

1st April 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians, copied to UWC National Committees,

The weather has suddenly improved. Recent days have been sunny and increasingly warmer, and with the change to Summer time the evenings seem longer and more relaxed. Yesterday we started the Spring/Easter break with a “Grillparty” outdoors in the Mensa Courtyard, also with the college band playing. It was lovely.

Over 150 students remain on Campus for the Spring/Easter break. The outdoor pursuits team has worked hard in promoting different activities for the next days, including an informal on-campus RBC Olympics over this weekend. Today a couple of groups are hiking and another group is on a cycle ride into the countryside. Several further opportunities are advertised for next week, for interested students to sign up.

Inevitably and commendably, many 2nd year students also are using this break in forward preparation for their final IB examinations. But already the mood seems less pressured than during “normal” semester time.

Students returning after the Spring/Easter break

Previously I have written that students only will be allowed back on campus following a negative result from a PCR test undertaken no more than 48 hours before their arrival. One student is travelling to and hence returning from a neighbouring country and they will serve also an off-campus quarantine on their return to Freiburg. In addition, returning students will be asked to undertake a further rapid test as they arrive on Campus, followed by a 2nd rapid test in the following days. The rapid tests are at the cost of RBC.

I am reassured by my sense that RBC students have behaved with great responsibility so far, keeping themselves and others Covid-19 “safer”. I am confident that their careful and responsible behaviour will continue both on-campus, off-campus and at home.

Of course, Covid-19 could enter the Campus community not only through returning students. At yesterday’s assembly we focused again on covid-19 “safer” approaches, including now that the weather is improved, by keeping bedroom windows partially open at night to lessen the build-up of potentially covid-carrying aerosols.

Resumption of Lessons

Lessons are due to resume on Monday 12th April. Yesterday the Land Baden-Württemberg Ministry of Education communicated to schools that no decision can be taken yet whether lessons may resume in-person after Easter, or whether these will need to revert to on-line. If generally online, RBC does not know whether an exemption will be extended to in-person lessons for the exam year groups. Whatever the decision of the Ministry of Education, the RBC staff and students will find a good way forward for our UWC education to continue.

Overleaf you will find the key dates for the next academic year, relevant especially for Parents and Guardians of current 1st year students.

Key Dates for the 2021/2022 Academic Year

2021

- Thur 26th August Students arrive
- Mon 6th September 1st day of formal classes
- Fri 29th October Last day of classes before Fall Break. Students who leave may do so after 6pm, or on Saturday 30th. Campus remains open for Fall Break.
- Mon 8th November Classes resume. Students to return to campus by 7pm on Sunday 7th.
- Fri 17th December Last day of classes. All students to depart after 6pm, or before midday on Saturday 18th.

2022

- Mon 10th January Classes resume. Students to return to campus by 7pm on Sunday 9th.
- Wed 13th April Last day of classes before Spring/Easter Break, last day of classes for 2nd year students. Students who leave may do so after 6pm, or on Thursday 14th. Campus remains open for Spring / Fall Break.
- Mon 25th April 1st year classes resume. Students to return to campus by 7pm on Sunday 24th.
- Thur 28th April IB Final Examinations start (2nd years)
- Sun 22nd May Closure Ceremony for 2nd year students
- Mon 23rd May 2nd year students depart Campus by 12 noon
- Tues 14th June 1st year students depart Campus by 12 noon

With best wishes,



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