

Ref: GWA/LWO

8 March 2021



Dear Parents/Carers

WELCOME BACK

Today, we have welcomed your children back with open arms and it has been great to touch base with so many of them after such a lengthy period of absence. They, and you, have done remarkably well under the circumstances to continue with their learning so successfully over the last nine weeks.

Last week saw us undertake 2,482 lateral flow tests with only two proving positive. Your children will be completing their third and final in-school test between now and Wednesday before being provided with home testing kits complete with instructions. Members of staff, too, are now self-testing twice-weekly. I completed my first home test last night which proved painless and simple to administer. It is, however, critical to wait the full 30 minutes to see the result rather than immediately responding to the first stripe which indicates a negative test and always appears in advance of a potential second.

School attendance today was 97.2% with all staff at school. This is most pleasing and indicates a strong degree of confidence in the arrangements that we have put in place to protect staff and student safety. There is no evidence to suggest that children are being kept out of school as a result of safety concerns.

The most frequent response I received to my initial conversations with children was that they were 'tired', an indication perhaps that their body clocks will need some adjusting. I did not pick up any particular anxieties and the day has gone as smoothly as we expected it would with children quickly returning to familiar systems.

It was clearly evident that they had missed their friends hugely and heartwarming to see the re-establishment of those friendships. Access to food was slowed by the absence of student [lanyards](#) and I would ask for your support in ensuring, as best you can, that lanyards are brought to school. These are used to access buildings, pay for lunches and to access photocopiers so are a vital piece of equipment. Due to the obvious safety reasons, could I also remind parents that the school car park at E block is not used to drop off and pick up your children from school.

With very best wishes

Mr G M Watson
Headteacher

A list of forthcoming events/diary dates can be viewed on the next page

Ashchurch Road, Tewkesbury
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Reception: **01684 292152**
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Headteacher: **Mr G M Watson** BSc PGDip NPQH

Tewkesbury School - forthcoming dates

Date	Time	Event
25 March	4.30-7.30pm	Year 12 Virtual Parents' Evening
1 April	3.20/3.35pm	End of Spring term
2 April		Good Friday
2 April - 18 April		EASTER HOLIDAYS (Easter school Year 11 and Year 13 - info to follow)
19 April		Start of Summer term. <i>Summer shirts</i> can be worn if students choose.
27 April		Year 7 report issued
29 April	4.30-7.30pm	Year 7 Virtual Parents' Evening 1 (Only for half the year - info to follow)
3 May		May Bank Holiday Monday
4 - 21 May		Start of Y11 and Y13 summer exams (assessments for 3 weeks)
6 May		Year 7 Virtual Parents' Evening 2 (Only for half the year - info to follow)
13 May		Year 8 Virtual Parents' Evening 1 (Only for half the year - info to follow)
20 May		Year 8 Virtual Parents' Evening 2 (Only for half the year - info to follow)
26 May		Year 9 report issued
28 May	2.30pm	End of term
29 May - 6 June		May Half term holiday

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