

Ref: Admin/WholeSchool/YAM
Date: April 2021

Dear Parent /Carer

As we approach the end of a very busy term at Ruskin, we would like to thank you for your continued support in ensuring that students are achieving to the best of their ability with a settled environment and focused work ethic.

Year 11 Update

It has been wonderful to have Year 11 students back in school this term. We have continued to focus on student well-being and achievement as the students move through lockdown and back in to school life. The students have been extremely positive and they should be very proud of their responses to such a wide range of demands and experiences.

In each subject area staff have made expectations very clear to their classes, and students cannot afford to lose sight of the work required or the limited time available for completion of those tasks.

On our return to school, the Governors invited our student leaders to meet with them via Teams to reflect on student experiences during lock down and in returning to school. Nikola Lasak, Ermalinda Saldana, Freddie Woolley and Ryan Wright once again showed themselves as excellent ambassadors for the student body in their honesty and good humour.

While all efforts are focused on examination work, we have also started to organise events to celebrate the end of school for the year group. Orders for 2021 Leavers' Hoodies continue to come in, and we are delighted to announce that the Year 11 Leavers' Prom will go ahead. We have booked Wychwood Park Hotel on Thursday 8th of July (restrictions allowing of course). The information letter will be sent home with students this week and Prefects are already busy helping to organise what promises to be a fabulous night.

Year 10 Update

I'd like to congratulate Year 10 on a very positive return to school following the recent partial closure. Having gone through the reports, I would also like to congratulate the majority for their commitment and dedication to learning during lockdown with engagement to online learning via Teams and Class Charts. The students have shown great maturity in ensuring that we all follow Covid-19 safety measures that are in place and I would like to thank parents for your support in this also. Wearing masks in school and the additional lateral flow testing is helping us all to stay in school.

Year 10 are in the middle of their assessments and the hard work that they put in with the remote learning is paying off. This is really important as we await further guidance on the assessment process for 2022 in the aftermath of Covid.

Finally, I would like to thank all students and parents during my time as their Year Achievement Manager. I am sure that Mr Ledwards will do a fantastic job in guiding the students during the final stages of their academic career and I look forward to working with you all again on my return to school.

Year 9 Update

In what has been an incredibly challenging time, I would like to congratulate our students for their commitment to their learning this term. The attitude and maturity that students have taken to adapt to the necessary Covid-19 safety measures has been outstanding and their attitude towards their GCSEs has been excellent. I am incredibly proud of our students in Year 9. During the lockdown we were encouraging students to take some time for their wellbeing, the Easter break would be a great opportunity for Year 9 to revisit the ideas which were given to them.

I would like to thank parents and for your continued support and take this opportunity as a reminder about uniform and equipment. It is vitally important, for your child to be as successful as possible, that they are always organised and ready to learn. To support your child with this we maintain the highest expectations when it comes to uniform and equipment. Please can you make sure that your child always attends in full school uniform and that they always have the correct equipment. Non-essential shops are opening again during the Easter break which will support in this. Please remember that a face covering or face mask is now also part of our essential uniform.

When we return, we will be having a focus on attendance, please could you support with this by encouraging your child to be regularly attending school wherever possible. Currently Year 9s attendance is 89.84%, it would be fantastic if we could strive to improve this next half-term. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or your child's Form Tutor, if you have any concerns or wish to discuss your child's progress.

Have a lovely Easter holiday.

Year 8 Update

It has been fantastic to see Year 8 return to lessons following the most recent lockdown, after what has been a very challenging year. I am incredibly proud of the way in which students engaged with remote learning, the quality of much of the work that was submitted has been excellent. I received many positive comments from staff during lockdown, praising the resilience and determination of Year 8. Students have returned to school happy and ready to learn, they have been extremely positive about their return to school and shown an enthusiasm for learning. In terms of Covid safety behaviour in class and around school, Year 8 have been excellent in their wearing of masks and remaining in their bubble. During lockdown, students had the opportunity to develop new skills to support their well-being, many shared their activities with myself and Form Tutors and it was inspiring to see such a range of activities being undertaken. I really hope that students continue to prioritise their well-being regularly and carry these new skills throughout their lives.

It was excellent to see many parents at our virtual Parents' Evening on Monday March 8th. This was obviously a new way of conducting our Parents' Evenings due to the covid restrictions and I would like to thank you for all the feedback that you sent in. I am very grateful to the support that is offered by our parents and working together helps to ensure that your child makes the best possible progress at school, while feeling fully supported academically and emotionally. Please could I give a reminder about uniform and equipment, most students have been fully equipped and in full school uniform which helps to ensure we are maintaining our high expectations and standards as well as ensuring fairness and consistency for all. Could you please take an opportunity over the Easter break, especially as the non-essential shops reopen, to ensure that your child has everything that they need. Uniform and equipment lists can be found in student planners and on the school website.

During the Summer term we will be having a focus on attendance, Year 8 have had assemblies regarding the importance of good attendance and the impact that poor attendance can have on GCSE grades and future pathways and opportunities. Currently, Year 8s attendance is 89.62% and we are looking to improve on this next term. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or your child's Form Tutor, if you have any concerns or wish to discuss your child's progress.

Hoping that you have a lovely Easter break and stay safe and well.

Year 7 Update

As we approach the end of the Spring term I, along with the Year 7 Form Tutors, would like to thank you for your continued support in helping to ensure that your child makes the most of their educational experience at Ruskin Community High School.

This term has been a challenge and I thank the year group for their engagement and efforts whilst working remotely for the majority of the time. The quality of work submitted was excellent and the attitude to learning since our return on Wednesday 10th March has been good. The lockdown period though will have undoubtedly had an impact, which makes the term ahead even more important.

During the Summer term there are several key dates and events relating to you and your child:

- Year 7 Support Week: Monday 7th June – Friday 11th June: an opportunity to focus on an area for academic development.
- Year 7 Parents Evening: Monday 14th June: this is a great opportunity to meet your child's subject teachers to discuss their academic year and progress.

I would like to congratulate those Year 7 students who have worked extremely hard this term and embraced all the opportunities given to them here at Ruskin. I have really enjoyed getting to know the new Year 7s over the last two terms and feel they have made a great start to their life here with us at Ruskin. Going forward however, I am replacing Miss Pownall as Year Manager for our current Year 10s, following the Easter break. Therefore, the new Year 7 Manager will be Mrs Bennett. Thank you for your engagement in supporting with your child's education since September, and once again, it has been a pleasure to manage such a wonderful group of young people. I wish you all a very Happy Easter!

Finally, we would like to thank parents for their support in ensuring students continue to attend school in full, correct uniform. Once shops fully reopen in mid-April, the purchase of any replacement items will be easier to make.

If you ever have any concerns, please feel free to contact Form Tutors or YAMs via the School Office and we will be happy to call you back or arrange a meeting with you.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and to wish you and your family a very restful Easter break.

Yours sincerely



Mr E Ledwards
Year 7 Achievement Manager



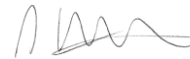
Mrs J Managh
Year 8 Achievement Manager



Miss C Grinnell
Year 9 Achievement Manager



Miss C Pownall
Year 10 Achievement Manager



Mr S Hartley
Year 11 Achievement Manager

Please note the term "parent" refers to parent/carer throughout this letter.