

Tuesday 17th March 2020

Dear Barney Parents and Guardians,

Following yesterday's announcement from the Government regarding public gatherings, and for the purposes of clarity, we have taken the following decisions with regards to our calendar:

Senior Musical 'Made in Dagenham'

The performances for the rest of this week are cancelled. May I take this opportunity to thank all parents for their support of their children in preparing for this event, and also congratulate all those who performed so wonderfully in their sole performance last night.

Year 3 & 4 Play 'Darwin Rocks'

The performances have been postponed and will be rescheduled for the Trinity Term.

External Music Events:

The End of Term Concert: A Night at the Movies on Monday 23rd March is not going to take place, with hopes that it can be rescheduled at some point in the future.

Internal Music Events:

Concerts scheduled to take place in school, such as the Pre-Prep concert on Thursday 26th March and the Piano and Keyboard concert in Senior School on Friday 20th March will still take place but will be **closed events** and will be open to **pupils and staff only**.

Internal Sporting Events:

All House competitions in the calendar will take place within school, but these will also be closed events and will be open to **pupils and staff only**. This includes **The Barnard Run** which will take place as planned tomorrow. We respectfully request that parents and other spectators do not attend.

External Sports Fixtures:

Following notification from national bodies, all sports fixtures against, and competitions involving, other schools have been cancelled.

Chapel:

There will be no further gatherings in Chapel this term. This includes the cancellation of the **Longfield House Service** that was due to take place on Sunday 22nd March.

Year 9 Parents Evening:

This event has been cancelled. Further information will follow regarding this for Year 9 Parents.

School Trips:

All proposed school trips for the remainder of term have been cancelled. There will be no external trips taking place for either Prep or Senior School pupils.

CCF Dinner – Thursday 26th March

This will be postponed until further notice, with the hope that a rescheduled date can be found to host it in the Trinity Term.

Duke of Edinburgh Walk

We are hoping that this can still take place this Sunday. At the moment this remains in the calendar but we will notify the appropriate individuals should this change.

As I have said in my previous correspondence, these are unsettling and unprecedented times. We continue to strive to provide the best education and care we can for our children, and our staff are committed to delivering this, be it from the classroom initially, or remotely if/when the time calls for it. It has been genuinely humbling to see the children and staff rally together in the way they have over the past few days. From the cleaning and catering staff who are going above and beyond to the teaching staff who are doing everything they can to retain a calm and reassuring perspective and presence for our children, the Barney community spirit is shining through.

Talking of community spirit, it has come to the attention of some of our students the impact this pandemic is having on those less fortunate than ourselves, and locally this has seen the supplies of Food Banks decimated. As such, we are encouraging all our children in Prep and Senior School to bring in one item of tinned food when they come to school tomorrow. Thank you for your support in this.

As ever, if you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

With best wishes to you all,

Tony