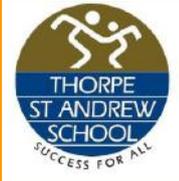




Thorpe Life

Excellence for all



ARE you showing you ARE:
Aspirational- Adapting to new surroundings
Respectful - Supporting others to do so
Engaged- Making effort in learning

Issue 23 – 19March 2021

www.thorpestandrewschool.org |

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We ARE Thorpe and #WeAREBackStronger

Students have shown excellent engagement with learning and a positive attitude to the increased measures to keep everybody safe, including wearing face coverings which can become uncomfortable. Students understanding of the situation and their support to follow the measures is excellent, with the sun shining today and the weather improving we need to continue to be outdoors as much as possible to continue with ventilating rooms. We are able to move forward positively because our students never stop showing who they ARE. This is being seen everyday and allows us to say 'WeAREbackStronger'.



P. Bignell

Testing in the Holidays

Following the Government announcement for all students and staff to continue two weekly tests in the holidays, we will be issuing more tests on Monday 22 March 2021 for students to use in the holidays and next term.

**DO NOT FORGET TO
COMPLETE YOUR COVID-19
TEST ON SATURDAY AND
WEDNESDAY**

Please support your child to complete these during the holidays.

Students know how to perform the test and information will be provided in the kit available. You can also watch a short video

demonstration on how to take the test via this [LINK](#).

Results must be reported to the NHS, so please follow the instructions in the booklet and report to www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result. If you get a negative result continue as normal following National guidance and the school rules including regular handwashing, social distancing and wearing face coverings and attend school the next day.

If the test is POSITIVE it means the person could be infected with Coronavirus and risk infecting others. When you report the results you will be provided with further information on the next steps to take. You will also need to email trackandtrace-tsa@yare-edu.org.uk to inform the school as confirmed cases need to be reported to PHE.

You and anyone who lives with you and anyone in your support bubble must self isolate in accordance with current National guidance for 10 days. All positive results from rapid tests undertaken at home do need to be confirmed with a standard PCR test. This is because these tests are not conducted in a controlled environment and will not have trained staff on hand. Following positive LFD test at home, a confirmatory PCR test should be booked online or by calling 119. Whilst awaiting the PCR result, the student and their close contacts should self-isolate. If the PCR test is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test (at home only) and a child can return to school.

How Grades will be Awarded

Please follow this [LINK](#) to watch Mr Hookway explaining how grades will be awarded in 2021 for GCSE, AS, A Level and Vocational and Technical awards. We are working hard to ensure there is a fair system which enables teachers to utilise work from across the academic year and during the assessment window after Easter, to give all students the opportunity to gain the very best grades.

A timetable of our assessment window in April and May will follow next week to enable students to revise and prepare over Easter.

We ARE Aspirational

We have been inspired by the words of Dr Julie Amato this week, who said "wear your Jersey with pride, and know you are playing for something bigger than yourself." Our students have returned to school really positively and in most cases, perfectly presented and in their face coverings. Well done!

Three students in Year 8 have recently achieved their Palladium Award, which is for earning over 450 ARE+ Points. This is an amazing achievement, well done! Since we have returned to school over 26000 ARE+ Points have been awarded, which is incredible, over 6000 of those rewards have been for our #WeAREbackStronger campaign. Congratulations goes to everyone who has received an ARE+ Point this week.

We are proud of you and who we ARE.



Mobile phones **are not allowed** to be used in school. They need to be switched off in bags on arrival. This is to support students return to in-school education and remove dependency on devices.

If they are seen out in school they will be confiscated. Parents will then be asked to collect the item at the end of the day.

Equally, the school can take no responsibility if a student brings a mobile phone into school and it is lost, stolen or damaged.



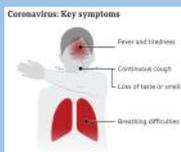
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Remote Learning As our curriculum continues in school it is important that we are fully prepared for the possibility that an individual student or small group of students may need to self isolate due to COVID 19.



If any student experiences symptoms of COVID-19 they **MUST NOT** attend school until they have had a negative test. Please follow the [LINK](#) for COVID-19 symptoms and what you will need to do.

If a student needs to self-isolate at home we will follow our planned remote learning procedure as detailed below.

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 worksheets to support learning as appropriate.

Dependent on the year group and subject there will be a blended approach to this and your child will receive their learning in a variety of ways. The work will be set promptly on **Google Classroom** and follow the planned curriculum to ensure that no learning time is lost and when your child returns to school, they will be where they should be in terms of their progress.

If students are self-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.

It is therefore important that students return to school **immediately** following a negative COVID-19 test.

At the current time we are not recalling laptops and chrome books that Years 8 to 11 students have been loaned by the school during the period of school closure. This is to ensure that all students can access the 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 part of something bigger than ourselves The thought of the week this week has been on presenting ourselves neatly. We took inspiration from the American Sports Scientist Dr Julie Amato who said “Wear your Jersey with pride, and know you are playing for something bigger than yourself.” This reminds us that when students are in their uniform that they represent us as a whole and project an image of what we, as a school and as individuals, are like. We expect that students **Aspire** to present a positive image of themselves and we are impressed by the way that so many of our students do this daily.

