

20 May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you and your families are well. Thank you for making sure you and your child remain in regular contact with school and for supporting them with their remote learning. It is a challenge we know; please keep asking if you need more support.

Reports

Enclosed in this mailing is your child's most recent report. This was completed in the week before lockdown and it has taken a little while for us to be in a position to send it out. I apologise that there may be one or two gaps for some subjects; as you'll appreciate, some staff were not able to complete the report because they were isolating. Please take the time to discuss this with your child. Perhaps even complete one together for learning since lockdown began if you wish!

Remote Learning

I hope your child has found the 'Revision week' helpful to catch up and to stop and reflect on learning since the beginning of lockdown. The revision slides are available as short films on our main website if you want to revisit them.

Teachers continue to set work remotely and many have been running live lessons for classes too. Remember you can see what is set each week on the INSIGHT app. All students need to do is log on to the school site through any internet browser. If they need a reminder, just go to the main page of our website and click on 'Student - Home Learning'. Mentors also make contact at least once a week via email or phone calls. It has been great to hear how students are doing.

Year 7 and 8 Remote learning after Half Term

We have been reviewing how Year 7 and 8 have been coping with remote learning and, of course, finding what seems to work best. The following things have resulted in the most engagement from students: quizzes, videos, live lessons and projects.

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After half term, to help younger students and their parents manage this learning, we will move to a more project-based approach for all subjects except English and maths. This will mean that every day students should complete English, maths, Reading Plus and 1-2 hours of their project for the subject that is the weekly focus. They will not receive additional work for other subjects (however, if they want to complete some there is plenty set for them on the shared area too).

The weekly focus will be launched every Monday via a brief film and PowerPoint presentation. Each day, teachers will check in with students to see how they are progressing. Some will run live lessons, others will email feedback. Students will end the week by sending in their completed work and taking a quiz. The ongoing support from teachers via email will continue as normal.

The programme and a suggested timetable for Year 7 and 8 is below:

| Monday - Friday | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Activity 1 | English |
| Activity 2 | Maths |
| Activity 3 | Subject Focus Activities & Learning |
| Reading Plus - 25 minutes | |
| Activity 4 | Choose 1 of your other subjects and complete a retrieval practice activity (e.g. Spanish - write down everything you can remember about the topic) |

| Week | Year 7 | Year 8 |
|------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1st June | History | Technology & Computer Science |
| 8th June | MFL | Science |
| 15th June | Science | Performing Arts, PE & Art |
| 22nd June | Technology & Computer Science | RE |
| 29th June | Geography | History |
| 6th July | Performing Arts / PE / Art | MFL |
| 13th July | RE | Geography |
| 20th July | Revision Week | |



Keeping in touch

We are making sure we have at least weekly contact with every child through email or on-line lessons. If we have been unable to contact, then we have followed up with phone calls and some home visits.

We also send out links to our weekly school and year assemblies and our weekly newsletter. Please keep watching and reading them every week. They are also available on our website and Facebook page. Please also look out for Miss Harris' weekly celebration of home learning on our Facebook page each week and Ms Gregory's weekly subject competitions.

Finally, we are looking forward to having all students back in school when we are able. In the meantime, please stay in touch, encourage your children to keep sending in their work and let us know if you need anything.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ella Capaldi".

Ella Capaldi
Head of School