

Wednesday, 30th March 2022

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#### Whole School

#### **Covid update**

I am pleased to inform you that since our peak on Friday 18th March, we have continued to see a steady fall in the number of students testing positive for COVID-19 and I am sure the return of face masks for the last two weeks of term will have played some part in that. We have also seen a major drop in the number of staff testing positive and, as of today, have no staff absent with Covid, which means we have been able to continue with face-to-face lessons as normal across all year groups. Unfortunately, this has not been the case across all schools with some having to resort to remote teaching for several year groups in the closing stages of the term. From the start of next term, staff and students will not need to wear a face mask in school, though, whilst it is clearly proving difficult to acquire LFD test kits at this stage, if you do still have any test kit supplies by the end of the Easter holidays, please ensure your son/daughter takes a test before their return to school on Tuesday 19th April.

I do appreciate that we have only been able to overcome our own Covid spike this term because students, staff and parents have been thorough with testing whenever they have experienced any symptoms. I am hugely grateful for the thoughtful consideration that has been displayed across our community. Thank you.

#### **Easter Church Services**

It was lovely to have the whole school in St Michael's Church across our three Easter services this week. In each case the students conducted themselves very well and were suitably respectful. I was really impressed by all the students involved in the service with excellent performances from all the readers, the musicians, and the choir. Our thanks to Revd. Williams and St Michael's Church for hosting us.

#### Mitre newsletter

Please look out for this term's Mitre newsletter, which will be emailed to you before the end of term. This latest edition is packed full of photos and updates from the numerous clubs, events and experiences your children have been involved in over the last three months and is a great way for you to see just how much goes on at TBSHS.

#### Mr D Reeve Headteacher

#### A notice from Hertfordshire County Council

As we step into spring, we're encouraging residents to be kind and stay healthy by following simple steps to live life safely with COVID-19, stop the spread and protect others. For up-to-date information go to <a href="https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/covidliving">https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/covidliving</a>

The simple steps people are encouraged to follow are:

- Be kind respect people wearing masks or keeping their distance from you. They may well be very vulnerable to infection
- o Be informed know your level of risk and get good, trusted advice on managing it
- Be vaccinated or boosted ensure you and those around you are vaccinated when invited
- Be safe manage your risk when socially mixing (hands, face, space, fresh air)
- Be prepared if you get Covid, stay at home and get early treatment should you need it
- o Be supported as well as your family and friends, HertsHelp can offer support



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#### Careers – Lunchtime Workshops

We've hosted a number of lunchtime Careers Workshops recently; Weston Group, Real Ltd and Linklaters LLP

If there are any parents/carers reading this who can spare the time to come in and speak to our students about their professional role/career pathway etc, please do get in touch claire.jonas@tbshs.org

#### Services for Young People

Services for Young People are pleased to announce that we are running the *HAPpy programme* again in the Easter holidays. This is open to all young people between the ages of 13 to 16 in receipt of free school meals. It runs from the 4th to the 8th of April from 1:00 PM till 5:00 PM at the where young people centre in marsh lane where SG12 2QB.

Parents need the school code and our code which is V62%VV to apply for a place online using the QR code on this poster. If you all the parents have any questions or queries please find the main office on 01992 588 220.

#### Acme Bus Service for Friday

Intended timetable for this Friday is as follows:

#### Friday 1 April

Route E will depart at 12.40 Route F will depart at 12.40 Route I will depart at 13.25 HSN1 will depart at 12.50 E5 will depart at 12.50

#### Sixth Form

#### Year 12 Work Experience Week - 20th to 24th June

The deadline for handing completed forms to Mrs Jonas is 20<sup>th</sup> May and will come round all too quickly. Full information and associated paperwork is available on the website. **Mr R Stark** 

#### Year 12 Post-18 Gateway Exams

Please note that the Year 12 Gateway examinations will take place from 10th - 17th June. To find the timetable, please visit the examinations tab under the 'Academic' heading on the website -  $\underline{Year\ 12}$  Examinations. Mr R Stark

#### Year 12 & 13 Revision

We hope that students get plenty of rest over the holidays but with the summer examinations period almost upon us, Year 12 & 13 students should have rigorous revision strategies in place to ensure they use they time wisely in preparation for their exams. **Mr R Stark** 



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#### Year 13 Leavers Arrangements Letter

The letter regarding payments for yearbooks & the dinner & dance can be found <a href="here">here</a> & was also sent out via MyEd. Mr R Stark

