

## #weARE

Issue 9 20 November 2020

There have been some positive cases.

We have been in regular contact with Public Health England (PHE) this week following some positive COVID cases. The situation currently is this is a 'Cluster of Individuals' which reflects the wider community only and is not an 'outbreak' as there are no links within the school or between students. They are very impressed with our provision and actions to mitigate risk and to maintain a COVID safe environment. Thank you for everyone's ongoing efforts.



*P. Bignell*

### CORONAVIRUS SYMPTOMS ARE:

- A high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- A new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste (anosmia) – this means you have noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

If your child or a person in the same household displays symptoms, please take the following actions:

Action Needed	Outcome	Return to School
<b>DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Start isolating at home.</li> <li>◆ Ring 119 to book a test for the person with symptoms or book online NHS.UK/coronavirus.</li> <li>◆ Ring and tell the school that someone in the household has coronavirus symptoms.</li> </ul>	If the test is negative ring and tell the school (see below for what to do if they test positive).  The household can stop isolating as long as the person feels well and everyone in the household/support bubble <b>who has symptoms</b> also tests negative	Return to school once you have told the school the test result was negative.

If your child has tested positive for coronavirus, please take the following actions:

Action Needed	Outcome	Return to School
<b>DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Continue to isolate at home.</li> <li>◆ Ring and tell the school that your child has tested positive for coronavirus.</li> </ul>	Your child continues to isolate for at least 10 days.  Your household and any support bubble isolate for 14 days.  If anyone else in the household develops symptoms, they should book a test and start a new period of 10 day isolation.	Your child can return to school after 10 days from the onset of their symptoms if they no longer have a high temperature and they feel well enough.

We are currently in a National lockdown and need to all do our part to control the virus and stay safe. Please keep students at home and stay at home yourself if you have any symptoms and take a test as soon as possible. **ONLY** have a test if you have symptoms. You cannot be in school if you have had a test until the results arrive, you must self isolate.

Self isolation is a legally enforced action and the Police have asked us to report any breaches of COVID to them. We are living in very difficult and challenging times and need to put the safety of the whole school community first.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Mrs Bignell

## REMINDER-NATIONAL LOCKDOWN

As we are in National Lockdown and need to be with **ONE** other person only outside your family groups, students need to be aware of this as they leave school and in the evening. We have received reports from the community about groups of students gathering in parks, outside shops and on street corners. Police are increasing patrols and will be taking action regarding young people disregarding the COVID rules.

Please go straight home after school. You should be at home or school during the National Lockdown.

Mrs Bignell

# Thorpe Life Excellence for all



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## At Thorpe We ARE

This week, our focus was on **Engage**. We explored why it is important to show **engagement** by keeping focussed on our work. We also reflected on the thought of American politician Kyrsten Sinema who said "I think what endurance sports teach you is to stay dedicated, stay focused and also to understand you're going to have ups and downs but you need to keep running right through them." From this we learn that remaining focussed on our goals helps us maintain effort and therefore keep **engaged**.



Our students have shown how well they have been engaged this year as almost half of all the ARE+ points that have been awarded have been for **engagement**. So far students have been rewarded with **75000 ARE+** Points for engaging with their work. Well done, and keep it up!

Mr Lambert

## Attendance Matters

Did you know that missing just a couple of days of school per half term adds up to more than two whole weeks of absence? That means that a student with that absence record will have missed around 60 hours of learning in a single year!

Over a five year school career, that could have a significant impact on a student's chances of securing a place at Sixth Form, at College, or in an Apprenticeship.

Mr Dewar



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### FOR STUDENTS TRAVELLING BY BUS

All students **MUST** have their bus pass on them at all times to check in when getting on the bus. Emergency one day passes are available from the school BEST office if it is lost during the day. If your bus pass is lost you must apply immediately for a new pass.



Drivers will refuse entry if students do not have passes. Students must sit in their dedicated Year group areas on the bus and wear their mask at all times.

All these measures are to help keep students safe and healthy and reduce the spread of COVID 19.

Mrs Bignell

**Thank you** To all parents and carers who completed the recent remote learning survey.

We do not want lack of access to technology to impact on student learning in the event of another lockdown or a student self isolating due to COVID 19. All students will need to be able to access Google Classroom in order to participate in remote learning should they self isolate at home.

Following the results of the remote learning survey we have purchased a number of Chromebooks for students in the main school and Sixth Form. The first set of Chromebooks has now arrived in school and we are in the process of distributing them to our students.



Mrs Wilkinson

## Thought of the Week

"Don't bury your failures. Let them inspire you." - Robert Kiyosaki

### Homework



There is a link between homework and academic achievement. We also know that the time spent on doing homework will develop more than academic skills alone. Homework sessions encourage students to use their time wisely, work independently and engage better with the subject matter. It will also improve memory and critical thinking. We know it can be a battle but it is important to stress how beneficial homework is and constantly encourage engagement with the tasks set.

Students should be able to find their homework on Class Charts, which they can access via RM Unify or from the Class Charts app that they can download onto their phone. If you are struggling to access Class Charts, please contact the school so that we can get someone to help.

Year 7	- Mr A Robb/Ms J McCloy	<a href="mailto:arobb3nrl@yare-edu.org.uk">arobb3nrl@yare-edu.org.uk</a> <a href="mailto:jmccloy7nr9@yare-edu.org.uk">jmccloy7nr9@yare-edu.org.uk</a>
Year 8	- Mr D Asker	<a href="mailto:dasker6nrq@yare-edu.org.uk">dasker6nrq@yare-edu.org.uk</a>
Year 9	- Mr S Coleman	<a href="mailto:scoleman4lrv@yare-edu.org.uk">scoleman4lrv@yare-edu.org.uk</a>
Year 10	- Mr S Bowman	<a href="mailto:sbowman5nry@yare-edu.org.uk">sbowman5nry@yare-edu.org.uk</a>
Year 11	- Mr G Mortimer	<a href="mailto:gmortimer8nrd@yare-edu.org.uk">gmortimer8nrd@yare-edu.org.uk</a>

Mr Lambert

**Safeguarding** WhatsApp- it has come to our attention that we have many students using WhatsApp to group chat. There is a useful article on Parent Zone regarding this.

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/whatsapp>

The minimum age of use for WhatsApp is 16 years old. It had previously dropped to 13 years old but in April 2018 returned to 16, as a response to data-protection legislation.

It has also come to our attention that some parents are not monitoring their child's phone use. It is really important that parents do this to safeguard their child. There are apps that you can use to monitor your child's usage. One that we know has been useful for parents is

<https://screentimelabs.com/>

Mrs Veeren

### Artwork

