

Newsletter

Friday 13th May 2022

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Term Time Holidays

Since the lifting of COVID-related travel restrictions, we have seen an increase in the number of students missing school due to term time holidays. Governors and college leaders fully appreciate the financial impact of going away during school holidays, however we cannot overstate just how damaging such absences are to your child's academic progress. As mentioned in our newsletter on 9th April, we would like to remind parents and carers who may be looking to plan holidays for the 2022-23 academic year, that next year, Notre Dame will be returning to its pre-pandemic stance and will recommence submission of parent fines for term time holidays unless they are in truly exceptional circumstances. Please be aware, weddings are not classed as exceptional circumstances.

Thank you for your support with this.

'Bullybusters' Project



As parents and carers are aware, our students' mental health and wellbeing is an absolute priority for us here at Notre Dame. On Monday, we were joined by Bullybusters, who began a student peer mentor training programme with 12 students from Year 10. This was the first of three training sessions in which students are taught how to support children who feel lonely, isolated or bullied. We are incredibly proud of these students who are going the extra mile to support others in need – no better way of embodying our core values!



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Year 8 Trip to Dell Technologies



On Tuesday, 58 students from Year 8 attended a fantastic careers event at Edge Hill University which explored careers and opportunities in the IT sector. Students were set problem solving challenges, explored how technology can be used to solve pressing global issues and they even got their hands on some state-of-the-art kit! Feedback from the trip was excellent and the students' conduct throughout the visit was exemplary. Thank you very much to Edge Hill and Dell for being great hosts and thank you to our careers and computing teams for arranging the visit.

'Super Saturdays' and Transition



Tomorrow, we host our final 'Super Saturday' transition morning in which we will welcome some Year 6 students who will be joining us in September. We would like to thank our parents and colleagues in our primary partner schools for promoting and committing to this initiative. Attendance and participation at each of them has been outstanding. We would also like to thank all of the Notre Dame staff who have made these Saturdays truly super! We would also like to remind parents of next year's Year 7 cohort, that their full transition day at Notre Dame is on **Friday 8th July** – it will be here before we know it.

Wishing every Notre Dame family a peaceful and safe weekend.

Mr Duffy



SAFEGUARDING REMINDERS



Important Contacts

If you currently need support for your mental health or well being these are some of the organisations who are happy to listen and help

Anxiety UK

03444775774 (Helpline)

075374160905 (Text)

Childline

0800 1111 (Free 24 hr helpline)

Papyrus Hotline

(Under 35s at risk of suicide or concerned for another)

0800 068 4141

07786209697 (text)

The Mix

(Support & Advice for under 25s)

0808 068 4994

85258 (Text THEMIX)

Young Minds

0808 803 5544 (Parent helpline)

85258 (Free 24hr crisis messenger, text YM)

Young Stonewall

Information & support for young people who identify as LGBTQ

0800 050 2020

Samaritans

Support for anyone who needs to talk

116 123 (Call)

Bullybusters

0800 169 6928

Please refer to the school website for further contact



The Safeguarding Team

Headteacher – Mr P Duffy
Deputy Headteacher – Mrs AM Costello

Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs E Brennan – Senior Assistant Headteacher

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads

Mrs J Littleboy – Assistant Head of Year
Mr D McKeon – Leadership – Director of Behaviour
Mr A McVerry – Leadership – SENCO

PC P Wood – school's safer police officer
Leadership/ Alternative Provision – Miss H McCullen
Attendance Officer – Mrs P Shrimpton
Special Educational Needs – Mrs K Sweeney
Pastoral Assistant Heads of Year – Ms R Glorman Y7, Mrs Doran Y8, Mrs E Garvey Y10, Miss C Lee Y11

If you feel a child is at risk

(suffering harm, neglect or abuse)

Any member of the public can contact

Careline on 0151 233 3700 or

Merseyside Police on 0151 709 6010

CRISIS DROP-IN'S

Across 3 Community Hubs



<https://ypas.org.uk/services/whats-on-calendar/>

Childline - www.childline.org.uk

• Childline is available to you if you have any concerns about:

- Bullying
- Abuse (physical, sexual, psychological, emotional, neglect)
- Your body and self esteem
- Your feelings
- Friendships
- Sexual advice
- Home life and families
- School



• You can ring them on 0800 1111 or message them online here <https://www.childline.org.uk/registration/>

• There are loads of resources available for you to download and read as well <https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/>

Domestic Abuse/Violence

Please remember, in an emergency dial 999 for immediate assistance.

You can call 999 without speaking then pressing 55, or tapping or coughing into the phone.

This will enable police to respond

Women's Aid

0808 2000 247 (24 hr helpline)

Men's Advice Line

0808 801 0327

Worst Kept Secret Helpline Merseyside

TOTAL TRUST IN TUTORS?



You may look to a tutor to assist in improving your child's educational development. If this is the case we have put together some guidance around choosing a tutor and supporting you into keeping your child safe after school.

Do's...

- Do** check the tutors qualifications
- Do** undertake background checks, including reference from last employer
- Do** speak to other parents who provide recommendations
- Do** ensure the sessions take place at your home and are visible to you
- Do** make sure you and your child feel comfortable with the tutor
- Do** challenge any practice you feel is inappropriate or harmful
- Do** make sure any communication from the tutor goes through you and not your child
- Do** do maintain boundaries - tutors are professionals you are paying for a service

Don'ts...

- Don't** assume the tutor has had background checks
- Don't** ignore if your child says they are not happy with the tutor
- Don't** leave your child alone with tutors whilst you are out / not around
- Don't** accept the tutor's word; ask to see evidence of qualifications
- Don't** allow your child and tutor to have each others their personal number / email / social media
- Don't** allow your child to meet the tutor outside of sessions
- Don't** accept practice or behaviour from the tutor that you feel is harmful, unsafe or unprofessional

Don't accept that a DBS check means someone is safe to work with children, if something does not feel right you should check or report:

- Communicate with your child
- Share information with the Local Authority Designated officer (LADO)
- Report concerns to the police

liverpool.gov.uk/SafeAfterSchool



Liverpool Safeguarding Children Partnership

With Thanks to Rochdale Safeguarding Children Partnership

