



Chew Valley School

Learn Grow Achieve

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25th March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Chew Valley School has continued to be a very busy place in recent weeks. The Dance Festival followed quickly on from the School Production with many proud families coming to support a large cast over three evenings. Some of the show was also performed to both Year 7 and Year 8 during the school day and the audience enjoyed watching their fellow students being brilliant.

Students have also been making preparations for their forthcoming Duke of Edinburgh and Ten Tors Expeditions. They will be travelling down to Dartmoor this coming weekend with a wild camp planned on the Saturday night. The weather looks great and we wish them all the best. As the light evenings are extending, it has been wonderful to see sport fixtures continuing. I had the chance to watch part of two good football games versus Broadlands after school on Tuesday amongst so much taking place. The school cheerleading group has also been active with some good success recently which has been super to hear about.

So many students have been involved in all of the above events and it is great to see so much of what makes our school away from the classroom returning. As ever, a big thank you to the staff who make this happen and most of all to the students for their dedication and commitment.

On Thursday, students in all years, apart from Year 11, were given the chance to meet with their tutor online and discuss their progress. The school found this incredibly useful and we hope families did too. If you do need further conversations with the school away from this evening then please do not hesitate to contact us. I know that Year 8 parents and carers will also have the opportunity to meet with subject staff in addition next Tuesday (29th March). Senior staff have been interviewing Year 11 in recent weeks and have looked to confirm arrangements with them with regards to their plans for next year.

In line with what is happening nationally our COVID numbers, with regards to both staff and students, are rising once more. Our enforced staffing absence has caused us to be quite stretched once more with cover staff not available due to a national shortage. Once more, I hope not to be in the position of needing to send a year group home to work remotely but if I do, I know that parents and carers will understand it really is a last resort. Can I remind all families of the need for students to continue to isolate if they have a positive test and only return if they are well and have two days of negative tests following Day 5.

Can I also take this opportunity to remind you that the School Society are holding their Quiz Night, the first School Society event in two years, on Friday 1st April, raising money to enhance the children's experience at Chew Valley School. Tickets are available from Eventbrite, costing £10pp including chilli supper, via the following link <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/quiz-night-2022-tickets-292000610687>.

Easter is rapidly approaching. For Year 11 and 13 students, summer examinations will follow soon and some of Year 11 will be in school during our Easter Camp of revision in the first week of the holiday. We break on Friday 8th April at the normal time of 3.20pm. Details of 'last days' and proms will follow for these year groups.

As are all of the schools in the UK, we are watching events in the Ukraine unfold. We have spent some time in tutor time discussing this and where appropriate in other lessons too. We are working with Bath and North East Somerset as I know local people have been keen to volunteer as places to potentially host refugees. If I have more information, I will of course pass this on.

With very best wishes

Gareth Beynon
Headteacher