



Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School

Educating Women of the Future

Dear Parents and Carers

February 2021

I hope my email finds you and your families all well. This half term has been a busy one in terms of learning and teaching both on site and online and in terms of the number of virtual Parents' Evenings that the school has hosted. We have been delighted to receive your feedback throughout, all of which has been very supportive, positive and welcome in helping us to further develop our provision.

You will be aware from the media, that we are still awaiting news of an expected date for all students to return to school and that we are also waiting to hear how our examination year groups will be assessed, in lieu of the usual Public Examinations this summer. As soon as we have confirmed information from the DfE on either of these issues, we will share it with you.

Our focus for our students, alongside learning and teaching, is their pastoral care. I know our students are availing themselves of the many opportunities we have signposted for their wellbeing during lockdown and our usual school provision has remained in place. Tutors have been pleased to contact their tutees and I know that by today, Tutors will have attempted to call home at least once this half term to engage in a telephone conversation regarding wellbeing and the experience of online learning and teaching. Of course in between these calls there have been many opportunities for communication with Teachers and Heads of Year in support of a variety of matters arising.

Our contracted major works around water supply to various areas of the school are almost finished now, ahead of schedule. The progress of these works at least has benefitted from the school being very much less populated since the start of term.

During the half term break Teachers will not be setting work. This is in order to support our students to consolidate work set so far and importantly, to give time for other activities in support of wellbeing. Mrs Parker has provided links to a number of online support activities since the start of term and this week, Heads of Year have circulated to students, a variety of Barnet Activities available for students across the Borough during the half term break. However, everyone can access the outdoors. Being outside, even in this cold weather, for a break away from computer screens and screens of any devices, is beneficial to the body and to the mind.

I would also like to draw to your attention World Book Day, which this year takes place on Thursday 4th March. World Book Day tokens will be available for all students as a download, either printed or on a phone/device using the following link:



Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School

Educating Women of the Future

[£1 book token](#) - Secondary Schools (UK)

The tokens are valid from 18th February until 28th March, with the end date possibly extended while stocks allow. The nearest shops to school that will have stocks of the free World Book Day books are:

WH Smith Barnet
Sainsbury's New Barnet
Tesco Borehamwood

For information, the £1 book tokens can be exchanged for an exclusive, new and completely free World Book Day book available from participating booksellers or used to get £1 off any full price book or audiobook instead (as long as the book or audiobook costs at least £2.99). The World Book Day £1/free books are a gift from booksellers, who fully fund the cost of the £1/free book token redemptions. These books are also available in braille, large print & audio via Guide Dogs and RNIB.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your continued support of your daughter's education during this lockdown. We have all now had ample experience of the importance of the partnership between school and home and our partnership is proving successful to the progress of our students, their personal development and most importantly, to their wellbeing. I sincerely wish you and your families a restful half term break.

Yours faithfully

Violet Walker
Headteacher