

Dear Parents and Carers,

One of the things that I have been missing (although I doubt the girls have) is assemblies. It is through assemblies the girls can feel and see the size of the community that surrounds them, share in a single message and I can see the collective face of the school. A very poor second is the remote assembly but I have finally mastered the audio on PowerPoint - I am not ready for video inserts yet - and created my own YouTube Channel to publish this to the girls. I have sent the first link out today.

Two important messages at the end of the assembly are that

1. The Year 7, 8 and 9 whole school exams will be cancelled for this year. When we return to school, the focus will be on re-establishing routines and teaching the curriculum. Some departments may need to carry out assessments but these will be in the classroom and the girls will be well prepared.
2. Founders Day on the 7th May will now take place remotely. This means that no school work will be set but instead we will ask you, as well as the girls, to join in community activities. More information will be published next week.

Meanwhile our school systems still continue in the background. The Finance Department is working hard to secure refunds; the Site Team maintain the site on a daily basis; the SLT supervise the girls who need to come into school and the School Office team try to manage the many emails we receive. It is important to remember not to telephone the school because you will go to voicemail and no one is there to retrieve the messages!

I am incredibly proud of our two Year 12 students, Jasmine Velani and Zahara Arif who are making important contributions to helping key workers on the Covid-19 frontline.

Jasmine has joined the group [Makers4theNHS.com](https://www.makers4thenhs.com) and has been helping to produce 350-400 visors per day to be used by front line staff. Earlier this year she won a place in the VEX Robotics team and the group decided to donate her travel budget for VEX Worlds, cancelled due to COVID-19, to help set-up a 3D printing hub in London.

Zahara Arif has become a medic mentor for the Royal Medical Benevolent Fund, to support clinicians and NHS staff facing psychological, physical, and financial difficulties due to the pandemic.

Finally I have included a number of messages that will be of interest:

Sewa Day

Reshma Shah has also contacted us to try and answer the question: what can we do?

“We are volunteer group called Sewa Day helping the homeless, vulnerable families and care homes. We supply free hot meals and help replenish food banks.

Part of our campaign is to spread some joy in care homes, as they are not allowed visitors. This helps bring some joy to the residents of the care homes.

We want local schools to help us spread the word so please ask the children to spare some time for the elderly; we would like to receive drawings, posters, poems anything that would cheer the older members of our community at this challenging time.

The School Nurse Team

The School Nurse Team has adapted the way in which we can support young people during this time and we are emailing to advise you of our social media accounts. We have introduced a new Instagram account for secondary school aged children and will post advice and support specific to teen health; the account details are **teenhealth.hct** .

We also have an Instagram account for parents and families **hct_schoolnursing** which provides up to date health information/resources and we also have a twitter account HCT_SchoolNurse

Just a reminder that young people can access ChatHealth a confidential text messaging service providing support for 11-19 year olds run by the School Nurse team. Providing confidential advice on issues such as emotional health & well-being, relationships, sexual health & healthy eating to name a few. The text number is 07480635050.

Also a reminder that we are continuing one to one tier 1 work with children and young people to support their emotional health & well-being via video calls. Parents and professionals can refer via <https://www.hct.nhs.uk/our-services/school-nursing/>

Students can access our School Nurse line from Monday to Friday - 9am-5pm on 03001237572

DJ Uniforms

We like to reiterate the following messages:

- Please shop online where possible; If you wish to place an order please visit our website – www.djuniforms.co.uk or email info@djuniforms.co.uk
- Please order early to avoid delays – supply chains may take longer than expected at this time
- Please don't hesitate to contact us if you need any help. The best form of communication is currently email.
- If you have a query on an existing order - info@djuniforms.co.uk
- Our store is currently closed but please refer to the website for updated information on opening hours

Once again, many thanks for your co-operation and support during these challenging times.

We wish you and your families the very best over the coming weeks. Stay safe and well and we look forward to getting back to as normal as possible, in the very near future.

Best wishes

Sylvia Tai