

6 May 2020

Dear Parents and Students,

Hello from Henry B! Edition 7

I hope you and your families are all keeping well.

I know that we are keeping our students very busy with work and this week marks the real step up in on line assessments for a number of subjects. Please make sure that you submit your work using your teachers email address. It is also important that you check your school email account regularly as teachers will respond to your work through email. As an additional acknowledgment of your hard work we will be starting a new rewards scheme with work on line reward postcards via email.

I have received a few emails about the school providing online tutorials. We have been advised not to use Zoom as it is not considered safe enough. A number of schools already had online systems set up before the Covid-19 pandemic so they had already gone through all the safeguarding issues and had written the policies that have to accompany the use of any online platforms. We are actively looking in to what we can safely provide that could be equitably accessed by all students.

We are also looking to change on line assessment documents to a word format so that you can work directly with these and email them back to your teachers.

We are now waiting to hear more information about education provision when the Prime Minister addresses the nation on Sunday. This will give us a much clearer understanding of the provision for the second half of the summer term. Please be aware the school will hear this information at the same time as you, so we will not be able to give you an immediate response. There will be many factors that we have to consider in order to make sure that we are compliant with for example, agreed social distancing measures as well as how we manage class sizes. We will work as quickly as we can to provide a response to you.

In the meantime your teachers are continuing to prepare on line lessons, marking assessments and writing and revising the curriculum for September 2020. I am so grateful for what they are doing on your behalf as well as all the additional activities and opportunities they are devising to help keep you busy and active.

So here is what they have for you this week!

Friday marks the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Victory in Europe [VE] day and the country, and much of the European continent, will be commemorating this day.

Mrs Bruins and Miss Briggs have put a number of resources together for students to complete as part of their hbX challenge for the week. They have asked me to explain that the purpose of these activities and indeed the commemoration itself, is to bring families, neighbours and communities together at this time, albeit at a 2 metre distance. There is plenty of information regarding the History of VE Day, and year group focused activities as well as help in planning a VE Day Party with recipes and music that you can enjoy.

The resources can be found in the online work folder 'hbX' – 6. VE Day Commemoration, through the School Website.

A few weeks ago I wrote to you about the run that a number of your teachers were taking part in to raise money for the NHS.

All the runners had a personal goal to meet over the month of April. This ranged from running 25km over the month to some running 200km and everything in between. All runs were done according to social distancing/government guidelines and individually but the goal was to run as far and raise as much as possible together.

Well done to Miss Gist, Mrs Saunders, Mrs Briggs, Miss McNamara, Mr Lane, Mr Donaldson and Team Leader and Events Manager, Mr Coe and Mr Coe's son!

By May 1<sup>st</sup> they and other colleagues from different professions had run a combined total of 1553km which is the equivalent of running from London to Córdoba, Spain (as the crow flies). They raised an amazing £1657 for the NHS Charities.

Mr Lane and his team are now well beyond the 4,000 mark with their Shield Masks and Mrs Ingoe is busy making scrubs for our wonderful NHS. Thank you so much for your donations, now standing at just over £1,600

### **Message from Miss Shelton** **Year 8 and 9 Options**

Thank you to all the parents and students who have communicated with me over the last few months – it's not been ideal not being able to meet face to face but we got there in the end.

Students have had to show a great deal of resilience when being told that unfortunately not all 4 of their options will be possible. This has particularly been an issue with Food and Business Studies. I'd like to thank the students who found themselves in this position for their maturity and understanding when considering their reserve choices.

Options are usually given to students in June, and this year will be no different.

I anticipate issuing these in the week beginning Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June, with a period of time straight after this for students to contact me if they wish to discuss what they have been allocated.

Thank you again for your patience with this process, it is hugely appreciated.

Miss Shelton

This week's recipe is pancakes and you can choose to make sweet or savoury – or in my case both!

In early March the school took part in World Book Day and one of the activities was a bake sale organised and run entirely by the Student Librarian team (led by Charlotte and Olivia). A wonderful £63.20 was raised for Book Aid. The students baked cakes themselves and ran the stall over a very rainy breaktime so they did an excellent job to raise so much money for such a brilliant cause. We have received a lovely letter from Book Aid International thanking the children for their fund raising efforts. Both Mrs Ireland and I are very proud of them and we look forward to showing them the letter on their return to school.

We hope that we have responded to everyone who has contacted us about using IT at home but if you do still need a laptop loan please contact your child's Head of Year. We do still have just a few laptops available to loan out if you are currently sharing with your child when you too are trying to work from home.

#### **Safe4me Update from the Hampshire Police Education Partnership Team**

##### **Action for Happiness: Meaningful May**

**Well-being charity, Action for Happiness have published a Meaningful May calendar full of ideas and top tips to help us respond to the global crisis with a sense of purpose and meaning - the calendar can be shared as an image or downloaded as a pdf. Visit the homepage to access the resource, also available in multiple languages:**

**[www.actionforhappiness.org/meaningful-may](http://www.actionforhappiness.org/meaningful-may)**

I hope that you are able to enjoy the Bank holiday weekend and that amongst our own concerns about the current crisis there will be time to reflect on the enormous sacrifice made by so many at a time when, as we are experiencing now, communities came together to support one another and demonstrate just what a resilient people we are.

With my very best wishes to you and your families.

Miss Hearle  
Headteacher