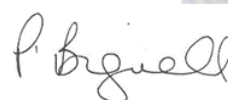


#stillyourschool

Issue 20: 26 June 2020

Hope everyone is keeping well and engaging fully in their online learning. We know that this independent way of learning can be really tough at times and we are so impressed with the ongoing resilience and perseverance shown by everyone. To support students' online work we are offering 'Getting Ready for Year 11' mornings for all of Year 10 and subject specific sessions for Year 12 to help prepare for their end of term assessments over the next two weeks. We are delighted to be inviting in Year 8 for an academic review session as well. Information has been emailed to all parents and students in Year 8. For Year 7 we will be hosting a Deep Thinking Day to get them thinking differently including working live with a team of staff online. Although we are working predominantly online I hope you agree we are #stillyourschool.

Keep learning, keep safe and keep smiling.



Information on Reports for Students - Summer 2020

All students have received at least one set of attitude grades and one set of Estimated Level of Performance (ELP) progress data this academic year. Following guidance, no more formal reports will be issued this academic year. If you have any concerns regarding students' progress, please contact the Head of House. Information is still being updated on My Child At School and Show My Homework.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/school-reports-on-pupil-performance-guide-for-headteachers>

Mr Hookway

My Week
of Work

22nd - 26th June



Congratulations to Year 9! They have risen to the challenge of our World of Work week and we have been impressed by their ambition, drive and enthusiasm. Our students are very positive about their futures and they are beginning to put their plans in place! We have looked at the skills and qualities prized by local employers, at the trends in employment in new technologies, at growth areas for employment in Norfolk and more.

Over the next two years, we will be working with them to make sure that they can find their way into their chosen career. Why not look at the Careers Portal (<https://thorpecareersportal.info/>) to find out more about our provision?

Key Stage 4 Launchpad

On Monday, Year 9 students will begin their transition projects in their new preference subjects.

They can access this work via a post to their Careers classes on Monday morning. This will take them to the Key Stage 4 Launchpad website.

We will also share the web address on the school website. We are sure this will enthuse and allow students to get ahead ready for September.

Mr Dewar

Thought of the Week

"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the colour of their skin, but by the content of their character."

Martin Luther King, Jr.

#stillyourschool

Issue 20: 26 June 2020

Year 7 and Year 8 Virtual Sports Day on Wednesday 8 July 2020



What does a sock and bucket, plank and juggling have in common?

They are part of our virtual sports day!

Students will not have lessons that day but there will be a series of easily accessible challenges throughout the day, led virtually from the PE department. Students will earn certificates for themselves and points for their houses and form throughout the day by submitting their scores in each event.

Which house will win the virtual sports day?

Check your emails/Show My Homework for Google Classroom joining instructions on Monday 6 July 2020.

Follow along on the day on Twitter @Thorpe_PE

Seize the Summer - Year 7 and 8



We are going to encourage our Year 7 and 8 students to be "September Ready" with a series of challenges which will set them up for their next year in School.

Our students can "Seize the Summer" by completing each challenge, set by our subject teachers, so that they are ready for the next stage of their education. We will post the challenges on the website and to the students via Show My Homework, so that they can get a head-start with the challenges. The challenges will be imaginative and different - students might find themselves taking a photograph, creating a sculpture, writing a poem – watch for our Twitter posts throughout July to see what our students can do!

Mr Dewar

Year 7 Deep Thinking Day

Sometimes you need to stop the whirl of daily routine so that you can focus on something important. That is what we are doing with Year 7.



On Monday 13 July 2020, we are suspending their daily timetable so that they can focus on what is important. We will be looking at the values that we hold dear as a nation and Year 7 will be looking at four heroes who embody those values. We want students to propose a hero of their own, to research the life and achievements of that hero and then to make a presentation. There will be other teachers' heroes featured too, so students can decide on the values which they think are important and on how these values are represented in our society.

Students will access the things they need for this day via a dedicated website and a team of teachers will meet with them in video-classrooms during the day to discuss their work. The presentations can be a poster, a video, a poem... we know our students are creative and imaginative and we are looking forward to seeing what they submit.

Mr Dewar

Allotment News

Despite the lockdown, the Thorpe Allotment team has continued working hard to maintain the school's allotment site and this week celebrated the completion of our upcycled polytunnel transformed from one of the PE department's old cricket nets.

The allotment had just started to open to students before the outbreak of Covid-19 but Matt Willer from the Papillon Project, has continued to visit the site on a weekly basis together with local volunteer Steve Mosley. The site has also been kept running by a committed number of key worker students who have been able to accompany some teachers and support staff, notably Miss Humphrey who has been helping on a near-daily basis! With the number of available volunteers being restricted this support has been invaluable in keeping the project watered, weeded and tidy.



In recent weeks we have harvested our first produce including radishes, salad leaves, potatoes and broad beans and it has been lovely to share some of this with the staff who have been keeping the school running during the pandemic. The allotment was also featured on BBC Radio Norfolk in May and the short report is available to listen to again at: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p08d18j5> (from 1h15).

In addition to the success of the polytunnel, some tweaks have been made to the sail water catcher which was built in March by Year 11 students before they left meaning we are now able to collect our own rainwater - absolutely crucial for the long-term success of the project. Meanwhile, students have maintained the paths around the site, prepared beds for further planting and improved access to the site through the Spinney ready for our official opening in the autumn. There are also plans to install a pond and improve the site for wildlife and wellbeing. We would love for you to support us in this time by following our progress on Twitter @TSASAllotment and sharing our stories and successes.