



Woodkirk Academy

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The Sixth Form @ Woodkirk Academy

E-Newsletter

Date: 15 May 2020

Dear Parents and Students

I hope this week's newsletter finds you all safe and well.

You will be aware that the government updated the nation on Sunday and as expected there was guidance for schools within this. The government anticipates, with further progress, that primary schools may be able, from the week commencing 1 June 2020 to welcome back more children. They will only do this provided that the five key tests set by government justify the changes at the time, including the rate of infection decreasing and the enabling programmes set out in the Roadmap are operating effectively. As a result, they are asking primary schools to plan on this basis, ahead of confirmation that these tests are met.

From the week commencing 1 June 2020 at the earliest, the government will be asking primary schools to welcome back children in Nursery, Reception, year 1 and year 6, alongside priority groups. Each primary school has to undertake a risk assessment and decide, depending on a range of factors including availability of staff and the ability to social distance within school buildings, how many pupils they will be able to have on site at any time. Each school will have a different plan depending on their individual circumstances and this may mean a phased, rota or part-time system is put in place for the return of pupils in the identified year groups. Online/remote learning will continue alongside these arrangements.

For secondary schools arrangements are different again. The government's Roadmap did indicate we have a role to play in the first phase of the easing of restrictions. The government has asked secondary schools and sixth forms to plan to offer some face-to-face support to supplement the remote education of Year 10 and Year 12 students who are due to take key exams next year, alongside the full-time provision they have been offering to priority groups since March. We have also been asked to continue to provide online/remote learning for all students.

Secondary schools are yet to receive further guidance about this face-to face support. Whilst we await this, we have started to plan what this may look like and will communicate this to you as soon as possible via this newsletter, text and the school website.



For students in Years 7-9, they will continue to be set work to undertake remotely and Year 11 students wishing to return to the Sixth Form at Woodkirk have access to transition units to support this. We will, of course, endeavour to communicate remotely with these students to support them too.

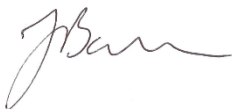
The Academy will be closed w/c 25 May to all students. As during the Easter holiday, I have asked staff not to set any work for students for that week. This will allow them to rest, spend time with their families and prepare for the recommencement of distance learning from 1 June. Details will again be posted on the Academy's website. Over the holiday, students are more than welcome to continue with any work that has been set so far although they too need to rest and enjoy this time. I respectfully request that you do not email teaching staff or expect feedback on any work submitted over the holiday.

Please note the articles on this e-newsletter in relation to the Art and PE departments. It is great to see students' art work showcased in this way. It is also great to hear that so many of you are joining the PE department with their Instagram workouts.

The government announcement on Sunday has meant a change to some of their messages. As a community it remains important to observe these guidelines, in particular social distancing. I want to pick up on one in particular; the freedom to meet one other person from outside your household outdoors whilst observing social distancing. Whilst this is a great opportunity for some social contact, I would ask parents to discuss this with their son/daughter and to ensure that they are abiding with the guidelines fully. [Click here](#) for more information on this.

Please do take care and remain safe.

Yours sincerely



J Barton
Principal

Parents of Year 7 students

Please [click here](#) to view Year 7 reports.

How to send your teacher handwritten work

[Click here](#) for information about sending work to your teacher by phone



Amazing arts and crafts



Eliza in year 8 crafted this fantastic decorative bunting- well done Eliza!

Have any of you made anything you want to share with us?
You may have made a poster for the NHS.
You may have made something for VE day
You may have made some art or craft of your own at home

Send it in we would love to see it



Eliza year 8

Don't forget to check out more fantastic artwork on Twitter - @Woodkirk_Art



The Victoria and Albert Museum in London is asking if we can Help them build a collection of homemade signs and rainbow drawings created during lockdown

The V&A is collecting signs that have been created by individuals and communities in response to the current isolation measures. By collecting such artefacts, they aim to create and preserve a rich portrait of life under lockdown expressed through visual imagery. Help them build this collection by submitting **images of your homemade signs** via the email address **Homemadesigns@vam.ac.uk** or share images on social media using **#homemadedesigns**.

This activity will form an important part of their work in documenting the crisis.

Rainbow drawings and imagery produced by children over the past few weeks, will be collected as an important symbol of their creativity and voice within our society. The rainbow signs will join over 40,000 child-related objects in their collection including toys, costumes and digital media.



**CALLING
ALL
ARTISTS**



Keeping fit

During these restrictions we understand that it is a challenge to ensure that we do enough physical activity to maintain a healthy lifestyle. With this in mind, the PE department have decided to try and motivate our students and their families to stay active. In their words:

“We will be uploading regular videos of staff completing challenges/workouts. Take a look, have a go and see if you can get all the family involved.” To access the videos please visit our Instagram page by searching: woodkirkacademype

SAFEGUARDING

Digital Safety during Covid-19

[Click here](#) to view the Kirklees Council Digital Safety information During Covid-19 document. This includes various sources of support and guidance for a variety of online harms, including radicalisation.

Cyber Resources

‘Cyberland’ is a suite of fun educational games designed to educate young inquisitive minds and introduce them to the world of cyber security as well as the Computer Misuse Act. Please [click here](#) to access the games.

Online Radicalisation Parents Information & Support

[Click here](#) for information.

Online Safety Survey for parents

[Click here](#) for our Online Safety Survey for parents

[Click here](#) for information on things you can do to keep your child safe online during this unsettling time.

COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) INFORMATION

Click [here](#) to view telephone numbers and links to a range of support and services available.

If you think you or a member of your household has coronavirus symptoms, [click here](#) for government guidance:

The latest information and advice published by the government can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

Leeds City Council have developed a webpage [Coronavirus help for people and communities](#) which offers practical support such as access to food, money and advice around work and how Leeds City Council are currently operating.



Looking after children and young people during the Coronavirus outbreak

Please [click here](#) to read 10 top tips to help you look after the mental health of those you are caring for during this difficult time.

Calm Harm App

Calm Harm- is a free app for over 12's to help manage the urge to self-harm. Leeds City Council and the NHS in Leeds are encouraging young people to download the Calm Harm app, which helps you resist or manage the urge to self-harm. It also has breathing techniques to help reduce symptoms of stress and anxiety. You can download the Calm Harm app from the App Store and Google Play.

Find out more about services in Leeds on the MindMate website:
<https://www.mindmate.org.uk/im-a-young-person/whats-in-leeds-for-me/>

Virtual talks from Speakers for Schools

Speakers for Schools are an Inspiration Programme providing a network of today's most inspiring figures across business, arts, politics and more who donate their time to help inspire students to fuel their ambition.

Speakers for Schools are excited to present their weekly VTalks schedule. This schedule will be updated weekly and talks will be targeted to different age groups.

To view their complete schedule and information on how to access the talks, click [here](#).

Leodis Support Service

Leodis Support Service are continuing to support our young people and their families during the partial closures of all schools.

We are regularly updating our website to keep you informed of the services which are still operating locally and nationally such as Foodbanks, debt advice services, mental health support services etc. so that families can continue to access the help that they need.

Should you have any additional needs for your families outside of curriculum support, please [click here](#) for more information or contact us on 078 3571 2726.

MY Ed

The **MY Ed** app is an excellent method of communication between school and home. It will allow you to check information about the Academy, attendance of your child, his/her timetable, and positive referrals will be 'pushed' to your phone. In addition, you will be able to communicate directly with the Attendance Team for free. Please download this free app and check out the 'News' page of the Academy's website for an information video: NEWS - CLICK

