

29 April 2020

Dear Parents and Students,

Hello from Henry B! Edition 6

I am sitting in my office looking out at a very wet school site and whilst the students and I hope that the rain will encourage the potatoes we have planted in the veg garden to grow, it is still a bit of a shock after so many days of good weather. I fear I will have to put on waterproofs for my daily walk for the next few days. I am just about getting used to walking and social distancing, developing what I have termed 'the swerve' technique when going round corners and seeing people coming the other way. My agility with this is improving!

You may be aware that there has been a suggestion that schools will not necessarily return to 'normal' even in September. There is no official news on this at present but I will keep you informed as soon as I know. The same applies to the situation in June and July but I am hoping that schools will get a clear steer in the coming week.

I hope you are managing well with the online work, please don't forget to email to your teachers the assessments that will now be coming up in the scheme of work. These will enable your teacher to provide specific feedback to you on your progress. Remember to use your school email address as well as your teachers' school email address.

We have received reports that Virgin Media has been having intermittent issues and that yesterday you may have lost remote access. You do not have to use remote access for emails you can just log in to outlook online from the website.

If you are logging in, you use the same username and password you use on the school computers. If issues remain please email us.

Your recipe of the week is Apple Cake and your hbX challenge this week is about Kindness in the Community. Mrs Briggs has also found you a link that will enable you to travel the world virtually. Go to:

https://amp.theguardian.com/travel/2020/apr/20/10-fun-ways-to-home-school-virtual-learning?CMP=Share_iOSApp_Other&twitterimpression=true

Parents as always I would ask that you check that you are happy with the content on these sites before your child accesses them.

Congratulations to Ella in Year 7 whose story 'The Mysterious Feline' has made it through to the next round of Radio 2's 500 Words!

There were almost 135,000 entries and only around 5000 go to the Reading Agency for the second round of judging. Well done Ella!

Mr Lane, Mrs Parkin and Mr Silsby continue to provide Shield Masks to a wide range of keyworkers and I was very moved by two donations that were made by members of the public after seeing the news item on South Today.

Today the students and staff in school took part in the one minute silence for key workers who have died battling the pandemic. It was a very moving moment, standing 2 metres apart across the two corridors in Prague with just the noise of the rain beating on the roof. It was for me a timely reminder as to why we are in this lockdown and that even on days when we feel frustrated that we can't just get on with things, it remains the absolute right thing to do.

With my best wishes

Miss Hearle