



Mary Webb School & Science College, Pontesbury, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY5 0TG

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1st April 2021

Dear parent/carers,

I hope you, your family and friends are well and looking forward to the Easter break. As a school community of students, parents/carers, staff and governors, I know this break will be a welcome opportunity to relax and unwind.

In writing to you at the end of another term - which, once again, has been unlike any other we have experienced as a school community - I am reminded of how resilient we are when we work together. In previous years, "working together to ensure success for all" has always seemed focused preparing our youngsters for the next stages in their education; preparing them for their next steps beyond the school. However, our collective response to the second lockdown, and subsequent return to school, has shown that the success we achieve by working together, as a whole school community, goes far beyond the support we give our youngsters when they are in school and in the classroom. Furthermore, the staff and governors would like you to know the support we have received from students, parents and their families has been truly overwhelming - thank you.

Contact tracing and testing

Whilst it is the case that the number of positive coronavirus (COVID-19) tests in the local area continues to decrease, we are still expected to perform our duty, as school, when it comes to contact tracing. This means if your child has a positive result from PCR test because they are showing symptoms, on either Friday 2nd April or Saturday 3rd April, please ensure you inform us, using the email address: covid19@marywebbschool.com.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you of the procedures relating to lateral flow tests (LFTs). LFTs are for asymptomatic testing - finding the virus in people who show no symptoms - and should only be used whilst your child has no symptoms. If your child's LFT is positive, you should book a confirmatory PCR test for them. If your child is showing symptoms, you should book a PCR test for them; **LFTs should not be used if your child has symptoms** - book a PCR test for them.

Symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Back to school on Monday 19th April

Students and staff are looking forward to the Easter break. We hope the weather is good so we can get outside and enjoy the fresh air, so we come back refreshed and recharged, ready for the summer term. We know the first half of the summer term will be a particularly busy one for our Year 11s as they continue the work they have to produce for their GCSEs. We will also be letting our Year 9s know what their GCSE options for September will be.

We are looking forward to welcoming the students on Monday 19th April and seeing them walk through the school gates, smartly wearing the correct uniform. We are aware parents/carers will be using the Easter break to make the final uniform purchases of the year, either because their child has grown, or because some aspects may not meet the requirements of the uniform policy. If either of these scenarios apply to you and you are unsure whether items you need to purchase meet the requirements, please feel free to contact the school for advice on: uniform@marywebbschool.com. This email account will be monitored over the Easter break and you can expect replies to any queries from Tuesday 13th April.

On behalf of students, staff and governors, thank you for all your support so far this year. I hope you enjoy a restful, relaxing and safe break with your family.

Yours sincerely,

PJ Lowe-Werrell

Mr P J Lowe-Werrell
Headteacher