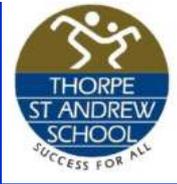


Thorpe Life Excellence for all



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#weARE

Issue 2: 18 September 2020

Students have fully engaged in learning this week as they have adjusted to their new school environment. It has been great to meet our students and I have been very impressed with how welcoming they have been.



Students' delight and enthusiasm with the redecorated rooms, sports facilities has been very rewarding. The new Sixth Form Centre opened last week for students which is an excellent resource and we are really pleased to welcome 249 Year 12s to the school this year.

As we aim for excellence for all, our students are certainly demonstrating they are up for the challenge.



P. Bignell

Meet the Form Tutor Virtually

Tuesday 22 September 2020 to Friday 25 September 2020 - 3.30 pm to 6.30 pm.

We are delighted to offer an opportunity daily for parents to meet their form tutors online for a short discussion on how students have settled back into school. Please book an appointment via My Child at School from 3.00 pm, Friday 18 September 2020. You will then receive the log in details and meeting code by email prior to your meeting.

Mrs Bignell

Health and Safety The school is organised into Year Schools to ensure students are in a 'large' family and it is important that students stay in their school at all times. Student movement around the Year School is limited and students move quickly and efficiently via one way systems to their classes where they enter and work on their Reflection Journals while waiting for their teacher.

Students are encouraged to go outside in their large fields and outdoor hard areas at free time which is recommended in school guidance.

Students also need to be encouraged to follow social distance guidance and should avoid all physical contact, such as hugging, kissing and fighting (even play fighting). Teachers work across all schools and students need to ensure they give their teachers a two metre space in and out of the classroom.

During free time, breaks, lunch, before and after school please encourage students to follow social distancing with their friends, if walking outside, the risks are lower. Only use the route provided and remain apart from people in other schools.

Our mantra is no social contact. We all have a responsibility to keep each other healthy and safe.



Water Bottles

All students have been given a water bottle which they need to bring filled to school everyday, this is because our water fountains due to their design have to remain closed during this time.

Water is available from sinks in Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 dining rooms and from BEST offices in all year schools at break and lunchtimes.



Thought of the Week

Be who you are - but aspire to be better

Returning to the Classroom - Autumn 2020

We are all teaching slightly differently. Our students are also engaging in learning in a different manner.

All classrooms are set up in rows so that students are facing the same direction. In addition to this we are not engaging in group work in class to minimise movement. Students will be able to work in pairs.

The classrooms have a designated "safe space" for teachers at the front of the room. These are taped out.

During lessons because teachers cannot move around the classroom as much as they would normally a variety of methods of teaching will be used more frequently. These include but are not limited to -

Modelling work Sometimes called "I do, we do, you do!" This is when the teacher will model how a piece of work will be completed to guide the students.

Scaffolding work This is when the teacher will provide scaffolds, tips, sentence starters to get the students started on a piece of work.

Whole class assessment This is when there will be assessment feedback given to the whole class about a piece of work to help us plan for the next stage of learning.

Sometimes at the end of lessons teachers will also talk about "reflection" and will guide the students to spend time reflecting on their learning. This can then be completed in their "reflective learning journal". This helps to support memory and also allows them to plan for their further learning. As teachers' cross schools, students will spend that time staying in their school completing their Reflection Learning Journals. This is very important and a useful way for students to prepare themselves for the lesson ahead as they look back at what they have learnt the lesson before.

It is really important that we keep safe while we learn. In order to do that we expect our students to come to school with the necessary equipment, to stay in their seats in the seating plan set by the teacher and to face the teacher so that they can follow instructions.

Ms Allen

Sixth Form Bursary

The 16-19 Bursary Fund is a Government scheme set up to financially support those students who face significant financial barriers to continue in education Post-16.

There are two different funds which are available to students. They are:

Mandatory Bursary

This Bursary is for those students who face the most serious financial barriers and are considered the most vulnerable. Students who fall into the following categories will qualify and be eligible to receive a bursary of up to £1,200 a year.

A young person in care, a care leaver, a young person in receipt of Income Support or Universal Credit in their own name, a disabled learner in receipt of Employment and Support Allowance/or Universal Credit and Disability Living Allowance/or Personal Independence Payments.

Discretionary Bursary

Eligibility for the Discretionary Bursary takes into account various aspects of family income and evidence of this will be required to process applications. For the 2019-2020 academic year the threshold of household income to be eligible is up to £25,000 per annum or less.

Should you be in any doubt whether you are eligible for a bursary or simply require further information on the bursary please contact Mrs Wheatley in the Sixth Form Office 01603 497767, sixthformtsa@yare-edu.org.uk

To apply for a Bursary please complete the application form which is on the website and return either via email to sixthformtsa@yare-edu.org.uk or to the Sixth Form Office by Friday 25 September 2020, although applications can be made throughout the year.

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At Thorpe We ARE



What a fantastic start to the term! So far our students have been rewarded with 13471 ARE+ Points. That is a wonderful achievement and really shows how well our students have engaged with our new approach to attitude to learning.

