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Dear Tallis Family,

It has been lovely to see some more folks, old and young, as year 10 are joining us bit by bit. It would be so nice to think that we are inching towards normality.

1. We press on with our aim to issue reports for the year groups who have not had a parents' evening this year, 7, 9 and 10. We will have something with you by the end of term, but it will not be as personal as the parents' evening experience would have been. I'm apologising in advance for that! Thank you.
2. Year group assemblies with Heads of Year next week do I've recorded a simple whole-school assembly reflecting on some of the images of the last week. It will go out on Wednesday like last week's. Please encourage your children to watch it.
3. Yesterday's DfE announcement raised more questions than it answered, not for the first time -

We are unable to welcome back more children to secondary school at this time, beyond the face-to-face support schools can now offer year 10 and 12 pupils, and provision for vulnerable children and children of critical workers. We are not asking secondary schools with capacity to invite further year groups to return this term.

We know that secondary schools are keen to invite pupils in other year groups in for a face-to-face meeting before the end of this term, where it would be beneficial. As long as this happens in line with this and wider protective measures guidance, and guidance on the numbers of pupils permitted on-site at any one time, we would encourage this where possible. This time can be used to check-in on pupils, and ensure they are supported before a return to school from September or moving into employment or the next stage of education.

So, how are we responding? We will

- Continue with y10 and 12 as planned
- Identify a group of y10s by the end of this week, who need to come into school for supervised study for the rest of term, as planned
- We are now *looking at the viability* of inviting other year groups in. Please remember that we have 300 year 12 students whom we have invited in over two weeks - and there are only 4 weeks left.

I'll give you more information on Friday. I'm sorry if you are frustrated as the weeks go by: so are we, the more so as the guidance alters so frequently.

Yours with thanks

Carolyn Roberts