

20<sup>th</sup> September 2020



King Henry VIII Senior School  
Warwick Road  
Coventry  
CV3 6AQ

Headmaster: Philip Dearden  
BA (Hons), MA Ed

Dear XC coaches and teachers,

**50<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BOYS' & 22<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL GIRLS' KING HENRY VIII CROSS COUNTRY RELAY 2021**

I trust that you are safe and well, and that you are able to enjoy the time back with your young runners.

**Good news!**

As part of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of our race next year, we have been able to source all the results going back to the very first event in 1972 (for the boys) and 2000 (for the girls)—an intense summer vacation job for me! We are also collating a growing number of programmes and race reports. We have uploaded all this information to our website, so please do share this with your students and alumni, and enjoy looking over past achievements.

<https://kinghenrys.co.uk/co-curricular/king-henry-viii-relay-race/archive-of-all-results/>

**Bad news...**

It is apparent that given the pandemic's impact on schools and life in general, if we were to hold a national event such as our race *today* it would be inappropriate. The 50th boys race (22nd girls race) is due to take place on 3rd February 2021—as the situation is changing daily, we will make a final decision at the end of November, but our guiding principles will be good practice (rather than the legal minimum restrictions), and the ability for all schools that wish to attend to do so.

Please can you email me your thoughts on this, if you feel strongly either way.

**More good news!**

I am already formulating an excellent plan for an alternative event for your students, should we not be able to meet. I will announce more details in November, but it will involve teams of six (boys) or four (girls) from schools across the UK running a distance locally that can be adjusted for fair comparison, and which will offer a fun challenge to the runners. Again, a teachers' race can be included! Please do continue to train your students as best you can, and I hope that this prospect offers some motivation for all.

I wish you all well, and hope we can meet again next year—in some form at least, if not in person.

With all best regards,

Tom Andrews

Teacher i/c Relay Race - email: [andrewst@khviii.net](mailto:andrewst@khviii.net) or [relayrace@khviii.net](mailto:relayrace@khviii.net)