

Re: Next half term (1st November to 17th December)

Dear families,

I hope you are all still enjoying the half term break. We have been particularly impressed with how well pupils have settled back into school since September. There is a real sense of joy and satisfaction from both pupils and teachers at being able to access and deliver the fullness of the school's curriculum once again.

Covid19 update

There have been some positive cases of Covid19 amongst the pupil population since our return in September. Each of these cases is shared with Public Health England (Waltham Forest) and the school is then provided with support on how to reduce the likelihood of further infections.

We have received guidance to suggest that the school may temporarily need to reinstate the use of face coverings in particular areas of the school where air circulation is not at its optimum.

I will be in touch with you if and when we receive such an instruction.

Vape pens

Pupils are not permitted to bring vape pens into school. This term we have confiscated a small number of vape pens which resemble highlighters (see image below).

Please remind your child that bringing such items into school will result in serious sanctions being applied.

We are working with our Safer Schools Officer in identifying certain local shops which have been selling these items to underage young people.

**E-scooters**

Pupils are not permitted to ride e-scooters to school and from 1st November 2021, these vehicles will not be stored on the school site.

An electric scooter is classified as 'Personal Light Electric Vehicle' by the Department for Transport, making them illegal to use on UK roads and pavements. Using them on the road commits the offence of using a motor vehicle with no insurance.

Some London boroughs are part of pilot schemes looking at how these vehicles can be used safely, but at present Waltham Forest is not part of such a pilot.

School uniform

Please be reminded that false eyelashes and acrylic or gel nails are not permitted as part of the school's uniform code.

Pupils must also ensure that they are wearing the school's PE kit on the days they have PE. Branded sportswear items are not permitted as part of the school's uniform code.

Key dates for this half term

There is a lot taking place in the run up to the Christmas break. Please see below for some key dates you may wish to add to your diaries:

1st November – Year 9 Partnership Evening (5pm to 6pm)

3rd November – Year 8 Partnership Evening (5pm to 6pm)

11th November – Year 10 and Year 11 College Roadshow (time TBC)

26th November – INSET day (no pupils in school)

29th November – Year 11 mock exams begin

9th & 10th December – 'Panto in a Hurry' (evening performances)

16th December – Year 7 to Year 11 progress reports distributed (via Edulink)

Yours faithfully,

J McQuaid
Head Teacher