

Lady Margaret Road
Southall
Middlesex
UB1 2GU
Tel: 020 8578 9152 Fax: 020 8747 7891
Email: office@greenford.ealing.sch.uk
Web: www.greenford.ealing.school.uk
Headteacher: Mrs M. Pye B.A. (Hons) M.A. Ed



6th May 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

Unfortunately, I need to begin this letter with some extremely sad news. Most of you will, I hope, have read the email I sent a few days ago regarding the tragic death of our wonderful Science teacher, Mr Thompson-Davis. Mr Thompson-Davis had been suffering from Covid-19 which he had contracted after being admitted to hospital for something else. We are all absolutely devastated by the news and know that you will be too. Mr Thompson-Davis was a much loved member of the Greenford High School community; a superb teacher and a kind, generous, endlessly positive person. He touched the lives of many students and staff during his twelve years at the school and will be immensely missed by us all.

I know that many of you will wish to share your condolences with the family. If you wish to send in a sympathy card then please post this to the school and mark it for the attention of 'The Family of Mr Thompson-Davis'; we will collect all of the cards received and ensure that they are delivered to his family. We will also be setting up a 'virtual book of condolence' on our student VLE where students and parents will be able to post messages that they wish to share about their memories of Mr Thompson-Davis. Instructions on how to post messages will be outlined on the student VLE. We also have some information about dealing with bereavement on our student VLE which your child can access for support in dealing with this news, or other bereavements experienced.

When we return to school, and are all back together as a community, we will commemorate Mr Thompson-Davis' life in a variety of ways, and provide a fitting tribute to this wonderful man. We are trying to respect the privacy of his family as much as we can and so we are not posting any pictures or tributes on our website until we have received permission. We would ask students and parents to also exercise restraint over social media at this difficult time for Mr Thompson-Davis' family.

Possible return to school:

You may have heard that the government are issuing a statement about possible return to school in the coming weeks. Please note that we are only able to re-open according to government guidance, and we do not yet know what this might look like. Any return to school is likely to be partial, with just one or two year groups in at first, possibly for reduced days or hours, as we will need to follow social distancing guidelines. As soon as we have further information, we will let you know.

Communication going forwards:

It is very difficult for us to post letters at this time and so this will be the last letter we will be sending out by post. Any future letters or messages will be sent out via email. Please ensure that the school has an email address for you if you have not submitted one to us before, or if you have recently changed your email address. If you have already contacted us with this information, there is no need to do so again.

Dealing with the death of family members or friends:

We know that many of you may have been affected by the death of family members or friends at this difficult time. If you have, please do let us know so that we can support both you and your child. We are able to access counselling and other services, and as a staff body, we are all here for you at any time.

Examination grades for Years 9 and 10:

The government have now confirmed that calculated grades will be issued for Year 9 and 10, for examinations due to be taken in the Summer. This means that Year 9 will be issued with a grade for GCSE RE and will not have to sit an exam. The same applies for Year 10 for languages and for their optional subject. Although the process involves some use of teacher assessment, the government will also apply a formula and have the final say over the grades issued. We are not allowed to share predicted or teacher grades with you, and have been instructed by government not to. Please do not put staff in a difficult position by asking for this information.

Online Learning:

If you are struggling to access remote learning, or do not have a device at home for your child to use, please let your child's Year Leader or Form Tutor know so that we can find other ways to support him or her. If your child is feeling overwhelmed by the amount of work set, please reassure him or her that it doesn't matter if everything is not completed.

If your child is having technical difficulty in submitting work to his or her teachers on Google Classroom, please make use of the Online Learning Guide which can be found at <https://www.greenford.ealing.sch.uk/schoolclosure>. For support or further guidance with tasks set, students should email their teacher directly for help. Please contact the IT team at helpdesk@greenford.ealing.sch.uk for any issues with passwords or online access.

Safeguarding:

If you have any concerns about your child's safety, then please alert the school at childprotection@greenford.ealing.sch.uk. Our designated safeguarding lead, Mrs Grimley, will pick up your message and will be able to support you. Depending on the nature of your concern, a member of the Child Protection Team will either contact you in person or signpost you to an appropriate agency.

I wish you all the best once again for the coming weeks at this difficult time. Please remember that we are available to support you if you need any help. I will remain in touch via email.

Best Wishes,



Mrs M Pye
Headteacher