

RIPLEY ST THOMAS

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

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29 January 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to begin my letter this week with wonderful news about the arrival of spring here at Ripley. This week we welcomed our first lambs – quads! It is always a very exciting time and this year it is especially wonderful to have news of new life.



Parent Survey – Remote Learning

Mrs Best sent out a letter earlier in the week requesting your feedback about the current arrangements for remote learning. We are constantly reviewing our offer and making improvements based on the feedback we receive. Thank you to those who have taken the time to respond already. If you haven't already completed the survey, you can find it here:

[Link to Parent Survey – Remote Learning – January 2021](#)

The survey will close on **Wednesday 3 February**. We have also asked pupils for their feedback.

Sixth Form Open Evening

Next week we will be launching our Sixth Form Open Evening. It will be available on the website from Thursday 4 February onwards. Please do have a look online to see what we have on offer: our wide range of courses, the chance to study in our purpose-built Sixth Form Centre and that all-important blend for post-16 – increased independence alongside that familiarity of being part of our Ripley community.

Our Year 13 students are currently receiving offers from their chosen universities and apprenticeships. We are absolutely delighted that two of our students have received offers from Cambridge this week. Well done to them!

Believe.....

Pupil Wellbeing Newsletter

Our wellbeing team have published their first edition of our pupil wellbeing newsletter this week. This is full of tips for keeping well and looking after our mental health at this difficult time. Pupils can read this on Firefly so please encourage them to have a look at it and give some of the ideas a try.

Government Announcements

You will be aware that the current lockdown period has been extended and we now know that schools will not return before 8 March 2021. We will update you once we know more.

It has also been confirmed that schools will be closed during February half term to pupils in the key worker and vulnerable groups.

Prayer for the Nation

I thought I would share with you this invitation from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York in case you would like to take part in this national call to prayer.

In response to reaching the terrible milestone of 100,000 deaths from COVID-19, the Archbishops invite all to call on God in Prayer. Starting on 1 February we invite you to set aside time every evening to pray, particularly at 6pm each day. More than ever, this is a time when we need to love each other. Prayer is an expression of love.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/prayer-nation>

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Walmsley', written in a cursive style.

Mrs C Walmsley
Principal