



## From the Headmaster: Weekly Update – 26/11/21

Dear Parents

December will soon be with us and it looks likely that the conventional seasonal events will be possible once again. These include the Junior School productions, the end of term Carol Service in St Mary's Lewisham and the PAFA Christmas Fayre. I am particularly grateful to those members of the PAFA Committee who have been preparing so carefully for the latter event, incorporating the now customary Covid compliance.

All of the above is of course subject to continuing good news on the control of the pandemic nationally. Within that context, this week's news of a new variant of the virus is a clear concern for us all. The situation within school remains stable although there has been a very slight increase in positive tests in the junior school this week. Masks will remain compulsory in the senior school and for all adults on site until the end of term.

Senior school parents received news from Mrs Graham this week about the rolling out of our mobile device strategy in the senior school which will start next September. This strategy has evolved through the last year, building substantially on what we learned from remote teaching and learning during two periods of lockdown. I am grateful to all those who have worked so hard to get us to this point.

I wrote last week about the success of our sports teams. This week I am delighted to report that the Hans Woyda maths team were victorious in their regional group fixtures against Bromley High and Eltham College. The team comprises top mathematicians from the older year groups in the senior school and success depends heavily on mathematical confidence, as well as prowess. Competition in all aspects of school life is beneficial (we do competitive reading as well) and prepares pupils well for the challenge of life beyond school. It is of course doubly rewarding when we win!

We were delighted to welcome back award-winning children's author and former Colfe's Junior School teacher [Jenny Pearson](#) to speak to junior and senior school pupils and host a creative writing workshop.

We shall be watching closely as the picture on the new variant becomes clearer and let parents know as soon as possible if any interruption to our routines becomes necessary. For now, however, we should assume that it will be business as usual between now and the end of term.

With best wishes to all

Richard Russell  
Headmaster

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