

#STRINGER LEARNING @HOME

#StringerLearning@Home 7

As this most remarkable school year draws to a close, we'd like to offer our heartfelt thanks for the support you've given the school and your children in maintaining positive routines for home learning. It has been a challenge in so many ways but we are very proud of the way the community has risen to it. We have been delighted with the resilience and perseverance so many of our students have shown. As the weeks have passed into months we have adapted and amended the assignments set and the feedback given, offering a blended approach to remote learning. We are confident that we have set appropriate tasks which both help students revise and recall previous learning, balanced with teaching new knowledge, skills and content. We also recognise the students have developed some key life skills that can only benefit their futures: they have learnt to manage their own time and electronic communication; they have refined existing skills and developed a broad range of new ones.

In this final teaching and learning update of the year we'd like to share some important information with you:

- Year 10 have now been back at school, in quarter year group bubbles, for 3 weeks. In their first week they met with form tutors who welcomed them back, led key wellbeing conversations and explained the logistics of keeping everyone safe at school. By the end of term the year group will have had 4 weeks of teaching from their subject specialist class teachers. Their behaviour has been impeccable and their engagement with learning quite remarkable.
- Our trial of using Microsoft Teams as a platform for online learning continues to be rolled out and many of our year 7, 8 and 9 students will have now had the opportunity to engage with their teachers in this way.
- In the final full week of term we will suspend the curriculum for KS3 to offer them a Virtual Enrichment Week. This will comprise 3 daily sessions that will nurture their creativity, engage them in practical pursuits and offer ideas to promote well-being and community spirited endeavours. We will publish programmes for each day Monday-Wednesday and finish with our Virtual Sports Day on Thursday
- On the last 3 days of term year 10 will stay at home and we will welcome back our year 9, 8 and 7 students on consecutive days. The aim of these sessions will be to give them the opportunity for some face-to face time with their form tutors, to reassure them that school is a safe place to be and to prepare them for what learning and the school day might look like in September.
- We are aware that, due to very different circumstances in your homes, different students will have engaged with remote learning in many different ways.

When we return in September we will have developed a “recovery curriculum” to assess gaps in students’ learning and provide programmes of study and intervention for students who need to catch up.

Please remember you can access all documents and guidance we have published relating to learning and well-being at home on our website: https://public.dorothy-stringer.co.uk/ds/Pages/stringer_learning_at_home.aspx

As always, please do let your child’s teachers and/or Head of Year know if your circumstances have changed, meaning it is difficult for your child to complete or submit their home learning assignments.

Kind regards,

Liz Uren
Deputy Head teacher