

UPCOMING KEY DATES

February 2021

22nd First day 2nd half Spring term

March 2021

31st Last day of Spring term

April 2021

19th Start of Summer term

May 2021

3rd Bank Holiday

At the time of writing this, our plan is to continue with the online learning, as we did throughout the first half of the spring term, and we have no information about when all pupils will be able to come to the school site. There has been an improvement to the Covid situation, but it is still considerably worse than during the first lockdown, and schools do return. I expect they will prioritise examination year groups first (Years 11 and 13). We know that we will get two weeks notice before we are due to fully reopen, and will communicate that to you as soon as we find out.

This has been a very disrupted term, but our approach has been to keep things as close to normal as possible and I am very grateful for the support from people at home, as well as the staff in school. Not only have teachers had to adapt their curriculum and lessons to suit the new way of teaching, but the support staff have also had to deal with the enforced changes.

Our IT team has loaned out over 200 Chromebook, and the admin team has helped with IT and other questions, as well as sending home lots of learning materials (including keyboards in some cases!). It has been a real community effort, and because of that we have nearly every pupil in the school attending all of their lessons each day, and we were delighted to receive such positive feedback from families on our zoom meetings and through the family questionnaire. We are also very grateful to the two donors and the Department for Education who donated enough Chromebook to the school to make live lessons possible.

Barnet seems to be doing a very good job rolling out the vaccine and I would recommend that those who are eligible do take the opportunity to have it as soon as possible. I am aware that some 'fake news' groups have been creating concerns, particularly in our Muslim community, and I would urge families to look to the guidance from the Muslim Council for Britain (<https://mcb.org.uk/resources/coronavirus/>) and the British Islamic Medical Association (<https://britishima.org/operation-vaccination/hub/>). This webpage answers a lot of the myths and is available in Urdu and Arabic (<https://britishima.org/operation-vaccination/hub/covidmyths/#ATM>).

Thank you for your continued support, and we hope to see you in person soon.