

29 April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

It is again with sadness that I write to you, to share some difficult news about a member of our John Willmott School community.

Mr Hunter is a long-serving and valued teacher. He is an integral member of our pastoral team and many of you will have met him in his role as Head of Pastoral Care, or in his capacity as Head of Year 7, where he is one of the first faces to welcome our new pupils when they join the school. He is also a dedicated member of our PE department and actively promotes sports, with a particular passion for our school football teams.

I am sorry to say that Mr Hunter was diagnosed last term with an aggressive form of cancer. He is currently undergoing treatment, but he is extremely poorly. We have his permission to share these details with you, as he felt it right to let our school families know the situation.

If you feel it is appropriate, please update your child about Mr Hunter's illness.

We recognise that our pupils are having to deal with a lot of unique and very challenging events at this time, made harder because we are not able to come together as a school in the normal way in order to support one another.

For pupils who may need some additional help in dealing with this news, the school can direct you to a range of external support networks and resources that offer help, including Kooth at ([www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com) an online mental health platform) and Pause at ([askbeam@childrenssociety.org.uk](mailto:askbeam@childrenssociety.org.uk)). Other support agencies are listed on the school website under the COVID-19 banner. If you have any other concerns please email [enquiry@jws.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@jws.bham.sch.uk) and an appropriate member of staff will be in touch with you as soon as possible.

We are keeping in touch with Mr Hunter and we have passed on our love and prayers, on behalf of the school community. I am sure you will join me in sending him our very best wishes.

Yours sincerely

**Mrs T Peters**  
**Headteacher**