



News Update (30th April 2021)

Dear families

I'm really pleased to write home today about the return of an important signal of school life returning to normal. Year 7 played their first competitive football fixture of 2021, away to Acland Burghley. Unfortunately, the team lost 3-1 but, according to their captain, demonstrated resilience throughout the second half and were pleased to have been challenged by genuine external competition. We look forward to the return of more enrichment and extra-curricular activities across the school: sports fixtures, music and drama performances, art exhibitions, local trips and visits and of course welcoming parents into school for larger events. As national restrictions ease in May and June we will be keeping you informed of these so that all students and families can benefit.

This week has also seen students in school completing assessments of all kinds. Year 11 and 13 students have been doing formal assessments that will contribute to their final teacher assessed grades: this work all needs to be completed by 28th May at the latest, **and it is important that all students are in school every day for this.** I appreciate that assessments often cause students stress and anxiety, and especially this year when there has been so much uncertainty about how this will work. Students must attend the intervention run by their teachers and also continue with the online support from video tutoring.

Some students in lower year groups have been working with Ms Strike and members of our TLA team to complete reading tests this week, to identify their strengths and weaknesses and determine their reading age. This is really important information to help their teachers understand their literacy and general learning needs and also to celebrate their success and progress in reading. Reading – for information, for learning, for pleasure – is critically important in supporting learning and personal development for all students, and I'm pleased to let you know that, since our last newsletter, Camden Libraries have reopened for browsing, borrowing and study. For more information, please see the latest news page on the [Camden Libraries website](#).

I wish you all a restful and enjoyable Bank Holiday weekend and look forward to seeing all students at 8:30am on Tuesday, 4th May.

Yours faithfully,

Izzy Jones,
Headteacher



England Does the Daily Mile – Friday, 30 April

The Daily Mile are hosting their first national event day across social media today to help pupils across the country get active together, and start talking about their mental health. Since the pandemic, mental health awareness, especially in children and young people, and its relation to physical activity, has become even more important.

The Daily Mile, which is supported by Camden Council, are encouraging every school to get involved and bring the nation together - we will be signing up for future activities and will aim to get our boys active.

Ms Christine Mercier-Peart, Senior Pastoral Leader, Year 11

It was great to see the boys having such a good start back from their Easter break.

We have seen revision taking place in morning registrations and boys going to Teachers' interventions. Please do encourage them to keep attending any Year 11 tutorials, interventions, clubs or the Study Hub.

Assessments have started. The boys have their assessments timetable (it was also emailed to parents and you can still check details on the school website. Another way to check is to look on your son's TEAM Calendar as all assessments have been put there by their teachers.

Please keep on encouraging boys to eat, sleep and do some exercises as well as spending most of their time revising for the assessments of the week.

Boys learn well when in small groups and we were pleased to see them attending the Study Hub. Four weeks of focus to go. It's not easy and therefore we all have to play our part in supporting them the best we can.

Have a good week and enjoy the Bank Holiday!

Jeremy Pratt, Associate Assistant Headteacher/Drama Teacher

Congratulations and thank you to Year 8 students Andi, Erjon, Olsi, Ryan and Stefan who contributed to an online discussion with Challenge Partners about the return to school from lockdown. These students joined students from other schools and their comments will be included in a review to be published soon.

Reminder



Please make sure all boys bring in a water bottle with them. The water bottles can be filled from below the water fountains in the playground.



Flora Wilson, Director of Sixth Form



We are delighted to share a triumph of two of our Sixth Form students: Ray and Alparslan, who have recently joined a new football team, outside school. They are really embodying the culture of William Ellis by participating in this extra-curricular activity; building their resilience, showing their respect to others, and hopefully having a lot of fun at the same time! We really hope that they, like so many of our Sixth Form students, continue to achieve Excellence at Ellis!

Stop Press:

You may remember the news a few weeks ago, that a group of LaSWAP students have won a national competition due to their political campaign. I am delighted now to report that their prize has now been confirmed, and they will be going to Arizona to experience political campaigning in the mid-term elections in October 2022! Arizona is now a very interesting state politically, and this is a really great opportunity for these girls. Hopefully, they will also be joined by other LaSWAP students whom I hope will win the next iteration of Inspire US!