

4 March 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

WEEKLY UPDATE

You will remember that we trialled a longer lunch hour so that students benefitted from having more social time with their friends. Our students have given feedback to the SLT and the consensus is that they feel the break is too long. The SLT then went back to the drawing board and from Monday 7 March we will be reducing lunch time breaks to 45 minutes instead. We have utilised the extra time and allocated it to Form. This will mean that Form Tutors will be able to check uniforms and equipment during the first 10 minutes and then allow 20 minutes for structured activities based on guided reading, PSHE, global beliefs and assemblies.

For your information, lunch time will now be from 1.10pm to 1.55pm (Tuesday 12.50pm to 1.35pm) with Y7 and Y10 going in for the "first sitting" and Y8, Y9 and Y11 having the "second sitting".

You will remember that the College hosted our very first Science Fair back in November and I am pleased to announce that the College will be hosting its second Science Fair on Friday 18 March 2022. There is already a lot of uptake and interest with students planning their projects and I think the prize of £100 Amazon Vouchers is also swaying their decision. Our primary school outreach programme has been a huge success and this has been largely due to the commitment of our Science Ambassadors. Our very special gratitude goes to Keiran Silvester (Year 10), Scott Labram (Year 10), Ewan Turner (Year 10), Tiago da Costa (Year 10), Alexander Akinnukawe (Year 9), Zac Silvester (Year 7), Elizabeth Finley (Year 7) and Kiana Street (Year 7).

Next week see the start of KS3 and Y10 "Assessment Week". All students will be sitting exams and tests in their subjects. As always, this is a great opportunity for your child to get into the habit of revising and they know they should be recapping on information using their Kemnal Keys in preparation for exams. We will also be holding some exams in the Main Hall so students can get used to being under exam conditions.

Our Y11 Parents Evening will take place on Thursday 10 March 2022 from 4.00pm to 6.00pm via the School Cloud. This is an opportunity to discuss your son's progress especially as we are only 10 weeks away from the first exam.

Y11's have now signed up to our Saturday Intervention Sessions which start from tomorrow. We are eternally grateful to the staff that are giving up their Saturday mornings to ensure that your son has has every opportunity to perform his very best in his exams. These sessions will be a massive help to your son and improve his understanding in preparation for his GCSE's.

Also attached to this letter is information on further revision sessions taking place before, during and after school. Students do not need to sign up for these. Please remember that all these extra interventions are in place because we want your son to achieve this summer. Y11's will also be sitting a Maths mock exam next Wednesday as well as students taking triple Science will be sitting a mock on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Please ensure that your son is revising and preparing for these.

A reminder to parents that although staff will endeavour to respond to emails as soon as they can, we do have a policy which allows staff 48 hours to respond to any parental emails/phone calls. We are seeing an increasing number of emails come through at very late hours, with the expectancy of an immediate response. Staff are extremely busy and I am mindful that they need to have their downtime for their wellbeing.

I also draw to your attention that parents <u>CANNOT</u> drop off/pick up students at the front of the school. Parents are buzzing in with the expectancy of being allowed to drive in and around the roundabout to pick up students. Please make alternative arrangements to pick up your child. I also remind parents that staff in the office are under strict instructions that they cannot radio for members of staff to attend reception to speak with parents who have not made prior appointments. This is unfair to members of staff as well as other students who are waiting for their teacher and disrupts lessons. Please do not attend the school without having made an appointment.

As always, thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully

Mr Christian Cavanagh
EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER

Tel: 020 8300 7112 Fax: 020 8300 5619

Email: admin@kemnal-tkat.org