

Weybourne Road Farnham Surrey GU9 9HF

Acting Headteacher: Mr Mark Baines

18<sup>th</sup> September 2020

## Dear Parent / Guardian

Alongside the warm weather, it has been a fantastic week in school. The students continue to impress all the staff with their hard work and endeavour at all times. Whilst there have been many changes to the school, the students have quickly adapted and thrived.

# Adaptations to procedures

## Water Bottles

To minimise potential transmission of COVID-19, we need your support to ensure all students arrive at school with a full water bottle/s, and we are enormously appreciative of your support of this request. We understand that there may be occasions where students may require a top up, especially when the weather is warm, and so we will be making some water stations available from Monday. These are located within Year group zones and can be accessed during the allowed lunchbreak:

- Years 7, 9 and 11 in the Canteen
- Years 8 and 10 outside Maddens
- Sixth Form at Father Dans.

They are for <u>emergency use only</u> and are for refilling water bottles (no students will be able to drink directly from water fountains). <u>Please do continue to send your child in with enough drinking water for the whole day.</u>

## Lockers

Following a few enquiries about the use of lockers, please be advised we are not currently offering students use of their lockers. This is to help us maintain social distancing, As students are placed in year group zones, and spend the majority of their time in allocated classrooms, they are able to keep their bags with them.

This a temporary measure and once freedom of movement around the school site is restored, students will be able to use their lockers again. Lockers are hired out for the duration of a students time from Year 7 through to 11. If you wish to request a refund, we will refund the remainder of the hire to the end of Year 11, but please note that we may not be able to offer a replacement locker once full movement is restored.



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#### **COVID Related Absence Quick Guide**

Please do refer to our guide on the school website for the procedures for <u>COVID related absences</u>. I hope this gives you some clarity on what to do in all scenarios.

# Message from Bishop Philip - 'Come back to me' says the Lord

Last Sunday, I released a Pastoral Letter to the Diocese addressed to all baptised Catholics, including those not practising, to encourage them, if they can, to come back to Mass and the Sacraments. Our parishes are COVID-safe and whether we attend on a weekday or a Sunday, what is really important, especially during the crisis of this pandemic, is that we are nourished and strengthened by the grace of the Lord in His Sacraments and by the witness of the Eucharistic community. Attending online is a huge bonus but it is not the same as actually participating in the Liturgy with our brothers and sisters and receiving Holy Communion. In the Letter, I also appealed for helpers to ensure our churches can be kept open for prayer and for the Liturgy.

I wrote too to our clergy to thank them and their parishioners for all their great work in keeping the churches open and safe, and to encourage some creative thinking (e.g. with Mass times) on how to make it possible especially for young families to return.

Click here for the text of the Pastoral Letter or here to watch a video recording.

Let us pray for a speedy end to the pandemic, for the sick, for medical staff and for the invention of an effective and ethically-sourced vaccine.

I hope the warm weather continues and all members of our Family have a great weekend.

Yours faithfully

M A Baines

Acting Headteacher







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