This week, our focus was on **Aspiration**. We explored what it means to be **aspirational** and how having **aspirations** helps to improve our motivation and then our engagement. Students learnt how JFK galvanised the Americans in the space race by **aspiring** to reach the moon and how, Katherine Johnson, who as a young child **aspired** to count everything she could, ended up making the calculations needed to land on the moon in 1969. We also reflected on the thought of Lao Tzu who said “the journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step” and how this first full week at school was our first step into an amazing future. We want all our students to **aspire** to excellence and dream big and aim high so that they can **be the best that they can be**.

Mr Lambert



Dear Parents

I am writing to introduce myself to you as the Acting CEO of The Yare Education Trust, following the retirement of Ian Clayton MBE from the role at the end of August.

Whilst our Trustees (those responsible for governing the Trust) agree the next steps, I am committed to continuing the excellent work of the Trust, helping our schools do the best they can to achieve our ambition:

“for The Yare Education Trust to be an exemplary provider of inclusive education, rich in aspirational values, committed to meeting the needs of our people and providing an outstanding education, so that all can strive to achieve the best possible opportunities in life.”

To achieve this our schools will:

- Offer an inspirational, ambitious and broad curriculum that is rich in knowledge and experience, promotes excellence for all and enables children to develop an understanding of their own personal identity, their roles and responsibilities in the world
- Engage effectively with the wider community to broaden horizons and provide high quality learning experiences, both in and out of school, that help children develop a love of learning new things
- Promote an inclusive learning culture that values and respects all people equally, where diversity is seen as a rich source of learning and all demonstrate tolerance and mutual respect
- Provide stimulating learning environments, where positive learning behaviours are the norm and all young people are safe, challenged in their thinking and encouraged to explore, dream and discover their world in order to open up their career and life choices
- Build an attractive talent management programme to recruit, retain and develop staff through clear career progression opportunities

Your school leaders (Headteachers and Governing Bodies) will be working on school improvement plans with the Trust’s Central Team over this coming year.

Each school contributes to our partnership work and plays an important part in creating the overall strength of our Trust. We value the feedback from you all, our school communities, helping us to build towards our aims.

We have talented Headteachers and leaders in all our schools and committed Governing Bodies

(Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form, Bluebell Primary School, Dussindale Primary School, Hemblington Primary School, Hillside Avenue Primary School, North Walsham Infant and Junior School Federation)

so we can be confident that, in spite of the challenges, we will do all we can to make sure the future looks bright for our children, young people and staff.

Best wishes

Clare Fletcher

Director of Schools and Acting CEO

Remote Learning

Remote Learning

In the uncertain times that we are currently living in, it is important that we are fully prepared for the possibility that we may have to have a full or partial closure of school depending on the local Covid-19 situation

In the event of an individual, a group of students or a whole bubble/Year group having to isolate work will be set remotely.

When this happens we will –

- Set all work remotely to be completed on the **Google Classroom**

- Use lessons from the [Oak National Academy](#) (The online academy set up by the government and subject experts.

- Record lessons where appropriate and upload them onto Google Classroom

- Provide PDFs, PowerPoints or narrated lessons and work sheets to support learning as appropriate

Dependant on the Year group and subject there will be a blended approach to this and your young person will receive their learning in a variety of ways. What is important to note is that the work will be set promptly on **Google Classroom** to ensure that no learning time is lost and that when your young person returns to school they will be where they should be in terms of their progress.

As students work through the two week timetable teachers will ensure they are invited to Google Classrooms and model the location of the remote learning with them.

If students are isolating at home and are **well** they should follow their normal timetable and access work via Google Classroom. They can communicate with their teachers and submit work via the relevant classroom. Please be aware that subject teachers will be following their normal timetable in school and are unlikely to be able to contact students until the end of the school day.

Remote learning is no substitute for classroom teaching and it is therefore important that students return to school immediately following a negative COVID 19 test.

As stated in Thorpe Life last week (Friday 11 September 2020) at the current time we are not recalling laptops and Chromebooks that Years 8 to 11 students have been using during the period of school closure. This is to ensure that all students can access remote learning provision if they have to self isolate and stay at home. They will also be very useful to access homework, finish classwork and ensure all students are fully engaged in their learning.

We will shortly be sending a remote learning survey to all parents and carers to ensure that all students will be able to access the provision should the need arise. It is especially important that this is completed by Year 7 parents who are new to the school. For Years 8 to 11 please inform us if circumstances have changed and access to remote learning would be difficult for your young person.

Mrs Wilkinson

Reminder - Please can we remind students and parents that aerosol cans are not to be used in school. We have students who suffer with asthma and have allergies.

Use of Online Library System

Students are able to access the school library system online to reserve library books which will be delivered to you in your school. Please use the Oliver tile in RUnify to access the library system and then you can reserve books and please ensure you use Google Chrome. Once you have reserved a book, keep an eye on your email for your delivery date and collection details. If you have any problems with the system, please contact me at

tsalrc@yare-edu.org.uk and I will try to resolve this for you. Each school will have a box for returned books which will be quarantined for 72 hours before being put back on the shelves.

Happy Reading!

Mrs Hamilton