

## Friday 1st April 2022

## Dear Parent/Carer

It is sometimes hard to believe that two years ago we were at the beginning of a time of such upheaval and uncertainty in our lives, with the first school closure due to COVID-19 commencing on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020. However, two years on and there is certainly a semblance of routine and 'normality' returning to all of our lives. I, for one, am enjoying seeing our Pembroke students flourishing in their experiences and activities both within and beyond the classroom.

Some recent highlights include members of our current Year 7 and 8 students visiting their old primary schools to lead transition assemblies for our new intake in September. Our primary links are strong and it was excellent to hear of the curiosity from the current Year 6 students in what 'big school' will be like. 120 students will be joining us in September in Year 7, with many more wishing they could be on the list. Near the other end of the Pembroke journey are Year 11. They are in the final run up to prepare for the summer examinations which begin in May. All students have received an examination timetable – make sure it is posted on the fridge!

Our celebration of World Book Week included many activities such as lunchtime debates, book quotation treasure hunts and a 'Big Book Quiz' where contestants earned House Points. The week showed that reading can mean so much more than just 'books'! Our PE department and sporting students have been extremely busy with a number of football, handball and badminton fixtures bringing much success and a great deal of developing resilience and passion. Our Year 9 students had the opportunity to visit the Careers Fair at Priory Witham, widening their knowledge of the different industries and sectors of work to support in their future choices. They have also chosen their options for GCSE subjects for Year 10 and 11. Now is the time for us to work on the timetable and confirm these option choices for the students. Yet another step in their journey.

So many students have completed parts of our Pledge Programme and received their pin badges in our assemblies. Individual praise should go to Reuben Hollamby and Jacob Edwards who have both recently been 'knighted' and will join our recently formed Pupil Leadership Team (PLT). For more information please see the front page our e-newsletter on the website at <a href="www.priorypembroke.co.uk">www.priorypembroke.co.uk</a>. More individual praise for Isabella Shattock, who competed in the Future Chef challenge in London after winning a number of local and regional competitions, and also Oliver Cooney, who came 38th in the English Schools National Cross Country Championships in Kent. Pembroke represented all over the country!

As mentioned above parents and carers can always keep up to date with the 'goings-on' by viewing the website, following us on Twitter @PrioryPembroke and searching for Priory Pembroke on Facebook.

Moving forward it is important for us to reiterate our expectations on the standard of uniform, something which is often highly commended by visitors to the school and members of the public who see our students in the community. Please refer to the published uniform guidance on page 11 of the student planner and attached to the end of this letter, especially if purchasing new uniform over the Easter break. I would like to pay particular attention to trousers being grey and straight cut in style and the guidance on jewellery to be worn, which if not followed can cause a safety issue.

**Headteacher:** Mr S Evans

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There are many reasons behind the use of a school uniform, not least the feeling of belonging to a community or family which is in keeping with our motto of Achieving Together. I would also like to highlight that wearing a school uniform takes away the difficult decision of "what do I wear today?" at the start of a day. Young people have enough decisions to make during the day and removing one of these only supports them in their wellbeing.

Although we are two years on from the shock of the first lockdown, we are still receiving updates from the government on 'living with COVID'. The latest update, regarding vaccinations for 12-15 year olds can be found below:

As we approach the Easter break and with schools finishing around the 1<sup>st</sup> April NHS Lincolnshire CCG is reminding all 12- 15 year-olds and those aged 16 to 17 to get their second or booster jabs.

"As we approach the bank holiday and with schools breaking up it is a great opportunity for young people to get their vaccination especially if you are planning a break away from home" said Rebecca Neno, Director of Covid and Influenza Vaccination Programmes, NHS Lincolnshire CCG.

