

Sir Robert Pattinson Academy

Via Diversa Vita Una



27 November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

General update – Covid-19, Announcement of House charities, Seasonal support for the local foodbank and the Nomad Trust, Home learning, PD feedback, Sixth Form applications, Lost property

With three weeks to go until the end of term, this week has been interesting on a local and national level.

When I last wrote to you, 66% of all secondary schools had sent children home at some point for Covid-19 related reasons. This has now risen to 75% nationally with almost 900,000 students off isolating across the country last week. Secondary age children remain the only demographic where infection rates are rising according to data from the Office for National Statistics (week ending 21 November).

Yesterday, I was heartbroken to have to send home some students in year 7. As usual, we identified all contacts rapidly and must thank all of our affected parents for their support and efficiency in collecting their youngsters. Year 7 have had a tough deal this year with transition to secondary school so adversely affected and I had hoped that they would remain the only unaffected year group in terms of Covid in order to continue to support their settling in period. Whilst a relatively small number were sent home, it doesn't make it feel any easier.

It will remain a difficult winter period as the colder weather is upon us so, in the coming weeks, we will look to instil a little overdue Christmas cheer for all of our students and staff. Staff have already been informed of my intentions, youngsters will see some small changes in the coming fortnight which I am sure they will approve of but I will keep under wraps for now...

Covid-19

As I write, the infection rate in North Kesteven has fallen, as has the national average. When I last wrote to you, there were 309 cases per 100,000 people. It now stands at 219 cases. The national average is 165 so we are still above national by a good margin. The infection rate in Lincoln has slowed too. This now stands at 329 cases per 100,000. The last time I wrote it stood at 465. However, these figures go some way to explaining the decision to place Lincolnshire in Tier 3 of the new restrictions once the national lockdown ends on 2 December. I enclose an infographic of the new restrictions for your perusal but, as ever, we will remain resolutely open for business as usual.

If any parents have any concerns at all related to Covid-19 in school, please contact us at the Academy using the email address COVID@srpa.co.uk. This will make it directly to me where I will be able to help and will do my best to prioritise your concern.

Announcement of House charities

All students have discussed a wide range of charities as part of our work with SRPA Values in Ready to Learn time. This has been led by our Student Senior Leadership Team this year and we are delighted to announce that the House Charities for 2021 are:

- Windsor – Sophie’s Journey: Providing free holidays to children with cancer in Lincolnshire
- Tudor – Anthony Nolan Trust: Saving the lives of people with blood cancer
- Stuart – Macmillan Cancer Support: Providing support for families and patients going through cancer treatment
- Lancaster – Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation: the type 1 diabetes charity and a funder of world-class medical research to cure, prevent and treat type 1 diabetes
- York – St Barnabas: an independent Hospice charity that provides free, specialist palliative care for everyone in Lincolnshire

It is imperative that we do not lose sight of our community at this time of crisis. With this in mind, we have selected a number of local and national charities which reflect the needs of our academy and the wider community. We will engage in a number of fundraising and House activities through the academic year with all of these worthy causes in mind.

Seasonal support for the local foodbank and the Nomad Trust

Ordinarily at this time of year, we would be collating hampers for a local day centre. COVID restrictions mean we need to do things a little differently this year, but students in all years have indicated they are keen to donate non-perishable food items to be delivered to the local food bank and the Nomad Trust when we close for Christmas.

If you would like to donate any items, please ask your child to bring any donations to the Main Hall – we are grateful for any donations you feel able to make, especially at this difficult time. This initiative is more low key than some of our previous endeavours but is a chance to pay it forward for those less fortunate than ourselves as we approach the festive season.

Home learning

Y11 home learning for the next two weeks is directed revision, so all students should know exactly what they should be revising and how. No generic ‘revise’ instructions are on the latest curriculum document – all are specific.

The mock examination timetable has already been sent out to parents and students so that self-isolating students can fit their revision around when mock examinations are taking place, rather than just following their usual timetable.



Head Teacher: Mr D. J. Hardy BA (Hons) PGCE
Moor Lane, North Hykeham, Lincoln. LN6 9AF
☎ 01522 882020 ☎ 01522 880660
✉ enquiries@srpa.co.uk 🌐 www.srpa.co.uk
Company Registration No: 07690250

“This is a calm, happy and caring school.”

The revision timetable has also been sent out already to show all of the fantastic support that each department has in place.

All other curriculum documents will still be ready by 9.00am every Monday morning for all isolating students in all year groups.

PD feedback

There is still time for parents to offer feedback about our personal development days. It is crucial we get stakeholder feedback to allow us to create as high quality programme as we can. The short questionnaire is on Frog and all contributions will be placed into a prize draw for high street vouchers.

Sixth Form Applications

A big thank you to all students who have submitted their applications to join our sixth form. We appreciate there have been a number of challenges over our recruitment period. We are still open to applications if students can submit them to us as soon as possible via sixthform@srpa.co.uk.

Lost Property

There is a significant amount of lost property which has been cleared from cloakrooms, classrooms and PE changing rooms. If your child has lost some property in the past and they wish to look for it in our stores, they may do so at break time on Monday and Tuesday next week in the main hall.

After this time, any remaining property will be disposed of in order that we can reuse the space and remain Covid-secure. Thank you for your understanding.

Yesterday, I was threatened with physical violence in main reception along with some of my other staff by an individual with an unfortunate temper. This has not happened in some time and was a brazen attempt to intimidate, which didn't work. Fortunately, it was not a parent from this school but, nevertheless, I mention it as it crystallizes the daily challenges we are facing as schools which are becoming more acute over time as we continue to face Covid. As I reflect on the week and the various twists and turns it has brought us, I remain exceptionally grateful for the overwhelmingly positive messages for me and my wider team. I have always said that we are in this with you and I meant it. I feel privileged to come to work at SRPA each day despite the impact of the global pandemic and look forward to continuing our partnership for some long while. In the words of Barack Obama "Our stories may be singular, but our destination is shared."



Head Teacher: Mr D. J. Hardy BA (Hons) PGCE
Moor Lane, North Hykeham, Lincoln. LN6 9AF
☎ 01522 882020 📠 01522 880660
✉ enquiries@srpa.co.uk 🌐 www.srpa.co.uk
Company Registration No: 07690250

"This is a calm, happy and caring school."

Have a lovely weekend when it comes.

I will write again soon.

Yours faithfully



Mr D Hardy
Head Teacher



Head Teacher: Mr D. J. Hardy BA (Hons) PGCE
Moor Lane, North Hykeham, Lincoln. LN6 9AF
☎ 01522 882020 📞 01522 880660
✉ enquiries@srpa.co.uk 🌐 www.srpa.co.uk
Company Registration No: 07690250

"This is a calm, happy and caring school."