Falconer School

Achieving the extraordinary together

Headteacher's Weekly Blog Friday 8th January

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! I do hope you managed to have a good break despite the challenges of our area entering tier 4 just before Christmas with plans then needing to rapidly change.

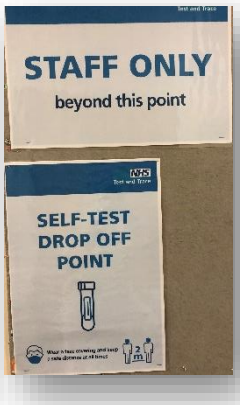
Unfortunately we have started this new Spring Term by entering a new National Lockdown due to the prevalence of Covid-19, in particular the new strain. It was a difficult but necessary decision to not be able to fully open on Wednesday 6th January as originally planned and I would like to thank you for the support and understanding you have shown.

We did manage to welcome some students into school on Wednesday who have parents who are Key Workers and I would like to encourage all parents who are Key Workers to send their child into school. For the full list of roles that are recognised as Key Worker roles please follow this link: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision

We do recognise that remote learning is not ideal and students benefit far more from face to face teaching, interactions and a structured routine. We will therefore be reviewing the provision we are able to offer our students and hope to open the school to more students in the coming weeks.

In addition to the usual Covid-19 safety measures in place in school, we are now up and running as a Rapid Flow Test Centre. Today was the first day in operation where we managed to test 5 students and 15 members of staff. All results were received back within 30 minutes, thankfully all negative! This will inevitably make Falconer School even safer as we are able to identify any asymptomatic cases.







I would like to thank Ms Marsala, Assistant Headteacher, for her dedication in running the test centre and Miss Smith, Education Support Worker, for her help supporting the students.

I hope all students have found the morning 'zoom' form tutor sessions engaging and would encourage as many students as possible to take part in this group activity.

We sadly had to say good bye to Mrs Holop, Assistant Headteacher and Maths Teacher at the end of the Autumn Term. Mrs Holop will be very much missed by staff and students and I wish her the best of luck in her new role.

We have, however, welcomed some new staff at the start of term:

- Mrs Bevil-Gahan – Year 7 Teacher and Form Tutor
- Mr Morgan – PE Teacher and Year 8 Form Tutor
- Miss Kent – Teaching Assistant and Year 7 Form Tutor

I am sure all students, parents and carers will join me in welcoming them to Falconer School, and we look forward to the contributions they will make to our school community.

Do have a lovely weekend, I hope you and your families keep well.

Mrs Ash

Interim Headteacher