"It is important that we continue to vaccinate our young people to protect them from serious illness and long covid but also because by protecting them it gives reassurance to any older family or grandparents that they may be visiting over the Easter break"

Anyone aged 16 and 17 or 'at risk' 12-15 year-olds who had their second vaccination 12 weeks ago are now eligible to book an appointment for their booster. In addition, those young people aged 12-15 who had their first vaccination 12 weeks ago are eligible to book an appointment for their second dose. Please remember that unlike adults who can be vaccinated 4 weeks after a covid infection, those aged 12-17 need to wait 12 weeks following a positive covid test before vaccination.

'To date 66% of 12-15 year-olds have come forward for a first vaccination in Lincolnshire but so far only 37% of those eligible have come forward for a second vaccination. To achieve maximum protection, it is important that the primary course, consisting of a first and second dose is completed' adds Rebecca.

Appointments can be booked via the <u>National Booking System</u> or by calling 119, and a person that holds parental consent must accompany the 12-15 year old during their appointment.

For more information on where you can get your vaccination visit our website: <a href="https://lincolnshireccq.nhs.uk/qrab-a-jab/">https://lincolnshireccq.nhs.uk/qrab-a-jab/</a>

I'd like to finish by giving a small mention to our OfSTED inspection in January and subsequently published report. It is with great pride that I can say visitors to the school recognise that "The school's motto, 'Achieving together', is reflected in all aspects of its work"; that our young people "enjoy positive relationships with each other" and "that staff have their best interests at heart and want them to succeed in all aspects of life". Gaining recognition like this is no mean feat! Thank you to all students, parents, the local community and the staff for their work not just during the inspection but since September 2017 when Pembroke first opened its doors.

I trust everyone in the Pembroke family will enjoy the rest over the Easter break and I look forward to seeing the students back on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2022.

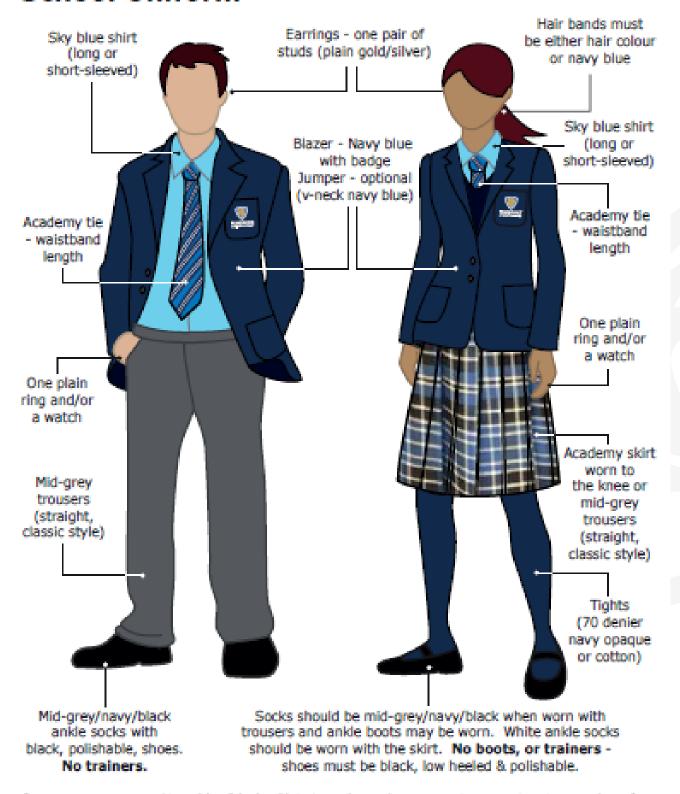
Kind regards,

Mr N Bibby

Assistant Headteacher

Be ready, be safe, be respectful.

## School Uniform



Coat Navy blue/black. Plain in style, no logos or stripes or trimmings such as fur.

Reflective stripes are permitted.

Scarf, hat, gloves Navy blue, plain.

Hair No extreme hairstyles. Hair must be a natural colour and one shade

throughout.

Make-up Make-up may be worn sparingly. No false nails, eyelashes and no nail varnish.

Bag Navy blue or black. Plain and suitable for school use.

Hijab If worn, navy blue/black.