



27 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

It is the end of the first week of 'home learning' for most of our young people and more to come. The latest statistics show that our learning activities page has had 7243 hits with 2004 different users. We can assume from this that most of our students are accessing the learning activities. Well done to those who are working hard.

Going forward with home learning

We will continue to set work (not over the Easter Holiday period). We know you will understand how quickly we had to get things together. In a classroom setting it is, of course, so much easier to plan for different abilities and different needs. To help us move forward we have asked our staff to try to set out the task lists in a consistent way and to really think about how parents and our young people interpret the task. This inevitably will have some teething problems and we apologise for any difficulties you might face. It is constantly being updated.

Contacting/emailing the school/teacher about school work

We absolutely cherish the fact that our parents engage with school and this is so important. We politely ask that you are mindful about whether you need to contact the teacher. I can assure you that the teachers are working hard behind the scenes. They will do their best to respond to you. To put it into perspective as to how much 'email traffic' a teacher might get in one day: an average maths teacher might teach up to 130 students per week. A history teacher might teach up to 230 students per week. An art teacher might teach up to 380 students per week. Staff are getting far more emails from each other too as so many are working remotely from home. No doubt this is the same for working parents too.

We know you will support us in that we have asked teachers to prioritise marking and feedback for Year 10 who are studying for their GCSES which they are due to take next summer.

We are also discussing a way forward with how we can achieve a good balance with assessing progress throughout this 'home learning' period.

Please only contact the teacher if absolutely necessary and during the working hours 8.30 am to 4.30 pm.

What to do if the work is too difficult/too easy?

Look back at the 'Coronavirus' section of the school website. In that section you will find a document with key websites that you might find useful. YouTube and BBC Bitesize are great places to start. You might start searching by putting 'KS3' or 'KS4' before the topic.

WELLBEING

On the internet you can find some great things to do for mindfulness and wellbeing. There are lots of useful tips and website links on our website under 'Student Wellbeing.'

Books and Films

Now is the time to get into reading. Check out the latest trends and classics on the internet. Make a list of the books you have read. How many can you read in a week?

The Marvels and Star Wars might be favourites with many young people but there are plenty of great things on TV and on demand e.g. Naughts and Crosses (current ITV series). The book has been a longstanding text at Key Stage 3 and focuses on many key issues. Highly recommended but you might want an adult to watch it with a Year 7 or 8 student.

Other activities that our students and younger siblings can get involved with together on YouTube.com

9.00 am	PE with Joe Wicks (apparently it hurts!)
10.00 am	Music with Myleene Klass
11.00 am	English with David Walliams
1.30 pm	Dance with Darcey Bussell
3.00 pm	Maths with Carol Vordermann
4.00 pm	History with Dan Snow
4.00 pm	Ben Fogle's Adventure

Year 11

We have not forgotten about you. As soon as we have accurate information about how you will be awarded your GCSE grades we will let you know.

Contacting the school/teacher about a welfare issue

In the first instance contact the Year Group Raising Standards Leader by email during the working hours 8.30 am to 4.30 pm or contact school reception between 8.30 am and 2.45 pm where you can speak to someone.

Emergency childcare for key workers

We really appreciate that many parents will have worked hard to keep their child(ren) safe if they have to work. School is open for **emergency childcare only** and will offer this service over the Easter Holidays including Good Friday and Bank holiday Monday. Emergency child care means **when a child cannot be left at home safely**. If you are a key worker and would like us to do a safe and wellbeing telephone call to your child because they are at home whilst you are working, and you are unable to do this, then please call reception to arrange this. Emergency child care is not for children to socialise. We are enforcing social distancing on children who are in school.

Our responsibility as a community

Please follow the national guidance in relation to keeping your children at home. The emergency services have enough to do, rather than patrolling the streets making sure children are at home and not gathering.

Recognising our NHS – House competition



We think now is the time that everyone recognises how risky it is to work on that frontline. As teachers we feel very humble towards our fellow public servants and we hope that by doing our bit we can support them.

We are inviting our students to choose one of the following activities to show their understanding, support and recognition of all the different jobs that are carried out in the NHS:

- Design a poster
- Write a letter to a NHS worker
- Write a poem or a song
- Create a factsheet about the history of the NHS
- Make a 30 second animation/video/clip

Entries should be saved as **Surname, initial, year group** e.g. FoxL7, SmithJ8

Entries should be emailed to your house address:

liberty@thehayfieldschool.co.uk

endeavour@thehayfieldschool.co.uk

wisdom@thehayfieldschool.co.uk

courage@thehayfieldschool.co.uk

The best ones will be posted on our twitter account and we will see how many likes we can get for the winner.

DEADLINE IS TUESDAY 31 MARCH 4.30 PM

The most important thing

Look after yourselves and your loved ones. Follow the national advice and guidance.

We send you our very best wishes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Fox'.

Lisa Fox
Headteacher