

Weekly News Update Friday 26 March 2021

We were fortunate this week to have Caroline Lucas, Green MP, beamed into our classrooms as part of the Speakers for Schools Green Skills campaign. Two schools took part, one from Newcastle and Dorothy Stringer, who got a special mention as a Brighton school. Over 1,000 Stringer students listened to Caroline's speech in which she talked about Climate Change and the state of the planet, the need to take positive action before 2030 and her hopes for a brighter future. She emphasised the opportunities for students considering an Eco career and her own path to becoming a Green MP. Students then took part in a question and answer session.

We are really grateful to Caroline for taking time out of her busy schedule to engage with students who one day may be the leaders of the future themselves.

This week the **usual PSHE curriculum for all year groups was suspended to allow sessions on promoting safe and respectful behaviour towards others, especially focused on attitudes towards women and girls.** The emphasis is on promoting understanding of the effects of prejudiced language and attitudes, challenging misogynistic beliefs and equipping students with knowledge of how to confront such behaviour. This will help our students to develop a deeper appreciation of this important subject. Some Year 10 classes will not have this session until the start of the new term because of school finishing on a Thursday next week. There will be further work throughout the year to develop this important area of the PSHE curriculum.

Vaccinations

On Friday 26 and Saturday 27 March there will be a mobile vaccination ambulance service at St Peters Church car park with **pre-bookable and drop-in** vaccination appointments available for all people over 50, unpaid carers and those with underlying health conditions; full details can be found on the SLG newsletter.

Year 8 Preferences

Reminder to Year 8s that they need to submit their preferences by Form Time on Wednesday 31 March.

Home Testing

The Test Team have been issuing home testing kits to students this week. Students should take a test twice a week, as per the government guidance. We will continue to issue kits to all students next week so that they will have enough to last them over the holidays. The government guidance is to:

- test twice a week at home from now on (all those who are able to)
- report results online as positive, negative or void. This information is critical in helping us to understand the prevalence of the virus across the country
- continue to test twice weekly over the Easter holidays
- test before returning to school or college for the summer term, either the night before, or morning of, the first day back, to find and isolate any positive cases

Families and households can also access [home test kits for adults](#).
You can read the full guidance by following this link:

Households and bubbles of pupils, students and staff of schools, nurseries and colleges: get rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Free Easter activity programme

Brighton and Hove are running an activity programme from 12 to 16 April at Moulsecoomb Primary School. Places are being offered to children and young people with SEND. You can find more information on the SLG.

End of Spring Term

As we approach the end of yet another unusual term we are looking forward to the Easter break. **The school breaks up on Thursday 1 April**, which is a non-uniform when we're asking everyone to wear something green to mark Earth Day which is on 22 April. **The Summer Term starts on Monday 19 April**, which will be week 1 on the timetable.

There's still time to take part in the **BIG Stringer Community Art Project, the *Threads of Lockdown Life Tapestry***. Individual artworks will be joined together to make a huge historic piece which will go on display for everyone to see; the deadline is 19 April see the SLG for full details.

Don't forget that we are still inviting submissions for our **Photography Competition**, which is open to parents and carers this year; the deadline is 7 May see the SLG for full details.

Next week instead of the weekly news update we will send the latest edition of **Stringer Press**.

Last, but not least, the **Music Department have prepared another virtual event which will go live on Wednesday 31 March at 7.30pm**. What better way to end the term than with *The Greatest Show*? The link will be published on the SLG & website next week.

Word of the week - March 29 - 1 April - **Myriad** (noun) = too many to count

Take care and stay safe.

Matt Hillier | Headteacher