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Dear Tallis family

Headlines for this week so far:

1. While we are preparing for assessments and reporting, for working face-to-face with year 10 and 12 and trying to keep things going, we also need to think about September. For schools, September 1<sup>st</sup> follows immediately after July 17<sup>th</sup> – but there are actually 6 calendar weeks between in which anything could happen. This weekend has been full of talk about things not returning to normal in September, so we are (sadly) thinking about preparing ourselves for a disjointed start to the year, particularly for year 7 and most of year 12 who will be new. We need to learn from our experience since March to make sure we have remote learning of a consistent quality, just in case.
2. On that note, please make sure you return the work that your children have done so far in the envelope we provided? There'll be another one soon. It is really important for our assessments.
3. The National Association for Able Children in Education and York St John University is conducting research to examine student during the pandemic. We have been invited to take part in this research project with all students from y9 upwards. There is an online questionnaire to complete, about their experiences of home study. The questionnaire will try to measure a number of factors including
  - a. perfectionism (a personality trait),
  - b. feelings of mattering (or the degree to which students feel connected to others),
  - c. stress associated with studying,
  - d. strategies students are using to help maintain learning and studying while away from school.

The findings should provide information to better understand students' experiences and how we might better support them. The questionnaire takes about 10 minutes to complete and is on this link

[https://yorksjeu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_38bm6x4SBPbcjid](https://yorksjeu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_38bm6x4SBPbcjid).

It is completely voluntary. The findings will be shared with us and other participating schools but all participants will remain anonymous. Student names and the name of the school are not recorded.

4. ...and on a very practical note: laundry! If you are a year 10 or 12 parent, please would you help protect us all from the virus? Your child should come to school in clean clothes that have been washed at 60 degrees, and you should also wash them after they have returned home. Sorry if this sounds intrusive.
5. I wrote last week about the way we have been thinking about the anti-racism protests and how we can change the way we work and think at Tallis. I know that it is often a difficult conversation for parents and children to have, so perhaps this bit of advice from the BBC might help?  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/7xvLw6Q4qbJBnkzj6xm9Z/how-to-talk-to-your-children-about-race-and-racism>

I'll write again on Friday, as ever. Thank you for your support.

Yours

Carolyn Roberts