

27<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians of 1<sup>st</sup> year students,

Slowly but surely RBC moves beyond the emotion of saying farewell to the new graduates, who left by midday on Monday unless they were in the quarantine student house due to Covid-19 infection. We haven't yet moved fully beyond the Covid-infection implications of all the close farewells, although I am hopeful that the peak of occupancy of the quarantine student house has been reached. Currently there are 18 first year students in the quarantine house. Three students were able to leave the quarantine house today, having completed the required quarantine according to current German regulations, and only one new positive test has been reported today. The good news is that no student yet has suffered any serious symptoms. I am confident the situation has been helped by the vaccination status of all 1<sup>st</sup> year students. The parents of all those who tested positive have been written to. Three members of staff also were infected with Covid over the Leavers Weekend.

In addition to regular lessons from Tuesday onwards, students this week have focused on further steps in the writing of their Extended Essays. Yesterday afternoon students worked in the school garden (it was a public holiday) with the afternoon culminating in a thank you and hand-over to the "external" garden volunteers who look after the historic garden over the Summer. We look forward to a bonfire conversation this evening – an annual students-in-conversation-with-the-Rektor event. The now traditional Outdoor "Weekend" starts on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June. This year students need to reach by various routes and means the Naturcamp Schluchsee (<https://www.naturcamp-schluchsee.de/>) (for a more general view of this beautiful area, see <http://www.schluchsee.de/>) And the planning is for students to be ready to depart for their Summer Holiday on the morning of Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June (campus closes at 12 noon). If there are students still in the quarantine student house, RBC is willing to house them until they are allowed to leave quarantine under German provisions. Naturally, our collective intention is to have a Covid-free campus before the 11<sup>th</sup> June.

Students are expected back on Campus on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> August. The full calendar for 2022/2023 is published on: <https://www.uwcrobertboschcollege.de/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/2022-and-2023-Calendar-of-Key-Dates.pdf>

I will write again this academic year, at least a cover letter with the year-end student reports.

As usual, please feel welcome to write to me in a language of your choice, even if my letters always are in English.

With best wishes,

Laurence Nodder

Rektor