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Dear Parents and Carers of KS3 and KS4 Students

As mentioned in my letter on Tuesday, schools are required to offer three lateral flow tests to all students. In order to minimise disruption to learning during our first few days back in school, we will begin our testing programme on Monday 1 March. We invite all students with consent from parents to come into school to take part in LF testing at our testing site in the Sports Hall as per the timetable below. Details about exact timings for each year group will be shared separately. Students will be required to follow the signage to the testing centre after entering the school site on foot via the main drive. Following their test, they will be required to exit the school site via the gates opposite the Grey Hen.

As mentioned previously, up to one third of people who have coronavirus experience no symptoms. By testing we will help to stop the virus spread and help to open our school as safely as possible. The test is voluntary, but I would encourage everyone to take it. I wrote earlier this week with a link to our consent form. If you would like your child to be tested but have not yet provided consent, please follow the link to complete the form. Please note that the form will close at 12 noon on Sunday 28 February to allow us to register our students for the tests. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScr9T3PkPZPxoo0ZpK566cOH_3rfQn9Net-buRHinOIGc2W-Q/viewform

Here is a link to an instructional leaflet with further information about conducting a lateral flow test: <u>How to do your test: COVID 19 instruction leaflet for schools (st-wilfrids.org)</u>

Those taking the test will be supervised by trained staff. The lateral flow tests are quick and easy using a swab of the nose and throat. For under 18s, staff can oversee the swab process. Results (which take around half an hour from testing) will be shared directly via the information provided on your consent form. Where participants are under 16, parents or legal guardians are informed.

The testing timetable for next week is:

Date	Year group/s
Monday 1 March	10
Tuesday 2 March	11
Wednesday 3 March	7
Thursday 4 March	8 & 10
Friday 5 March	9 & 11
Saturday 5 March	7

In order run this testing and to allow staff time to prepare our school for the safe return of all students during week commencing Monday 8 March, there will be a reduction in live teaching next week. Work for each lesson will be uploaded as usual to Google Classroom and students should follow their usual teaching timetable, with teachers able to support via the typed chat function.

Full details about our return to school will be shared early next week. Thank you for your support and patience.

D Ritchie

Mrs Ritchie Acting Head of School











