

#weARE

Issue 3: 25 September 2020

This week has seen students and staff adjusting to their new schools with resilience and determination to be successful in their learning.

We hope the introduction of masks for all in corridors and communal areas will be effective in keeping our school COVID free and reassuring for everybody. Masks are not worn in the classroom due to our classroom setups to reduce the risk of transmission and the negative impact on communication, learning and reading. Government guidance for these reasons mean face coverings should be avoided in classrooms.



P. Bignell

Face Coverings

Face coverings are compulsory for students and staff from Monday 28 September 2020. We are concerned with possible congestion and the risk of cross contamination in our corridors and communal indoor spaces for students and staff. With the information this week regarding an increase in COVID cases and the Government's response, we will be introducing face coverings (black if possible) as **compulsory** for students and staff from **Monday 28 September 2020** in these areas.

Students will be asked to put on face coverings at the school gates in the morning and if students do not have one or refuse to wear one this will be followed up through our behaviour procedures.

These will need to be worn until the student is in the Form room (classroom for Sixth Form) and they are sat down facing the front of the room. The face covering should then be removed properly and placed in a sealable plastic bag in their school bag. Students are then ready to begin learning. At the end of the lesson, students will be asked to put on their face covering in preparation for lesson change over. The face covering will need to be worn until the student has arrived in their next classroom and is sitting down facing forward.

Students will be asked to put on their face covering prior to break and lunch time, before they leave their lesson by their teacher. Students can remove their face covering while they are outside the buildings or when they are eating inside in the designated dining and social areas (masks must be worn inside when not eating).

At the end of the day, students will be asked to put on their face covering by their teacher. These are to be worn until the student has left the school grounds. Students in independent study sessions in the Sixth Form will not be required to wear masks at this time.

Some students will be exempt from wearing a face covering. If this is the case for your child please email office@thorpe-st-andrew.norfolk.sch.uk explaining why, this information will be forwarded to BEST in your child's school who will issue them with a lanyard to wear stating they are exempt. They will need to wear this at all times. BEST will contact you if there are any issues with this.

Mrs Bignell

When to Keep Your Child off School The following link gives you some useful information and a quick guide for parents in relation to absence and includes a symptom checker.

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools/behaviour-and-attendance/attendance/school-attendance/when-to-keep-your-child-off-school>



Thought of the Week

"Never respect men merely for their riches, but rather for their philanthropy; we do not value the sun for its height, but for its use."



Gamaliel Bailey

Remote Learning Survey 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 via Google Classroom.

At the current time we are not recalling laptops and Chromebooks that Year 8 – 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 are aware there may be Year 7 students who do not have a Chromebook which we hope to address.

Please can ALL parents/carers including Sixth Form complete the remote learning survey <https://forms.gle/JQUWSyatiUkGG8ao8>

This will ensure that we can support all students to access the remote learning provision should the need arise.

Mrs Wilkinson

Late Reflections (Detentions) We have seen a significant increase in punctuality to school this term which is very pleasing. There are however, a few students who are unable to get to school on time and we must ensure that all students understand the importance of being punctual.

Late Reflections (Detentions) for attending school late in the morning will begin next week. If the student is late to school the school gate will need to be opened. The student will then be issued a negative point for 'lateness', which falls under the ARE for Respect. This negative point will attach itself to a reflection which will then automatically inform you through the Class Charts App of where the reflection is and for how long.

Late Reflections will run in each small school and will be run by BEST from 3.05 pm - 3.30 pm.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Veeren

Change Makers All students in Years 7 - 11 are currently following the Change Makers programme in Form Time. Students follow a series of sessions with an accompanied booklet that explores how students can be the makers of their own change, how difference is an asset and how they can control their attitude, even if they cannot control much else. Following lockdown, we know that students may be nervous about returning to school and are having to navigate huge amounts of change and this project supports their return to school.

To find out more about the project and so you can support your child with this at home, there is a parent information section on the website.

<https://www.hachetteschools.co.uk/landing-page/hachette-schools/pixl-change-makers-resources-for-parents/>

Mrs Veeren

Class Charts During this week your child will bring home a letter for you and themselves with details of the Access Code for Class Charts.



Class Charts enables you and your child to track their behaviour, view assigned homework tasks and track scheduled detentions.

