



22 July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we now draw this academic year to a close I wanted to write with some final updates.

Firstly, can I thank you for your continued support. This last couple of years has been challenging for all of us, with so much disruption caused by the pandemic. That said, I have been constantly impressed by the resilience and determination of both staff and students (and not to forget, 'parents').

As a school, we have constantly tried to adapt and be proactive to the government guidance, and I am really pleased that we have seen so much good practice and progress, even in these challenging circumstances. Our live lessons throughout the last lockdown meant that we were able to continue delivering our curriculum; evidence that we have submitted for our Year 11 and Year 13 students has been complimented as being 'extensive'. We continue to attract visitors from other schools to look at our impressive data, pastoral care, culture and ethos and yet again our numbers continue to grow with a large group of Year 6 students joining us in September. That said, we are always learning and always willing to reflect to ensure we are offering every single student the very best education possible.

One clear sign of a settled, happy school is consistent staffing and whilst we are always sad to say goodbye to staff, I am pleased we only have three members of the team leaving. I am sure you will join me in providing best wishes to the following staff:

Mrs Lansdowne	PE Teacher (Maternity Cover)
Miss Grenham	Maths Teacher
Mrs Lilley	Attendance Officer

However, due to our number of students increasing, we are delighted to be able to employ more staff. From September the following new members of staff will be joining us:

Mr Lascelles	DT Teacher with Food/Textiles
Miss Western	MFL Teacher
Mr Minty	Mathematics Teacher
Mr Lee	Science Teacher
Mr Carter	Science Teacher
Miss Caldwell	PE Teacher (maternity cover)
Mrs McGleenon	Teaching Assistant
Mrs Merrick	English Faculty Teaching Assistant
Miss Kilford	Attendance Officer
Mrs Mitchell	First Aid, Health and Well-being

I also want to take this opportunity to let you know that Mr Powell will be changing his role from September. As many of you know, Mr Powell has been a Head of Year for a number of years, and from



September he will be continuing here at John of Gaunt but returning to the classroom as a full time Geography teacher. Miss Wood will be taking over his Head of Year role. I know a lot of parents and carers will join me in thanking Mr Powell for such wonderful service in the pastoral team

### Next Year's Term Dates

(TD = Training Day, this means the school is closed to students and only open to staff)

#### TERM 1 – Wed 1 September – Wed 20 October

Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	TD Day & Year 7 Lateral Flow testing
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	Year 7 Induction Day & 6 <sup>th</sup> Form Enrolment
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Year 7 & 6 <sup>th</sup> Form lessons start
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> September	All students return to school

#### TERM 2 – Mon 1 November – Thurs 16 December

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November TD Day

#### TERM 3 – Tues 4 January – Thurs 17 February

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January TD Day

#### TERM 4 – Mon 28 February – Fri 8 April

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February TD Day

#### TERM 5 – Mon 25 April – Fri 27 May

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May TD Day

#### TERM 6 – Mon 6 June – Fri 22 July

### September Covid-19 testing arrangements

Further to my letter last week regarding lateral flow testing on our return to school in September, please see below details of the timings for testing for **Year 9**. As a reminder, for test one students should come in to school for their test and go home again. They will then return to school on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September. Test two will be taken during the school day and students will leave their class as a group and return to lessons after the test.

I would also like to remind you that consent is required for all under 16s to be tested on site. If consent has been given previously we will take this as agreement to the planned September tests. If you have not already done so, please see below the attached link to access the online form.



<https://forms.office.com/r/BCZnrf72QT>

3rd and 8th September		
Year 9	9A	08:45
	9B	09:05
	9C	09:25
	9D	09:45
	9E	10:10
	9F	10:35
	9G	11:25
	9H	11:50

If you have any queries please contact Ellie Green, HR Manager at the school on [egreen@jogschool.org](mailto:egreen@jogschool.org) who will be happy to help.

### Finally

Can I wish you all a safe and restful holiday. You all deserve it!

See you in September.

Paul Skipp  
Headteacher

