



12th February 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

I hope you are as well as can be given the circumstances, including wrapping up in the face of the “Beast from the East”.

As half term approaches, I have been reflecting on where we were a year ago. Here’s the email I sent to Mr Eden on the Monday after last year’s February half term:

Dear Mr Eden,

Hope you have had a good break. I have a meeting tomorrow at 9.30 to revisit the coronavirus situation. Do you have any time tomorrow to discuss curriculum continuity? E.g showmyhomework etc?

Tim Long

Little did we know at the time what was on the horizon for us all.

But despite all the grim times and ugly statistics, I have been overwhelmed by the resilience of our students and the support parents have provided us within school. This is no more evident than in the levels of engagement we have seen in on-line learning since January.

It is fair to say that our on-line offer is more systematic and robust than it was during the first lockdown and we have learned a lot. But however good it is, it still needs students to switch on and tune in to the lessons. It also still needs the support, nudging, cajoling or whatever it takes from parents and carers to keep students positive and engaged during the school day. So many thanks for everything you are all doing to make the best of this difficult period.

Not for the first time, we await an impending announcement from the Government aimed at providing clarity over the way forward for schools. This includes not just reopening, but also GCSE exams and the longer term catch up strategy. Needless to say, I will update you as soon as I can.

In the meantime, with half term nearly upon us, I would like to wish all of you a relaxing and enjoyable week from everyone here at Bridgewater High School.

Regards

Tim Long, Principal

