PARENT NEWSLETTER

Issue 4 Friday 5 June 2020

Headteacher update:

I do hope you and your families are well and keeping safe.

- We progress our plans for our Y10 and Y12 face to face support programme that we hope to start from June 15th. Whilst we continue to finalise plans we still await the city wide decision from Steve Reddy which should be made by June 8th. If we are to welcome these students back for some one to one support we will be sending out key documents of information and guidance to parents and students by the end of next week.
- I am conscious that year groups other than Y10 and Y12 will not get the opportunity to see their teachers prior to September. Our key stage leaders have been in touch with these year groups offering further support and motivation. Further contact from form tutors to individuals will follow. We continue to review and improve our remote learning provision.
- A reminder that the school has remained open for children of key workers and others. We have remained open over each holiday period in order to sustain this provision. If you are a key worker or your child has specific needs then please do get in touch
- Staff and students are working together to share and provide interesting activities and challenges to encourage relaxation and motivation. It was fantastic to see some of our students taking part in a 24 hour online chess tournament for example. This and many other items of news are found on our twitter page - I would encourage you to take a look!
- Parents, students and staff continue to work and live in very unsettling times with the
 uncertainty of what lies ahead in education over the next few months. I would like to assure
 you that trustees, senior leaders and staff are working closely together to consider what the
 shape and provision of teaching and learning for the future may look like and put changes in
 place. The DfE have as yet given no indication of the shape of school provision for next term
 nationally but we remain attuned and alert.

I would like to thank the very many parents who have made contact to offer your gratitude and support for the school and the work of the staff over the last weeks.

With best wishes.

Deputy Headteachers' update:

Teaching and Learning Update

- Hopefully all the students had a well-deserved rest in the sunshine over the half-term and have started to think again about the learning that they are doing at home. One of the key factors that is being discussed at the moment nationally is the 'recovery curriculum' which brings together both the home and school learning environment for students.
- Currently, subject leaders and their teams are preparing for some face to face work with Y10 and Y12 students to support their home learning. At the same time, we are working with subject leaders to look ahead to September and the adaptions that may be needed across all age groups.
- We are constantly impressed with the strong work ethic of our students and we are developing further ways to support their motivation as they strive to work hard at home.
- Teachers in all subjects are still putting information on the school website for the students to follow over the course of a two-week period. We very much value the parental support there has been for this.

Thank you for all your support and efforts to date, all of the staff at The Blue Coat School really do appreciate it.

Deputy Headteachers' update:

Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare

- We hope that students took time over the half term break to rest and relax. It is important that
 they continue to balance their studies with their personal wellbeing. Key Stage Leaders and
 Learning Support continue to offer support and guidance, and if you feel that your child would
 benefit from this support or you would like advice regarding welfare and wellbeing, please
 inform us via welfare@bluecoatschool.org.uk
- We are aware that as the pandemic continues, many aspects of people's lives are different and
 continue to change. For some families this may include parents returning to work or a change
 in financial circumstances. We are keen to support our students and their families during these
 difficult times, please notify us if you have a change in circumstances or would like your child
 to access the school's provision for key worker and vulnerable children.