

CATCH IT! BIN IT! KILL IT!



Student Update (KS3)

Dear Students,

07 February 2021

I hope that you are all well and that you are looking after yourselves. It has been a difficult time and I am extremely proud of all the work that you have been completing. You are working diligently at home and you are trying your best to complete all of your work and submit your assignments.

It has been great hearing your feedback from your teachers. You have told teachers and tutors that on the whole you are enjoying your lessons and learning and that you are enjoying the live segments within the lessons. You have told us that this is helping you to feel less isolated and more connected to your teachers, friends, and school. You have also said that this has been helping you to work more effectively at home.

Over the past few weeks, teachers have been increasing the number of lessons with live content. As a result, the time you are spending in live sessions overall has increased by 75% from 11th January- 5th February. Most of you are telling us that you are finding it easy to access live lessons and that you can see when your teachers are arranging live lessons in your Teams calendar.

Student Survey: Remote Education is about you and it is important that we know how you are doing. We are asking you to complete a quick survey and will use your feedback to help us gain a better understanding of your experience at home. Your feedback will also help us to answer some of these key questions about your home learning:

- Are you now feeling more confident about using Teams, accessing your work, and joining live sessions?
- Are we setting you enough work? Would you like us to set additional homework or extended reading?
- Do we need to increase the level of challenge in your work and set more extension tasks?
- Could we develop how we are setting work? and what types of work do you enjoy and find useful?

Mr Dixon would like you to complete our student survey, please complete this by Sunday 14 February by clicking the link below or by completing this in Teams. This will be set as an assignment for you tomorrow.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=pGcNtDFve0GB0B6WvxpVXCoZrmg0WCVFt4feHiC1jH1UQkdFUFAxS09UWlc2SzINR0RaUFgyUFQ2QS4u>

Good Routines & Learning Habits: We recognise that each of you are different and unique and that you will need some flexibility to put in place routines that work for you and your family. However, it is also important to have some structure and Mr Masterson and Mrs Wilkinson would like me to remind you about the following:

Timetable and organisation- You must follow your normal timetable each day and complete assignments and learning for these lessons. You will submit your assignments for that day before 10.00pm. Your teachers are recording any work that has not been submitted on Go4Schools and your parents can also view this. This is also accessible to tutors and teachers and we will use this in phone calls to keep your parents updated.

Try your best in all your work- Your teachers know you best, they know what you are capable of achieving, and know you understand you are expected to complete your work to the best of your ability.

You are expected to spend an hour on each of your lessons- If you complete your tasks before this, you should check through your work and try to improve it. You should try to complete extension tasks and challenge yourself to attempt the higher-level tasks set in the lesson. If your lessons take you longer, try to use a timer and complete as much as you can within the hour. Make sure that you still submit what you have done to your teacher and they will know that you have tried your best to complete your work.

Live segments/sessions- You are expected to attend morning assembly and morning tutor sessions and the live segments which are being organised and developed in your lessons. These are being carefully created and designed by your teachers to help and support you in your learning.

CATCH IT! BIN IT! KILL IT!



Independent Learning (1 hour a day) – We expect you to work independently for at least an hour outside of your lessons. Reading is important to your progress and all of you are expected to be reading for at least 30 minutes each day. (Extended learning tasks and revision, extra-curricular learning, and school challenges all can contribute to your independent learning at home)

Extended project lesson: From Monday 8 February, you will see an additional Extended Project Lesson in your tutor team, and this will be set as an assignment. This is part of your timetabled lessons and can also count as part of your independent learning. You will receive additional information in relation to each project that is set, and these lessons will be based around PE, Humanities, Citizenship & PHSE and the Creative Arts.

Recognising your achievements: The House lockdown competition is extremely close, and the Heads of House are keen for me to remind you that every point matters. We also know rewards and recognition can also be a really great indicator of your engagement and over 80% of you are being recognised each week. I am really pleased to see such a high number of rewards being achieved by so many of you during lockdown.

- Your teachers have awarded **8484** House points and **1574** commendations over the last week.
- In January **39,368** House points have been awarded across the school.
- Your teachers have also awarded **7212** commendations.
- **94%** of you have received rewards and positive points.
- Over **180** students have been recognised in our January Student Gallery. (attached)
- Mrs Wilkinson, Mr Brown, and Miss Smith have planned your live celebration assemblies next week and I am looking forward to seeing all of your achievements.
- Mrs Woodworth-Sturla and your Head of House will be sending out commendations to you through the post so please look out for these. (Each of these are worth 10 House points)

Public Speaking (ESU update): A huge well done to all of the students who took part in the ESU and a big thank you to Daisy, Linnet, Dr Watson, and Miss Morris for their support for our teams.

This year we entered a Year 10 team (Speaker-Ayesha, Chair-Eva, Questioner-Max) and a Year 9 team (Speaker-Skylla, Chair-Zoha and Questioner-Olivia).

We were competing against two teams from St Helen and St Katharine School, one team from Magdalen College and one from Oxford International School. Olivia was awarded the individual award for best questioner and the Year 9 team were one of two teams to be put through to the next round. Miss Morris who supported the teams in the ESU said “**she was really impressed by all of our students; they were absolutely brilliant and were all ambassadors for our school**”

Lockdown Literacy at OSA: Lockdown Literacy has been huge success and we have been continuing to read ‘After the War’ by Tom Palmer with our Year 7&8 students. Our live reading sessions are being led by an array of teachers from OSA and take place at 1.45pm to 2.15pm every day on Teams. After half term we will begin reading ‘Ghost Boys’ by Jewell Parker Rhodes.

OSA Whole School Reading Challenge: This is the perfect way to help you to use your 30 minutes of reading each day. Mr Sheppard and Miss Har have set the whole school a reading challenge. There is something in the challenge for every type of reader. If you are unsure which challenge to pick, please email Mr Sheppard and he will help you to choose. (See the attached poster)

Keep up the great work over the next week and make sure that you are continuing to show your teachers the best version of yourself.

Miss Blake