

15th July 2020

Dear Parents and Students,

Hello from Henry B! Edition 17

This will be my last newsletter before we go into the summer holidays. I am currently putting together all the information that you will need for the whole school return in September and this will be published to you by the end of the week. This will be followed up by year group emails from your Head of Year. I have been informed that there might be more information from the government to follow later in the summer holidays and if this does happen I will make sure this is published to you as soon as possible.

This week's recipe is for pizza, a recipe I followed when Year 7 and I made pizza in their food technology lesson earlier in the year. It's a recipe I still use now (no more shop bought pizza for me!) and I love it.

Your hbX challenge takes you over the summer (if you wish to do so- it's not compulsory!) and involves new hobbies.

There are also 3 online resources that may be of interest to parents as I appreciate it is not as easy to book places to visit over the summer as it has been in the past. As always I would ask parents to check out the websites to make sure you are happy with the content before sharing with your child.

- The Photographer's Gallery has developed a series of talks, events and workshops aimed at students 14+: thephotographysgallery.org.uk
- The Royal Albert Hall has a range of activities from music to maths to meeting the orchestra: royalalberthall.com
- On the National Galleries site there is a section called 'home is where the art is' allowing children to explore the work of artists: nationalgalleries.org

It is never easy trying to keep an entire PE curriculum going on line but as well as our thanks to team PE for their amazing contribution to the work at home resources, I am delighted to inform you we have been awarded a certificate from the North Eastleigh and Winchester School Games Organisers in recognition of the school's support and commitment to keeping children active during lock down!

We will be saying farewell to a number of our colleagues next week via video link, another first for the school. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our colleagues who are moving on for their commitment to their work at Henry B. They will all be greatly missed and we wish them well with the new adventures that await them.

We wish Miss Jenkins, Hearing Resource Base, every success for the future.

Mr May joined us just after October half term of this academic year. He quickly settled into life at The Henry Beaufort School and is highly thought of by students and staff. He leaves us to begin studying for a Master's degree.

Miss McDougall joined the Learning Support team in January of this year. Though her time with us has been relatively short, she has made a very positive impact on the students that she has worked with. She leaves us to begin training to become a teacher.

Mr Stott joined us in September 2018 and leaves us after two years to train to become a teacher. In his time at The Henry Beaufort School Mr Stott has shown himself to be an LSA that students and staff can rely on. He has been a valued and dependable member of the team and will be greatly missed by students, parents and teachers.

Whilst we are sorry to see such valued members of the team leave us, we wish them the very best of luck with their studies next year.

Mr Leighton joined The Henry Beaufort School as SENDCO and teacher of English in January 2018.

Mr Leighton has worked tirelessly to support our students, he has streamlined our SEND register, line managed the team of LSAs and ensured all of our SEND students have been properly supported. He leaves us to move to a school which is much closer to his home and will mean a shorter commute and therefore more family time. If this pandemic has taught us anything it is that family time is precious and should be preserved at all costs.

Mr Leighton we thank you for all that you have done to support our staff and students and we wish you all of the very best in your new role.

Miss Offord has been with us for this academic year - and what a year it has been! Miss Offord has worked tirelessly to build strong relationships with her students and to create fantastically imaginative and exciting lessons. During the 'Work from Home' period, Miss Offord has taken charge of the Year 7 tasks and has put together some truly inspiring resources: from poetry lessons on wildlife haikus and mystical ballads; to a hugely inventive Shakespearean 'Villains' scheme of learning for these final few weeks. Within the English team Miss Offord has created strong friendships and I know will be much missed by us all. We wish her the best of luck on her exciting adventure to Switzerland where Miss Offord is taking up a new English teaching post.

Ms Balcombe has been with us for the last five years; for four of these years Ms Balcombe has undertaken the role of Assistant Academic Leader in English. Ms Balcombe has been a passionate and inspiring English teacher, always putting her students first and creating a range of innovative and exciting teaching resources across different year groups and modules to ensure students make progress with English. Ms Balcombe has also led and coordinated a range of external English trips and visits to enhance and enrich students' studies of their texts in English. This has included a trip to 'The Globe Theatre' in London; the 'Poetry Live' workshop in Reading and 'Macbeth' and 'A Christmas Carol' performances with travelling theatre companies. As well as this, Ms Balcombe successfully launched the 'Let's Think' programme in English - a discussion based series of lessons for Years 7-9 which have been highly effective in helping students to develop their ability to think critically and perceptively in English. We wish Ms Balcombe the best of luck with her new role as a Head of English.

Mr Mordecai has been at The Henry Beaufort School since 1996. He is now retiring from his post as Science teacher but alongside this has undertaken many roles of responsibility within the school including Pastoral Leader of Warsaw, Oversight of enrichment activities, Staff Governor and coaching rugby to name a few. He was also responsible for the school taking part in the annual Movember charity initiative which saw the appearance of a number of very imaginative and sculptural moustaches during the month!

He has positively impacted the lives of Henry Beaufort students and colleagues for over two decades and will be greatly missed by the current Science team. We wish him a happy retirement.

After leaving Henry Beaufort as a student herself, Mrs Humphrys just couldn't stay away and joined the Maths Department as a teacher in 1996. Twenty four years later, Mrs Humphrys has sadly made the decision to retire. Fortunately, we have managed to convince her to return to us in September two days a week, so we will not be losing her entirely. Throughout her time here, Mrs Humphrys has been an incredible teacher, tutor and colleague and we would like to say a huge 'Thank You' for everything she has contributed to the school. We will miss having her around so often, but are absolutely looking forward to continuing to work with her!

As we near the end of term and look back on the strangest time (so far) in my teaching career, I want to take this opportunity to thank all parents and our young people for their tremendous efforts over the last 4 months to keep going with the school work, work that has allowed you to follow as closely as possible the curriculum you would have studied if you had been on the school site. We all know that there will be work to do in the autumn to make sure that you are making the progress you should be at this time in your secondary school education, but I also know that you will make this happen. Our emphasis on shaping resilient learners is not without good reason and never more so than in the last few months. Parents, please consider yourself in receipt of a Headteacher Award. I know, like many of my colleagues, you have juggled work and supervising home schooling, no mean feat!

We will all have to work hard and stay focused in the new school year but I know you can do this and more importantly I know you will *want* to do this and that means the battle is won before we begin! I am so looking forward to seeing you all in September in your school uniform and ready to take on next academic year's challenges. You have taken on the challenges brought about by this lockdown and shown that you are a truly remarkable group of young people.

Take care over the summer (do some reading, it really will help!!) and we will be there on your first day back to greet you.

With my warmest wishes to you and your families,

Miss Hearle
Headteacher