



Sir John Talbot's school

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Head of School: Tim Stonall BA Hons, PGCE, NPQH

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Dear Parents and Carers

Only one week to go until half term and I am sure that we are all looking forward to a little time to catch up ... whether that is on sleep, box sets or work (if you have got a bit behind!). We hope that yesterday's (Almost) Screen Free day was helpful and encouraged students to move away from their devices for at least part of the day.

As I write this we still do not know when we will be back in school and how assessment of final grades will be made. We recognise that this uncertainty is stressful, but it is crucial that everyone tries to keep up with the lessons and assignments. For both year groups we are keeping careful records of attendance and engagement. When students are not on live lessons, we are contacting parents/carers for a reason. We appreciate that you may not always be able to answer due to work or other commitments, however, we are also finding that we are unable to get through to some contact numbers held. If you have changed your contact details, please can you kindly inform us of your most up to date information. If you know that your child will not be online for any reason, contact should be made in advance which will save us time and concern.

Year 12

A huge thank you to Lucy, Holly and Betsy who volunteered (it was their own idea) to talk to Year 11 who are hoping to join Sixth Form in September. Their insights into what it has been like starting A levels, not having sat GCSEs, are more relevant than my comments ever could have been. This is exactly the initiative we like to see from our Sixth Form Students.

EPQ presentations will take place for many student's week beginning 1st March. Either side of half term, individual meetings will take place to support the setting of goals to complete the project and plan the presentation which will take place online. Once the presentations are done then the final paperwork and completion of the research reports will be the focus. It will all be done by the end of March.

Unfortunately, Forum this week had to be cancelled, next week we will have a representative from Glyndwr University talking about building the content of CVs and personal statements. Doing this in plenty of time and looking for the right opportunities reduces stress later. The Early entry group were talking about this in this week's session too. Opportunities to attend online seminars, lectures and work experience are emailed out by Mrs Murphy in her monthly careers bulletin and can also be accessed through Unifrog. Please remember that you have access to Unifrog and can have a look too.

Year 13

It is quieter on the Year 13 front. The focus in form time is still finance and Mr Mannion reports improving engagement with his quiz! We are maintaining the twice weekly form time as an important point in the week when we can check in but also give out key information.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Haycock, Key Stage 5 Lead, Head of Sixth Form

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