

14th May 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

In the Downing Street briefing on Monday, the Prime Minister announced that face coverings will no longer be a requirement for students in secondary school classrooms from Monday 17th May. We are certainly incredibly pleased that the roadmap to recovery, coupled with the roll out of the mass vaccinations programme, is working in the way that everyone had hoped and that the infection rates continue to decline. However, we also recognise the need for cautious optimism particularly given the recent increase in cases of the highly-transmissible Indian strain of Covid-19. For this reason, we would like to continue to encourage our students to wear face coverings in classrooms over the next few weeks and, in line with guidance, it will remain the expectation that they should wear masks in corridors and other areas inside the school where social distancing is not practical. We will keep this situation under constant review as we move through the next steps of the government's roadmap.

Sixth Form Student Leadership Team

In line with annual traditions at NSG, last week we began the exciting process of appointing our new Student Leadership Team and school President; this is an integral part of student voice in the Sixth Form at NSG and the President and the Student Leadership Team have the opportunity to create change in the Sixth Form and indeed across school; they epitomise our expectation that our Sixth Form students are #RoleModels. The Student Leadership Team will be expected to take part in school events, act as ambassadors for the school at external events and run a number of programmes, both academic and super-curricular, that enhance the provision for our students across all year groups.

All students in Year 12 were invited to apply to become a member of the team and/or President, ahead of a robust shortlisting process. Each applicant that is shortlisted for the position of President is expected to create a two minute video which will be shown to all students in Years 7 to 12 during tutor time next week. Following this, all students across the school will be able to vote, via Google Form, for their chosen candidate. As the final stage of the process, I will have the privilege of interviewing each of the candidates on Tuesday 25th May, alongside Mrs Green, Director of Sixth Form. Once the President has been appointed, the Student Leadership Team members and the successful team will be announced to the whole school.

We are extremely excited about this process and are delighted with the high calibre of applications we have received. On behalf of the entire school community, I would also like to thank the incumbent Student President, Ellie Cox, and the Student Leadership Team, Hannah Bell, Trinnie Phipps, Estelle Black and Betty Fennelly-Hunt, for all their outstanding efforts over the last very disrupted year. They have worked tirelessly as a team to maintain connections with the student body, to raise awareness about a range of important issues, to create videos to support other students and have also organised tremendously successful charity events - they are truly phenomenal ambassadors for the school and we will miss them dearly.



Billy Elliot

It has been over a year since there has been a musical performance at the school theatre so we are delighted that we will shortly be sharing information with all students about auditions for Billy Elliot. This is a hard hitting, yet heartfelt, musical story set in 1980s England during the miners' strike and tells the story of a young boy's dream to become a ballet dancer. This show is set to present a powerful balance between the elegance and grace of ballet and the turbulence and struggle of living through the miners' strike at the time - it is a story of hope, above everything else. Our incredible Performing Arts team have taken on the challenge of embarking on this production with their usual commitment and flair, ensuring that we provide our students with the best experience of taking part in a musical, whether that be on stage, backstage or in the band. We cannot wait to experience the vibrance and energy of our theatre again and hope that many of you will want to join us for the show when it opens in February 2022.

As always, thank you for your continued support and I wish you all a wonderful weekend.

Best wishes,



Mrs Cristina Taboada-Naya
Headteacher

