



# Herne Bay High School

## Specialist Sports College

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2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

Today, I am in the unenviable position of having to share some terribly sad news.

I was informed this morning that one of our teachers, Mr Matt Norris, sadly passed away in the early hours of 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021. It is too early to give any details, but I can reassure you it is not related to the pandemic. Mr Norris's next of kin has asked me to share the information with both the staff and student body as they felt it appropriate that the information was officially shared rather than unintentionally across social media.

I had the sad task of informing our staffing body tonight and, as you can imagine, the news has impacted them significantly. I am sure there will be many of you, both parents and students who will be devastated by this news.

Matt was a true reflection of what HBHS represents. He was bubbly, happy, positive, would help anyone and would always go the extra mile to support staff and students, no matter what the issue. Matt had been with us for just over 3 years and in that time had forged relationships and friendships that were both deep and long lasting. Personally, I knew Matt well and his passing will leave a big hole in the fabric of the school; it is just so sad.

In any normal time, the school would speak in person to the students and be available should they need support and advice. Unfortunately, this is not the case at this time and as such, I would ask that you share this information with your children.

The school staff will be available on Wednesday should any student need to talk to our pastoral teams; please contact them via the usual channel.

I am sure you will join me in sharing our thoughts and prayers with Matt's family at this sad time.

With kind regards,

Mr J Boyes  
Principal