



9th October, 2020

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SCHOOL AIM

“To provide a Christian environment in which young people are safe, secure, cared for and happy, and are able to develop into articulate, confident and well-qualified citizens of the world.”



BIM

DIG DEEPER, LOOK CLOSER, THINK BIGGER

Black History Month

Last Thursday, I launched the first of a series of assemblies in recognition of Black History Month. During lockdown, two Year 11 students, Kameela and Olamide wrote to me about the importance of dedicating time to learning about black history, the challenges the black community face in society and to acknowledge those who have succeeded despite barriers. I subsequently met with Kameela and Olamide and they ably assisted me in last week's assembly. We are dedicating an assembly to Black History every week during October and the first one included a presentation from a Black Musician, Akala. He discussed Black History in Britain, including the Roman Conquest, life in Tudor Britain and the Peterloo Massacre.

In recognition of Black History month, we are also showcasing some of the 'movers and shakers' from Black History - individuals who have made outstanding contributions to their field.

MOVERS & SHAKERS

PEOPLE WHO SAY YES WE CAN

A selection of black British people who have made outstanding contributions in **politics**, **social justice**, **fashion**, **science** and **the arts**.



Look out for the posts on our social media accounts, including our main school and history Twitter pages, which feature some of these outstanding individuals.

This week, we recognise **Diane Abbott** - the first woman elected to parliament and the longest serving Black MP in the commons. She was born and raised in London to a British Jamaican family, and has received much recognition for her work on civil liberties, women's rights and human rights.



Year 7 Welcome Services

Over the last few weeks, we have held welcome services in the Interactive Lecture Theatre for our new Year 7 students. The services have been led by our Chaplain, Dr Revd Birkinshaw, in collaboration with the Religious Education department.

The services have been entitled 'let your light shine'. They have involved readings and prayers, and our students have also been presented with a candle and bible.



Year 11 Wave Exams

Our Year 11s have been working hard and sitting wave exams for English Language, English Literature and Mathematics each day this week - well done to all and keep up the good work!




And finally...

...I would like to remind parents that letters confirming positive COVID-19 cases in school can be found in the COVID-19 section of our school website.

We carry out full risk assessments in school to identify those who have been in contact with the affected cases and parents are contacted directly if their child is a contact.

In a population of almost 2000 students and members of staff, we would expect to have some cases. Public Health England are monitoring the situation with us and at the moment they are saying that our figures are in line with “expectations” and that our processes in school were a beacon of good practise in terms of carrying out tracking and tracing and in sending a “measured” amount of students home to self-isolate.

On Wednesday and Thursday of this week, we saw the return of 90 students who were in our first ‘self-isolation’ form groups to go home and it seems like a pattern is being set whereby students will be spending the majority of their time in school, but with some periods at home if self-isolation is required.



If your child has:
a high temperature
a new, continuous cough, or
a loss of, or change in, sense of
smell or taste

This could be a sign of
coronavirus

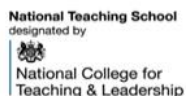
Book a test

If your child has:
a runny nose, is sneezing or
feeling unwell
But they don't have:
a high temperature
a new, continuous cough, or
a loss of, or change in,
sense of smell or taste

These are
not normally symptoms of
coronavirus

Seek advice from a pharmacy, dial
111 or see your GP

Mr Julian Nicholls
Head



Faith in the City, Value in People, Excellence in Education

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