#### Year 13 Student Careers Education and Provision Survey

If you could remind your son/daughter to complete the Yr 13 Student Survey about careers education and provision that they were emailed last week. They will also find the link on the Yr 13 Daily Notices. Thank you to the 57 students that have responded so far. **Mr R Stark** 

#### Year 13 Student Finance for 2022-2023 – Applications NOW OPEN

A reminder that it is a good idea for your sons and daughters to be applying now to Student Finance England, if there is any chance that they will be starting University this year. Click <u>here</u> for a letter outlining the process and containing links to websites and resources. They <u>do not</u> have to have made their firm and insurance choices to do this and they can cancel their application after Results Day if they decide not to go. **Mrs F Price** 

#### Year 13 Making UCAS Choices – Deadline 9 June

While there are still a number of universities to reply to applications (they have until 19 May to do this), there are a number of students who have heard from all their university choices. For them, there is still no rush to make their Firm and Insurance choices (9 June is the deadline for this), but as students will be receiving their last report this week with their final set of teacher projections, i.e. what teachers feel they are most likely to achieve in the summer, they may want to spend some time over the Easter holiday to review all their uni research (e.g. check course descriptions, especially years 2 and 3, re-run Unifrog search tool and double check all important factors, look for bursary and scholarships — Unifrog Special Opportunities tool). If they are really certain, then they may want to actually make their choices but they should not feel pressured by universities pushing accommodation applications. Most universities guarantee first years accommodation as long as they apply by a certain date which is often as late as July. While your choice of room may be less wide if you apply a bit later, it is much more important to have picked the best and most realistic courses.

More information about making choices can be viewed in the <u>UCAS NEXT STEPS</u> presentation from earlier this term on the UCAS website at <u>Replying to Offers</u>. **Mrs F Price** 

#### Year 13 Apprenticeships

It is pleasing to learn of a number of students successfully reaching final assessment centres for a number of different apprenticeship programmes and it is also good that there are a range of vacancies already open and continuing to coming on stream. A reminder that the key to success is being proactive – actively searching, being registered on direct.gov website, scanning careers notices, building work experience through both in person and virtual activities, making lots of applications. I know this is time consuming but unfortunately it is a numbers game. Key pointers and resources can be viewed in

<u>Yr13 Apprenticeships What next Assembly 24Feb22.pdf</u>. I am always happy to help answer queries and provide support, as is Claire Jonas our Careers Advisor, and would also appreciate students keeping me up-to-date on their applications. **Mrs F Price** 

#### Sixth Form - Limited Disruption on Friday 22 April

Please note that due to the influx of external visitors for the Year 12 Business Professional Interviews on Friday 22 April, there will be no Sixth Form parking at the Pavilion on that day and the downstairs Sixth Form Centre will be closed in the morning until lunchtime. **Mrs F Price** 



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#### Year 12 Key Post-18 Dates

**22 April - Business Professional Interviews:** With CVs completed and about to be sent out, we are looking forward to welcoming a team of 28 business professionals into school on Friday 22 April to conduct practice interviews with our Yr 12. Students will be notified of their interview time when we return after the Easter holidays.

**25/27 April – Personal Statement Education:** All Year 12s will be receiving education on one of these dates (NB: slight to change to original timeline) on how to express their strengths in their Post-18 applications. All students will then be producing a first draft Personal Statement tailored to a degree course, career or job sector by **13 May** for tutor review.

**7 June - UCAS Application Education -** Although the UCAS Hub will open for applications for 2023-entry on 3 May, students should not start an application until after they have had their in-school training. **Mrs F Price** 

#### Year 11

#### Sixth Form Applications Update

Conditional offers of Sixth Form places have been emailed to students to the home address they recorded on their Sixth Form Application. The date to accept the offer and book a place for induction is Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> April. **Mr R Stark** 

#### Year 10, Year 11 and Year 13

#### **Examination Support in Religious Studies**

Active and healthy revision should now be in full flow.

Students have revision resources, including key points, key words, key quotes and past paper questions. Podcasts will follow.

Thank you to all Religious Studies staff for their great leadership.

Thank you to all Religious Studies students for their impressive commitment and engagement.

Thank you to parents for your continued invaluable support. It is very much appreciated.

Please e-mail Mr. Etheridge if you have any questions.

