



From the Headmaster: Weekly Update – 25/03/22

Dear Parents

The EYFS production was amongst the highlights of this week, hugely enjoyed by an appreciative audience of parents and a few grandparents. I was able to pursue the theme of spring further with the story of Persephone in junior school assemblies today. As ever, I was grateful to those pupils who helped me to tell it. The performance element of the GCSE Drama course also took place this week. The plays were thought-provoking, entertaining and skilfully executed in equal measure.

The U15 mixed water polo team has continued to excel, emerging victorious in the national championships with victories over KCS Wimbledon, Eltham College and, in the final, Bedford School. Aquatics is consistently amongst our greatest areas of co-educational excellence.

We are all delighted that so much school activity is now able to happen on a more or less normal basis. It will not surprise parents to hear that Covid remains an issue for us nonetheless. This is particularly the case in the senior school in which significant numbers of teachers and pupils have tested positive as cases continue to rise nationally. Although serious illness now seems only to be associated with the virus very rarely it continues to cause disruption, as parents are doubtless finding in their own places of work.

Many thanks to those of you who have donated funds to support the children who have recently been obliged to flee from Ukraine. We welcomed our first such pupil to Year 8 this morning and hope to admit others to other year groups in the near future. I was hugely impressed with the very positive response of Year 8 pupils when I spoke to them about our new arrivals in assembly earlier this week and feel more confident than ever that we can provide a safe haven for them.

Outreach closer to home was in evidence on Wednesday afternoon when pupils from a range of local partner schools came to Colfe's for master-classes in science. Many thanks to the teachers involved and to everybody who puts so much effort into these important relationships.

With just a week to go until the Easter break, I wish to congratulate all pupils on all that they have achieved since the dark days of January, ably supported by teachers and parents.

With best wishes to you all

Richard Russell
Headmaster