We also expect students to make their way to and from school in a **Respectful** manner. We thank the vast majority of students for doing this impeccably every day. However, we are aware that from time to time a few students make mistakes or bad choices. We are aware of an alleged incident that occurred recently, which we have taken very seriously and are fully investigating. It is useful to remember that the school reserves the right to discipline students in accordance with our Behaviour and Attitude for Excellence Policy when misbehaviour occurs outside of school, such as on the way to and from school. If in the unlikely event that your child experiences any issues on their way to and from school, please contact the school in the first instance so that we can deal with the issue promptly.

We aim for excellence for all and have high expectations of our students at all times and we will react accordingly when our expectations are not met. Our students showed how amazing they could be during lockdown by **Engaging** with their work, the way in which they have readjusted to school life on their return and in the way they have followed the new guidelines for the wearing of face coverings. This is the true image of our school and our students.

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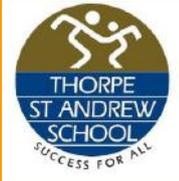
Free School Meals Free School Meals/Sixth Form Bursary over the Easter Holiday - Norfolk County Council will be providing free school meal vouchers over the Easter holiday through the school. You will receive the electronic vouchers in the same way as before, £15 per student per week of the holiday.

Food/Recipe Box and Activity Boxes for Free School Meal families for the Easter Holidays - This is available to provide food box and activities for eligible students. The recipe boxes are provided by PinkOrange and include activities to do over the Easter holidays. Please apply by Friday 12 March 2021. You can text the words “Big Norfolk” to 07553 894233 and a member of the team will call you back or click on this [link](#).



#WeAREbackStronger

Thorpe Life Excellence for all



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Every minute of school matters.

Missing **18** days or 10% of school per year makes a student **chronically absent.**




Set a Goal
with your child to be at school every day. Make **good attendance** a priority.

One in twenty students are persistently absent across the country
Sources: DfE Headline Figures 2019

Missing out on class can affect a student's ability to learn fundamental reading and math skills that will carry them into **college and careers.**

Attendance Matters!

Employers value a good attendance record

Students with a good attendance record are more likely to succeed

Students with a poor attendance record tend to underperform at the end of Y11

Students who don't attend limit their options in education and employment

Employers and colleges ask us to comment on student punctuality (lateness) and attendance in the references that we write.

Sixth Form Instagram

You can now follow our Sixth Form on Instagram to discover our latest updates and the highlighted opportunities to help every student with their next steps.



Cookers For Sale

We have nine commercial cookers for sale, on an offer basis (highest offer to be considered). These ovens have been checked this year for safety during their regular servicing and are all good to go. All have been disconnected and are ready for collection.



Please email Mr Killest sitemanager-tsa@yare-edu.org.uk before Tuesday 6 April 2021 with any interest you may have in purchasing the cookers.



Friday 26 March 2021 is National 'Wear Purple Day'. This event helps raise awareness and money for Epilepsy. Year 8 Students will be allowed to wear non-uniform and are encouraged to wear something Purple.

There will be a voluntary donation of £1 which will be collected at the school gate by Mr Asker and Miss Turner.

Students will be asked to 'Chuck it in the Bucket' on arrival to school. Collections will also occur during Form Time.

This is the second fundraising event from Year 8 which saw them raise £65 towards their target of £500 for the Epilepsy Charity.

For further information, please e-mail dasker6nrq@yare-edu.org.uk

Face Coverings

At certain times, some members of staff may need to ask a student or students to remove their face covering briefly in order to communicate effectively as they are hard of hearing and need to lip read. The following extract from Gov.UK highlights that this is acceptable if required:

When you do not need to wear a face covering

In settings where face coverings are required in England there are some circumstances where people may not be able to wear a face covering. Please be mindful and respectful of such circumstances. Some people are less able to wear face coverings, and the reasons for this may not be visible to others. This includes (but is not limited to):

- if you are speaking to or providing assistance to someone who relies on lip reading, clear sound or facial expressions to communicate.

If you have any queries, please direct them to office@thorpe-st-andrew.norfolk.sch.uk.

Please be reminded that our school uniform is now supplied by Stevensons of Norwich.

School Uniform

Visit www.stevensons.co.uk where the full range of our uniform is now available to be purchased online. The store is currently closed but will reopen in line with the government opening on retail stores.

The new PE kit is now also fully available and lots of our students have purchased the warm mid layer and the polo tops for PE which look very smart. The old maroon PE kit can still be worn until your child grows out of it. The range now includes shorts, leggings, track pants and socks. Please ensure that your child is wearing either the old style PE kit or you have purchased the new one. If they are wearing the old style, these should be black or navy tracksuit bottoms or leggings in grey, hooded tops are not permitted.



Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 who are wearing skirts are all now wearing the pleated version available on Stevensons. Year 10 students must be wearing the pleated skirt by September 2021. The pleated skirt is not logoed so can be purchased elsewhere, for example John Lewis, but the straight skirt is not permitted to be worn from September 2021.

Financial assistance is available. Please email the school office on office@thorpe-st-andrew.norfolk.sch.uk with details of your requirements and reasons.

Mrs Veeren