With every good wish

Yours sincerely

Mr. Etheridge



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#### **Sports**

#### Cricket Training – After Easter

We are pleased to confirm that the before school cricket programme will continue after Easter for years 7, 8 and 9. We are also increasing the sessions available for all year groups. Listed below is the full schedule:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School	7		8		9
Lunch	9		11 & 6 <sup>th</sup> Form	10	
After School	7	8	11 & 6 <sup>th</sup> Form	10	

#### TBSHS RUGBY REFEREE APPEAL

The PE department are looking for anyone would be interested in volunteering as a rugby referee for the 2022 Rugby term. Previous experience not needed. Training will be provided by Herts Refereeing society & flexibility on ability and age grade allocation and availability is high.

With up to 10 games being played at home on a Saturday and a maximum of two referees being provided by Herts Refereeing society each week the majority of our referees come from parental volunteers. Our rugby programme relies on the good will of new volunteers to survive as students and parents finish their time at the school.

Herts refereeing society are happy to provide in house training at Jobbers Wood over the coming months. This training could include the award of a formal and recognised qualification depending on the interest of volunteers.

If you are interested in volunteering for next year could you please let Elliott Kelsall (Elliott.Kelsall@Tbshs.org) by Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April. Once volunteers are identified further information will be sent out.

Many thanks for your continued support of rugby at TBSHS,

#### **Mr Elliott Kelsall**

Teacher of PE/Head of Rugby



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**PSA Summer Ball Returns** 

Saturday June 25<sup>th</sup>

Tickets now on Sale £45 each

(Low cost deposit available)

**Summer Ball Ticket (tbshspsa.org)** 





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#### The PSA Plant Sale 2022





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#### Careers, Opportunities & Competitions



There are many more opportunities for Years 12 & 13 in the 6th Form Bulletin - issued every 2 weeks by Mrs Price.

Please note, students can find the careers section of the parent bulletin in the 'Others' area of the Q Pool File

**Click here for this week's Careers News** 

This week is World Autism Acceptance Week – read the article in the College/University section on how a student with autism found the experience of university.

Happy Easter all!



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#### **Interact Charity and Community Work**

#### **VOLUNTARY COLLECTIONS THIS WEEK**

#### **FINAL REMINDER FINAL DEADLINE THURSDAY**

- 1. Donations for refugees from Ukraine in Room 8. See list below\* for items.
- 2. Easter eggs for the Food Bank for local families who cannot afford Easter eggs. .

We are very mindful that families have their own economic commitments, as well as their own excellent commitments to good causes, but any support is always gratefully appreciated.

These will be the last charity collections for a few weeks.

\*The requested items are: clean bedding in good condition, duvets, sleeping bags, sheets, duvet covers, underwear, pillows, toiletries, nappies, baby wipes, sanitary towels, tampons, hand and face wipes, shower gel, soap, shampoo, conditioner, shaving foam, toothpaste and toothbrushes. If you wish to donate, please drop your item off at Room 8.



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#### Mitre Fund

Lead sponsor







Book here for the...

# Mitre 10k & 5k ROAD RACE ...AND CHILDREN'S 1K FUN RUN Sunday 10th July

To be held in aid of the Bishop's Stortford High School Mitre Fund Charity no. 1155759

SIGN UP NOW ON ACTIVE TRAINING WORLD



ALL FINISHERS RECEIVE A FREE TECHNICAL T-SHIRT

https://mitre10k.activetrainingworld.com/tc-events/mitre-10k-5k-run/ or scan the QR code above, or visit the TBSHS website.

The idyllic route runs from Jobbers Wood through the beautiful country lanes to Much Hadham and back again, finishing to cheering crowds of supporters. With professional chip timing and UKA measurement, this traffic free course is perfect for all abilities.

Refreshments will be available for family and friends as they walt to cheer you on at the finish line. Plenty of free parking from 9:00 am.





- + Physio
- + Warm-up
- Safe luggage location





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### TICKET INFO

#### 10K

- £25 (£23 affiliated)
- · Includes a free t-shirt
- + Ages 15+

#### 5K

- £15 (£13 affiliated)
- · Includes free t-shirt
- Ages 11+

Anyone under 18 must have permission from a parent/guardian and their details must be provided at the time of booking.

1 Fun run is free to enter on the day. No need to register (includes a medal).

#### EARLY BIRD

For Early Bird ticket prices go to our booking site at...

https://activetrainingworld.co.uk/active-training-world-events/



https://mitre10k.activetrainingworld.com/tc-events/mitre-10k-5k-run/



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PTFA





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