You will need to create an account using the code that was sent home with your child.

<https://www.classcharts.com/parent/login>

For more detailed information around Class Charts please visit the parent section of the website.

<https://thorpestandrewschool.org.uk/parents/>

Mrs Veeren



At Thorpe We ARE

The excellent attitude to learning continues this week! So far our fantastic students have been rewarded with over 35000 ARE+ Points. This is an incredible achievement, well done everyone!

This week, our focus was on **Respect**. We explored what it means to be **respectful** and how showing **respect for others** helps improve relationships and increases the likelihood of being **respected by others**. Students learnt some ways in which to show respect by demonstrating gratitude, giving compliments, being sincere and providing assistance. We also reflected on the thought of Malala Yousafzai who said "We should all consider each other as human beings, and we should respect each other" and how respect was a fundamental right of all. We want all our students to **respect** all others as by working better together, we improve ourselves.

Mr Lambert

Thorpe Life Excellence for all

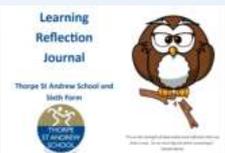
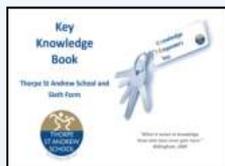


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Homework



Homework has been shown to be really beneficial for Secondary School students and we believe it helps students to know more and therefore do more, which further helps improve understanding. One key part of the homework routine is the Reflection Journal. We expect students to spend up to 30 minutes reflecting on their learning every day. On top of this students may need to learn Key Knowledge or, as they progress onto examined subjects, specific work related to their examination courses.

By now you should hopefully be able to access Class Charts. Homework for students is being placed on Class Charts and should be easy to access. It may be that the teacher shares a Google Classroom link via Class Charts as a way of setting homework. We would recommend that students access Class Charts through RM Unify.

You can find information relating to Homework explained in more detail in 'School Matters' which can be found here: <https://www.thorpestandrewschool.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/School-Matters-2020-2021-Master-1.pdf>



Mr Lambert

Responsive Curriculum

Curriculum Leaders began planning to welcome back our students in the Summer term. They worked hard on evaluating the curriculum which was taught remotely.

We understand that students will not have had the same experience learning at home that they would in school.

Curriculum Leaders have made adjustments to the curriculum in each subject to allow students to adjust to new routines and focus on the Key Knowledge missed. They will continually review and develop the curriculum in each subject area to ensure that it is adapted to address students' needs.

In lessons teachers will be focusing on formative assessment such as multiple choice quizzes, and key knowledge quizzes to find out what students can remember and where they need to prioritise lesson content. There will also be frequent whole class assessments and verbal feedback on identified pieces of work alongside regular assessments.

We know that students need to feel reassured on the return to school and that there is a spirit in school and classrooms of confidence and eagerness to resume. The language we use as teachers in school is key to building student confidence and motivation. We are avoiding negative phrases such as 'gaps in learning' in favour of more positive phrases such as 'consolidate prior learning'

As the academic year progresses we will continually review the curriculum in each subject area to ensure that we address the needs of our students.

I have been very impressed with the positive and enthusiastic return to school by our students and their high levels of engagement across all subject areas.

Mrs Wilkinson

Use of Online Library System

Library Books All schools now have a box for returned books to be left in. There were hundreds of books loaned out before lockdown so please can these be returned as soon as possible so they can be quarantined and returned to the library stock.

Students can still borrow books via the 'Oliver' tile on RM Unify. Click on reserve to complete the reservation and these will be delivered to your school on the assigned day. A huge amount of books have been borrowed this way so far and it is really great to see students still using the library virtually.

- Year 7** - box located outside the library in the Year 7 dining hall, delivery days Monday and Friday
- Year 8** - box located in Mr Asker's office, delivery day Tuesday
- Year 9** - box located in the Raising Achievement Office which is next to BEST, delivery day Wednesday
- Year 10** - box located in Mrs Langhoffne-Sturmer's office, delivery day Thursday
- Year 11** - box located in Miss Humphreys office Hub2, delivery day Friday
- Years 12 and 13** - box located in the 6th Form library, delivery is as required, students notified by email to collect

Mrs Hamilton