



31st March 2021

Dear Students and Parents,

As we approach the Easter break, I wanted to share with you some of my reflections of the Spring term. Although there has been much disruption and changes to routine this year, our students have risen to the challenge and have coped amazingly well, we are so proud of them. School is beginning to feel more normal now, especially as the memory of full-time home learning is starting to fade. Students have settled back into the pattern of focussed learning in class and completing homework whilst our Year 11 and 13 classes are working hard to prepare for their school based examinations.

As we move into the summer term we will continue to focus on our core values and this is where students can really make a positive contribution. Correct uniform and equipment along with punctuality and good organisation are expected from all our students and next term is a perfect opportunity to ensure that everyone hits the mark. As a reminder, [here](#) is a link to our uniform page.

This term we have been asking students to come to school in their PE kit if they have a PE lesson on that day because of concerns around close contact in the changing rooms. We have now reviewed the situation and I can confirm that for the summer term, students will be able to use the changing rooms, so they can arrive at school in their uniform every day.

The Government is currently reviewing its position on face coverings in the classroom. I suspect that there will be an announcement over Easter regarding the Government's position on face coverings, but I am unable to give you any further information at this time.

Shortly after we return to school in April, we will be able to announce the official last day of timetabled lessons for Year 11 and Year 13. I thank you for your understanding and patience.

Our IT network will see some very significant upgrades over the Easter break to include improvements to our WiFi and hardware and we will be starting the work to make MS Teams available in school. These improvements are sure to make life for

students and staff so much easier. Thinking Schools Academy Trust is investing heavily at Plymouth High and there are many more exciting developments to come.

As a reminder, students should continue to conduct lateral flow tests over Easter. **Any positive LFT needs a confirmatory PCR test.**

You only need to contact school using covid19@phsg.org if a student tests positive on a LFT (later confirmed by PCR) on Thursday, Friday or Saturday (1st, 2nd and 3rd April). If a student **develops symptoms on Friday or Saturday they must go for a PCR test immediately. If this PCR test turns out to be positive, you must let us know. We will then carry out a track and trace process. **For positive tests at other times, there is no need to contact school.****

I do hope that you enjoy the Spring term newsletter that we distributed this week and I wish you a relaxing and happy Easter break.

Very best wishes,



Simon Underdown.
Headteacher.

