



8 May 2020

Dear Parents

I hope you have had a good week.

As you will know, there has been more discussion this week about when schools may or may not reopen. Like all of you, we are unclear as to what the Prime Minister may say about schools on Sunday evening (if anything). Please can I reiterate my message from last week that we will communicate our plans to you as soon as we are able to make them. We will only be able to do this once clear guidance from the Department for Education is published.

We are working in conjunction with the Association of School and College Leaders, the Acer Trust and Oxfordshire County Council to ensure that we are giving full consideration to a wide range of potential issues and complications that reopening is likely to generate. As I said last week, it is very unlikely that we will just reopen and carry out “business as usual” in the first instance.

Thank you to you all for continuing to support your children with their learning at home. You may be aware that our staff are seeking feedback from your children about what they are finding useful and helpful and what they are finding more difficult and challenging. This may be in the form of student feedback activities that our students are used to such as “Keep-Grow-Change” or in a different form altogether. Staff will continue to ask for this feedback over the course of next week so that they can consider it in their future planning.

We were made aware this week of a new Mental Health Helpline set up during the coronavirus pandemic for children and adults in Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire. Please see the details below:

### **[Support for Mental Health during the Pandemic](#)** **[24/7 Mental Health Helpline for Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire](#)**

A 24 hour Helpline has been set up to support people during the coronavirus pandemic. People can call Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire Mental Health Helpline when they need to find out when and where to get help and to access support from mental health professionals for a range of conditions and symptoms including anxiety, low mood, stress, worry, difficulty with relationships, crying often, feeling helpless, confusion, hallucinations or hearing voices.

Adults: 01865 904997.

Children and young people: 01865 904998.

Over the course of the academic year, as our students will know, staff lead assemblies on a rotational basis. This week should have been my week. As a result, I would like to address your children directly....

Dear Students

I hope you are all well. As I said in my note to you last half term, we are certainly missing you all!

This week should have been my assembly week. I would have been wishing Year 11 all the very best for their exams and giving them some final top tips, inviting Year 10 students to apply for positions of responsibility (Head Boy/Head Girl, Prefects, etc (this will still happen at a later date!)) and looking at a topical issue with students in Years 7-9.

The coronavirus pandemic has clearly changed all of this. I am sure it has also made all of you think about the world we inhabited before the virus hit our country, as well as the rest of the world, so hard. I am sure some of you will have thought about how the world might or could be different when the pandemic is over.

You may well have seen the following clip entitled "The Great Realisation" already – it has gone viral on Social Media over the last week. If you have, please take three minutes to watch it again, and if you haven't please watch it for the first time...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hw0JDJUu548>

When we return from school, at whatever point that is, we will take every opportunity to reflect on what we have learnt from these very challenging times, and what is really important to us. Equally, we will all be thinking about how, collectively, what we need to do to build a better future for everyone.

In the meantime, please continue to work hard, stay safe, and look after your families.

With my best wishes

Mr Hunter

I hope you all enjoy the bank holiday weekend and all best wishes for the week ahead.

Yours faithfully



Mat Hunter  
**Headteacher**