding available for free school meal vouchers for the May half term. If your child is entitled to free school meals then you will receive a voucher to the value of £15 via email.</p>
<p><b>Wellbeing</b></p>	<p>Next week is Mental Health Awareness Week. The theme of the week is nature. Please see details here:  <a href="https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/campaigns/mental-health-awareness-week">https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/campaigns/mental-health-awareness-week</a></p> <p>We are introducing <b>Wellbeing Wednesdays</b> one Wednesday afternoon per month at school. More information to follow.</p>
<p><b>Year 10 residential proposal</b></p>	<p>A booking has been made at The Old Pheasantry for a Year 10 residential week beginning June 28th. This is a fantastic residential which will give pupils the opportunity to develop their social and independence skills as well as having some fun. Year 10 would be divided into two groups with half of the pupils attending Mon and Tues returning on Wednesday and the other half of the group attending Wednesday and Thursday returning on Friday. Please see a questionnaire below (only 2 questions) to indicate if this is something you would be interested in sending your child on:  <a href="https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd6im7VUGCskZqdtCHfvcg6hzvX2CxenJzZpVKbE-TbWuLiBw/viewform?usp=sf_link">https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd6im7VUGCskZqdtCHfvcg6hzvX2CxenJzZpVKbE-TbWuLiBw/viewform?usp=sf_link</a></p> <p>Please complete it by Monday May 10th. Please only complete this if you currently have a child in Year 10.</p> <p>It would be staffed by Bensham Manor staff and all Covid guidance would be applied. A preliminary cost of £50 per pupil has been given but I will let you know what the final cost is once I know how many pupils will be attending. It will not be more than £50.</p>
<p><b>Eid</b></p>	<p>As a school we will be celebrating Eid on Friday 14th May. Pupils will have a mini celebration during Friday's assembly time and will be learning more about this important religious event.</p>