



10<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear parents and carers,

I hope this letter finds you safe and well! It is great to be back at school and to be with students and colleagues again. I am writing to give you some new school year updates.

Year 7 started on Monday and they did so well! They looked great in their uniforms and quickly settled in. We did feel for them as they have had so little face-to-face transition last academic year. I asked them to raise hands if they had been in Sale High before and lots did- so I am glad they will have had an opportunity for a primary visit or to attend an open evening. All other years have also done well and it is great to have a full school back in. The testing is going well and has proved useful in ensuring we are stopping the spread of C19 in school. Thank you to all our students for participating so well.

**Yasal Emanduwa: 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2007-27<sup>th</sup> July 2021.**

We were devastated over the summer to hear of the tragic passing of our Year 9 student Yasal. Yasal was cruelly taken from his family after suffering an intracranial bleed. His funeral took place on 12<sup>th</sup> August and many of our community attended. We were so proud of his friends who spoke and took part in the service, including friends from his football team Sporting Sale and many of our Year 9 students and families. Sporting Sale have also held a memorial game, wearing Yasal's number 17 on their shirts in tribute. Please see photo below.



We are planning to hold a special event to celebrate Yasal's life and raise funds for his family's nominated charity 'The Brain Charity' . I will be in touch with further details.

It was a bittersweet return to school today for his year group Year 10 as they are now, knowing that there would be an empty chair that was Yasal's. As I said to the students in assembly, please come and speak to us if you would like some support or just a quiet space.

All our thoughts are with his mum and sister. RIP Yasal.

### **Donation to school fund**

At the start of each school year I write and ask parents and carers whether they would be able to contribute to our school fund. We ask, if possible, for parents to make a regular contribution of £5 a month, or whatever they can afford.

This money is fantastically helpful in buying additional resources for students- like school benches, an outdoor covered seating area and paying for special events like our cultural diversity day and world of work day.

Our Bank details are:

Lloyds Bank

Account Name – Sale High School

Sort Code - 30-90-16

Account Number 002661601

Please do help if you can. Thank you in advance for your support!

### **You are a Champion!**

Next week all Year 7 will receive the Marcus Rashford book "You are a Champion". Marcus was a student at Sale for a brief period before starting at the Manchester United football academy based at Ashton and of course attended Button Lane, one of our feeder primaries, before that. Marcus is a fantastic role model for our young people- hard working, successful and committed to being the change he wants to see in the world.

Year 7 will study sections of his book in their English lessons and then be able to take the book home to keep. The book promotes resilience and the importance of positive mental attitude but most of all we hope a love of reading.

### **Period 6 for Year 11 students**

A reminder that Year 11s have a compulsory Period 6 lesson from Monday –Wednesday each week from 3.00 -3.55. This is especially beneficial given the interruptions they have had to schooling over the last two years. This is part of their normal schooling and as I said, attendance is mandatory and absence sanctioned with a C3 detention. Period 6 starts from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September. Thank you!

## **New Staff Welcome**

We have a number of new staff who have joined us this September. I know you will join me in making them welcome. Also, huge congratulations to Miss Preece, who got married this summer, and is now Mrs Barnfield.

Miss Rees	Teacher of Science & Maths
Miss Stendall	Teacher of Art
Mr Rice	Cover Supervisor
Mrs Hampson	Science Technician
Mr Lovell	Teacher of History
Miss Petty	Teacher of English
Mr Heuze	Intervention Leader
Miss Hope	Intervention Leader
Mr Slater	ICT Technician

## **COVID 19**

I wrote home earlier to remind parents that students no longer have to isolate if they are a close contact as they are under 18 years and 6 months old. This is really good news as so many children had to be sent home from school to isolate previously. If your child is identified as a contact- either through school, home or outside home it is recommended that they get a PCR test as soon as possible and take care to reduce the spread risk whilst waiting for the test result. Thank you

## **Twice Weekly Testing**

We will return to twice weekly testing now we are back in school. Tests will be sent home with your child on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September. Can you please supervise students taking a test on a Wednesday and a Sunday evening? Please begin this from Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September. We will send a link to a Microsoft form where you will be asked to register your child's test result. If your child has a positive result on the LFT, they will need to isolate and not come to school. It is advisable also to then book a confirmatory PCR test as soon as possible for them and for household contacts. Isolation only has to start for the household contacts if their PCR comes back positive. If you are unsure in anyway at all, just contact us and we will be happy to offer help and advice. Thank you.

## **Uniform**

On the whole, uniform is looking very good on return. There are a few issues to address particularly around false nails, piercings and ties. We have given students a week of 'grace' to address these issues but the expectation is that all students will be in completely correct uniform by Monday 13<sup>th</sup>. If there are any issues that we can help with, please contact your Head of Year in the first instance. Thanks for your support with this.

### **Forgotten Items**

As part of our ongoing safety measures against Covid the office will not be able to accept 'forgotten items' brought to school during the day.

### **New Website**

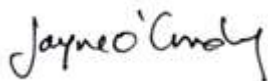
You might have noticed that our new website went live today. We are really pleased with it! There are some tweaks to be made and we would love to know what you think and whether you have any suggestions. We will have the photographer in school next Wednesday taking pictures to use on the new website so we will have some updated photos- including our newer students- on it.

### **Knowledge Organisers**

We introduced these last term as part of the support we were providing to students to help 'catch them up' after the schooling missed due to Covid. We have invested heavily in having these printed out in colour; students will be using them in every lesson and will need to bring them with them as part of their equipment every day. If students lose them, a replacement will cost £2. We will be giving parents further information as to how they can use these with their children to support revision and learning.

I will leave it there. We have had a great start back! We are so pleased that our community is beginning to move to a 'more normal' footing. We really hope that this year we can see a return of all the wonderful activities: clubs, trips, visits that we love to offer. I know it will be a brilliant year - fingers crossed for a more normal one!

Best wishes,



**Ms J O'Grady**  
**Headteacher**