



## **From the Headmaster: Weekly Update 12/11/21**

Dear Parents

Another busy week has passed without interruption and the number of positive tests for coronavirus within the school has continued to decline. We will persevere with the masks in the senior school nonetheless, erring on the side of caution between now and the end of term.

Pupil recruitment for next year is now well under way and last Saturday's senior school Open Morning was an opportunity to welcome current Year 6 pupils and their parents to the school. The event was oversubscribed and our visitors spoke very positively of their experience. We have 80 pupils from other schools sitting the Sixth Form entrance examination this afternoon, each of whom has been required to show evidence of a recent lateral flow test. This week's highlights included Charlie Whittaker addressing the John Glyn Society on the work that he has been doing over the last two years at the heart of the Imperial College Covid response team. His talk was of great interest, not only to scientists and aspiring Medics but also to mathematicians because of the importance of mathematical modelling in the work that he has been doing.

Senior and junior school assemblies this week have focused on Remembrance, with moving contributions from a wide range of pupils, some of whom will be centrally involved in the Remembrance Day Service on Sunday which will be led by the school CCF at the War Memorial at Horn Park. Wreaths will be laid by a number of pupils, including the school captains in the junior school. This is always an impressive occasion and a fitting tribute to all the Colfe's pupils who fought in the First and Second World Wars, 124 of whom lost their lives in the First World War alone. It was also a pleasure to welcome Year 2B parents into school for a class assembly this week.

School events this week included the senior school platform concert on Wednesday which was a wonderful opportunity to hear some of our best musicians, as well as some for whom this was their first Colfe's performance. Thanks, as ever, to Mr Holmes and Mr Newberry who have worked so tirelessly to keep Colfe's music going over the last two years in the face of obvious adversity. It was a particular pleasure to be able to welcome parents back into the school for the platform concert and I hope this trend will continue as our thoughts turn to end of term performances and productions throughout the school.

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School trips and visits are now back on including, this week, a Year 1 trip to the Horniman Museum and a senior school theatre trip to central London. With each passing week we are edging closer to our normal routines.

With best wishes to all

Richard Russell  
Headmaster

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