

<p>Key dates and events</p>	<p>Monday 3 May: Bank Holiday Monday 31 May to Friday 4 June: Half-term Holidays Thursday 10 June: Year 7 KLM Parents' Evening Thursday 17 June: Year 7 RST Parents' Evening</p> <p>Extra-curricular Activities We are delighted that some extra-curricular activities have been able to start this term. The extra-curricular list is available on the website: https://www.astreacottenham.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Extra-Curricular-list-April-2021.pdf</p> <p>Term Dates for September 2021-July 2022 The term dates have been updated to include a staggered start for years 7 and 11 in September: https://www.astreacottenham.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Term-dates-2021-22-parental-version.pdf</p>
<p>Covid-19 Safety in school</p>	<p>Although COVID restrictions are starting to ease slowly in line with the government's road-map, the virus has not gone away and we need to continue to follow the measures in school to help reduce the transmission rate. This is especially important in our region at the moment, since Cambridgeshire currently has one of the highest infection rates in the country, according to recent data; the local authority is particularly keen to ensure we do all we can to help. You can find a Covid update from the local authority here: https://www.astreacottenham.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/CCC-Schools-Letter-%E2%80%93-Covid-Update-April-2021.pdf</p> <p>All this means that in school we will continue to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operate separate zones for pupils in lessons and at break and lunch times • Use face masks in lessons and when moving around the college • Remember to wash or sanitise hands regularly • Maintain social distancing from pupils in other year group bubbles • Follow classroom cleaning routines such using the wipes provided and seating plans <p>Pupils have been excellent in their conduct so far and in following these measures and we thank you for your support in this.</p> <p>We also ask for your continued support to ensure pupils test themselves regularly (twice a week) using the LFT kits provided. There is evidence to suggest that there is a correlation between the highest infection rates and the lowest testing rates, so we appreciate all you are doing to support your children with regular testing. Please also log the results. You can find the link to log these tests results on the school website Covid-19 microsite(and also on the Astrea app.</p>
<p>Charity Fundraisers in Year 7</p>	<p>CONGRATULATIONS to Year 7 pupils Rebecca Kane and Shreya Thiahulan who each walked 35 miles over the Easter holidays to raise money for the British Heart Foundation, raising an incredible £500! THE BHF said they were extremely impressed by these pupils' "commitment to make a difference." Well done and thank you for your work!</p>
<p>Breaks and Lunchtime canteen</p>	<p>This week we re-opened our servery areas for breaktime food and drinks. It's been great to see this being well used by students, but it has highlighted the need for students to be mindful of what they purchase during the school day.</p>

	<p>We aim to prevent children purchasing snacks and drinks if they have insufficient funds on their account but won't stop any child having access to a meal at lunchtime if they have not eaten beforehand during the school day.</p> <p>As always, we welcome your support in ensuring your child eats sensibly during the school day, uses their allowances in a way that you would wish and that their dinner account stays in credit.</p> <p>Please find a Parentmail link below and this link is also available via the Astrea App: https://pmx.parentmail.co.uk/#core/login</p>
<p>Coats</p>	<p>As we are now deep into spring, we will be returning to a 'no coat' policy in lessons. We are aware that it has still been a little bit nippy first thing in the morning so at the discretion of the teacher teaching the sessions up to break time, coats may be permitted until the (hopefully) milder mornings arrive. With this in mind, please support us to make sure that your son or daughter does have their blazer and tie on when in the standard uniform, and the PE kit in line with the policy.</p>
<p>Year 11 CAGs and their leaving date</p>	<p>We are highly impressed by the way in which Year 11 pupils have tackled their mini assessments in lessons, which started this week. They have been mature, calm and extremely focused and we are incredibly proud of them. For the vast majority of pupils, these mini assessments will continue in lessons until Friday 21 May. A link to the full assessment programme for Year 11 pupils is here.</p> <p>Catch-up sessions for Year 11 have now finished as we realise pupils will want to be able to plan their own revision and preparation during these final weeks. A thank you to the catch-up tutors who have worked hard to deliver high-quality sessions for pupils and to those pupils who attended and made the most of this opportunity.</p> <p>We are now in a position to confirm that the leaving date for Year 11 pupils will be Friday 11 June. Crucially, this date means pupils will be available to make sure they have all the necessary evidence for their Centre Assessed Grades in place. If any pupil has missed any mini assessments, they will have the chance to complete work before final grades are submitted on 18 June. The time in school also gives teaching staff and pupils two weeks of time with pupils once the main period of mini assessments have come to an end. This time will be used in lessons to prepare pupils for their study at post-16 destinations from September: this may mean transition work or a chance to explore areas of their courses that were not fully covered (due to lockdowns). We would also aim to have a Year 11 only event in school on the Friday 11 June to celebrate pupils' time at CVC and will confirm details once we know what is possible and what is allowed. Thank you for your patience regarding when the final date for Year 11 pupils would be as we sought confirmation from Astrea.</p>
<p>Year 10 Exams</p>	<p>The Year 10 end-of-year exam period will take place over the fortnight after the half-term holiday from Monday 7 June until Friday 18 June. These exams will offer pupils the opportunity to experience a more formal setting for exams in preparation for the end of Year 11, before they complete mock exams in November of Year 11 next academic year. Pupils shall be tested in all their GCSE subjects on everything they have studied this academic year. Teachers will guide pupils on what and how they should prepare and revise for these exams. Individual exam timetables will be shared with pupils this half-term. A letter with more detail regarding these exams and the timetable will be shared with Year 10 families.</p>

Attendance	<p>DfE data shows a clear correlation between school attendance and positive educational outcomes for pupils. Ensuring that pupils attend school is always a priority for us and we are working hard to support and encourage excellent attendance and punctuality with students, parents and carers.</p> <p>We offer support to any pupils who need to improve their attendance. Further details can be found on our website and in our attendance booklet.</p> <p>The attendance data for the week beginning 19 April is below:</p> <p>Whole School attendance was 93.3%</p> <p>Year 7 – 96.7% (Leading tutor group is 7L with 98.21%) Year 8 – 93.5% (Leading tutor group is 8L with 97.39%) Year 9 – 91.0% (Leading tutor group is 9T with 97.54%) Year 10 – 93.1% (Leading tutor group is 10K with 97.38%) Year 11 – 92.0% (Leading tutor group is 11L with 96.48%)</p>
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