



Parent Bulletin Week Commencing 8th February – week A

The Governing Board would like to further express grateful thanks to parents for supporting the school through this current lockdown. The governors fully appreciate the challenges of remote learning and the partial opening of schools for key worker and vulnerable children, and are extremely proud of how the students, staff and our families have adapted to new ways of working.

I am also writing to you as Chair of the Governing Board to (hopefully!) generate interest from any parent, guardian or member of our community to the position of Committee Clerk. This will be to arrange meetings and take minutes at our Governing Board committee meetings. We have four main committees:

- Student Welfare Committee
- Curriculum and Quality of Teaching Committee
- Finance Resource and Business Development Committee
- Staff and Staff Welfare Committee

Each Committee meets three or four times a year, and although meetings are currently held via Zoom, we hope to return to some face to face committee meetings later this year. There is remuneration for this position, and whilst we would ideally like someone with clerking experience, this would not be essential and training will be provided. Please send initial expressions of interest by email to chair@farmors.gloucs.sch.uk and we will contact you with further details.

Please stay safe, and let's hope with vaccinations and falling case numbers that we can reopen our school and welcome back all pupils in the not too distant future.

Many thanks and best wishes.
Suzie Paton
Chair of the Governing Board

Notices:

Finance Update

Trips - Berlin and Rome were both cancelled and due to the travel companies not offering refunds, we have submitted a claim via our insurers. This was submitted in November and due to how staff are operating at both the insurance company and the travel providers, we have experienced delays. We hope to get some positive news shortly about the expected date of our claim settlement.

Buses - We are currently in discussions regarding the possibility of a refund of the days the buses have not been operational. We will send a communication to all parents/carers of students that travel on the FS7-FS12 buses when we have established a conclusion to our negotiations.

Any parents that pay Pulhams directly will need to contact them for any refund related queries.

- **All Years:** We have been invited to take part in some live online outer space talks by the University of Oxford (see attached flyer). Students need to sign up for these sessions via an office 365 form their Science teacher will share in lessons next week.
- **Year 9:** It's now been made possible for parents living at different addresses to join the same online parents evening meeting. To do so, the parent who has made the first appointment needs to invite the 2nd parent. Please see this link for details on how to do that. <https://support.parenteveningsystem.co.uk/article/801-video-parents-how-to-attend-appointments-over-video-call>

- **Year 9 Parent's Evening:** The parent's evening bookings are still live and will run for Core Subjects (English, Maths and Science) Tuesday 9th February, with booking slots from 4pm to 7pm. Bookings are made through our Parent Booking system and will run virtually through the same platform.
<https://farmors1.schoolcloud.co.uk/>
- **Year 9 Student's Options Briefings** (Optional subjects at KS4) We are running a series of information events virtually at 6.30pm or 7:00pm, with 2 subjects per evening. Parents and students are invited to join any of the sessions which they feel are relevant to the choices under consideration. Each subject lead will present for 5 minutes and then take questions for up to 10 minutes.

Date	SLT Host	ZOOM Link 1 (6.30pm)	ZOOM Link 2 (7.00pm)
Mon 08/02	SPS	GCSE Hospitality and Catering (TJ) https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76125788722?pwd=VTIUN1RISldPZ2FMTzNsaDJ6dFBOZz09 Passcode: dAfj54	GCSE Health and Social Care (KR) https://us04web.zoom.us/j/72652884428?pwd=RWg4bm5BYi9Mem0vR0VJa3hMTUNxZz09 Passcode: vBx6i2
Tue 09/02	ME	GCSE Unit Award (AC) https://us04web.zoom.us/j/78108941547?pwd=aS9WSEnzSkhMbE5yeEYzbTRhNGZiQT09 Passcode: bvZ7dH	GCSE Separate Sciences (SLB) https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73846763361?pwd=OFhPMThJazc5bnRzOEU2VE9UQ08rUT09 Passcode: qvjAZ9

- **Year 11 Remote Assessments:** We are holding some regular assessments with Year 11 on Monday afternoons, initially for options subjects. There are 2 x 45-minute slots each Monday, the first from 2:45 to 3:30pm and the second from 3:45 to 4:30pm. By using Monday afternoon, the tests will not interfere with the normal pattern of remote learning and we are able to accommodate exam arrangements that are in place for specific students. These tests will contribute towards the evidence base that we hold on student attainment but are not a replacement for the cancelled mock exam series. We have previously shared with Year 11 students the rationale for doing this and how the process will work remotely in assemblies. Departments will continue to run regular assessments in (remote) lesson time in addition to using these Monday afternoons.

The schedule is as follows:

	Monday 08/02
2:45 to 3:30	Media or Music
3:45 to 4:30	History

- **Year 11:** Cirencester College will be live online next week and during half term to answer your questions. If you would like to talk to a member of the team at Cirencester College, with any questions you may have as parents or students, then please feel free to contact them. They will be available between 10am and 3pm Monday to Friday, simply log on to www.cirencester.ac.uk

Remote Learning:

Remote learning guides for parents and students, including how to use Show My Homework, Teams, and recordings of parent briefings can be found on our website here: <https://www.farmors.gloucs.sch.uk/remote-learning>

Safeguarding update:

School Nurse:

Our school nursing service would also like to remind all children that their ChatHealth service is still operating. The number to text for support is: [07507 333 351](tel:07507333351)

Well Being:

This fantastic website has been created by a practising NHS professional who understands the need to make this available to parents and their children. It gathers all the websites, apps and information about supporting mental health in one place. Hopefully, if you need this, it will help: <https://www.camhs-resources.co.uk/>

Mental Health

Previously shared websites for support and guidance for both parents and students:

<https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/supporting-your-child-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic/>

As always, if there is anything that causes you concern about online safety, please check out this website for advice:

<https://tinyurl.com/yccvkk9o> and if you have any safeguarding concerns - contact nsturla@farmors.gloucs.sch.uk

Covid-19 school closure updates:

<https://www.farmors.gloucs.sch.uk/parents-and-students/coronavirus-information-and-updates>

Letters to parents:

<https://www.farmors.gloucs.sch.uk/parents-and-students/letters-to-parents>

Kind regards

The Pastoral Team