Message from Mrs Matthews

Thank you to all our parents for your support once again this week. It makes all the difference as we work together with our students. On Thursday we started our Open Programme 2020, which, due to Covid, looks a bit different to last year, but will allow prospective students and families to get a feel for our school and see/hear the significant improvements that we have made over the last 18 months. This year our Year 6 applications increased by 10% from 2018, underlining local recognition of that improvement journey. Please do direct any prospective parents to our website and/or social media pages, and the information below. Thank you! Mrs Matthews

Welcome Back Year 11!

We’d like to welcome back all our students, but this week we’re featuring Year 11. We have been impressed with their maturity and attitude to the start of term, as they commence this important year ahead for their GCSE studies. They have also earned the first of their privileges, being able to wear a jumper instead of a blazer, and having access to the Year 11 Common Room.

We wish you all a great year! Well done so far!

Virtual Open Days 2020

We had a very successful Virtual Open Evening on 16th September, where prospective parents were able to virtually meet the staff, tour the school, explore the facilities and learn more about Court Fields from our website tour and current students.

Our Virtual Tour can be found on the website for anyone who may have missed it, There is also a link to our Open Evening Handbook too: https://courtfields.net/open-evening-5/

Virtual Open Days 2020 at Court Fields School

The next exciting chapter of your child’s life starts here.

Virtual Open Evening: 16th September 2020, live online from 6pm.
Meet the staff, tour the school, visit Faculties and hear from our current students, via our website tour.

Open Mornings: Monday 21st to Friday 25th September 2020.
Live Online Tours start at 9.30am, please book your place by contacting the school.

Live Q&A with SLT & Staff: Monday 28th September to Friday 2nd October.
Join us in your Primary School’s allocated Live Q&A session to talk to our staff team, who will be on hand to answer any of your questions. Open session on Friday 2nd October.

Subject Showcase: Online from Monday 5th October.
Meet the SENCO: Online from Monday 12th October.
**Covid Symptoms reminder**
Students should not come to school if they have the following symptoms.
- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you’ve noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If your child has any of these symptoms they need to stay home and await a test result. Other members of the household, including siblings who may attend Court Fields also need to remain at home until the results of the test. If positive the student and sibling need to stay home for 14 days, as per government guidance. If negative the students can return to school.

**Covid Testing link**
The Government have a dedicated website link for anyone who needs to get a Covid test. It’s very straightforward and you just need to add your details and follow the instructions. Here: [https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test](https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test)

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**Richard Huish College’s Original Writing and Illustration Awards**
Richard Huish College are once again running their writing and illustration Awards Competition. The **Brunner Prize for Creative Writing** invites students to write an imaginative piece based on the title of “Lockdown”.

- The format for the Brunner Prize may be short story, dramatic monologue, play script or poem.
  - The word limit is approximately 1,500 words
  - Entries must be word-processed and please ensure your full name, year group and school are included on your entry

**The Lucas Cup for Artistic Writing** invites pupils to design a poster using the title “Lockdown”. The format is.
- Illustrations may be hand-drawn or digital. The poster must be produced on A3 sized paper
- The title must highlight a Lockdown-related statement, figure or fact and the ‘author’ is the student’s own name.

The competition is open for students aged 9-11 years.
The deadline for submissions for the competition is **31st September 2020**. Please send your creative writing submissions to Mrs Bruce and Mrs Binmore before this date. More information on the competition can be found here - [https://www.huish.ac.uk/about-huish/original-writing-and-illustration-awards/](https://www.huish.ac.uk/about-huish/original-writing-and-illustration-awards/)

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**Instrumental and Vocal Music Lessons**
Sadly, at the current time we are unable to offer our normal range of instrumental and vocal tuition. If your child has had lessons in the past, or would like to begin lessons, please contact the Tutors direct on their emails as listed below. Our guitar teacher has written and filmed a course to take you through the lessons you would normally have if you started guitar this term. To learn more and find out what is involved, please email Rob Tribe at the address below. I will let you know as soon as we are able to offer face-to-face lessons in school. In the meantime, if you have any queries please do get in touch with me at school.

Many thanks for your understanding. Sarah Chidgey - Head of Music

**Your tutor contacts are:**
- **Vocal/Woodwind/Brass**: nicholas.thomas4@icloud.com
- **Drum**: mattgroves41@gmail.com
- **Guitar/Bass/Ukulele/Piano/Keyboard**: robtribe@robtribe.plus.com

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**Student contact information**
Usually at this time of year we send out our student update packs for you to complete and update us with changes in contact or medical information or your child and provide permissions for activities for the year ahead. This year we are hoping to do things a little differently. To try and reduce the amount of paper being handled in School and to make it easier for you to update changes as they happen, we are looking at online solutions for gathering this information. We hope to launch this very soon but in the meantime if you know that important contact (Address, telephone or email) or medical information for your child has changed please email sch.552@educ.somerset.gov.uk so that we can get our records up to date. Thank you.