

Court Fields School



Parent Weekly 'What's Happening' Bulletin

Message from Mrs Matthews

15th January 2021

Thank you so much for your support over the last week. As always you are an amazing part of our team, and your help, and in particular your positivity, make such a massive difference to our school and our children. In particular we have seen a fantastic response to our live lessons, not only from students and parents, but also from our staff who are really enjoying being able to see the students online, and being able to teach real lessons online! Thank you so much for all you do. Take care and keep safe. Mrs Matthews

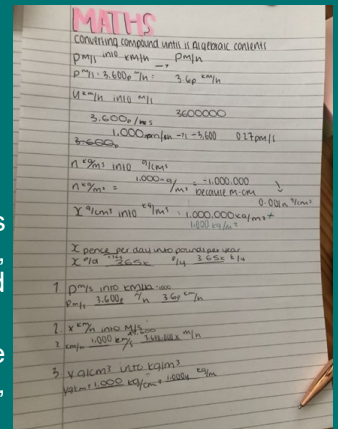
I want to reassure our Year 11 parents and students, in the light of the further announcements this week regarding this summer's examination series, that we will continue to keep you informed, and ensure that we do our very best to support our students. The Government has issued a consultation jointly with Ofqual, regarding the protocol to replace the formal externally assessed examinations. This consultation is live now, and parents and students are able to respond. I would encourage you to follow the link below, and contribute your views, and those of your Year 11 son/daughter.

The link is: <https://ofqual.blog.gov.uk/2021/01/15/how-2021-could-look-for-students-and-learners-we-want-your-views/?fbclid=IwAR0XFYv-s3iP8TVsjVkjG9j25lukDQcLsAzBIR78k2wKK5pfDiep3SjSxk>

From Miss Martin

Another week of online learning is complete and as well as a huge well done to our students for all they have achieved, this week we would like to thank parents for their support, encouragement and hard work in ensuring that children get the most from their online and live lessons. Just a few messages about online learning:

- We understand that everyone is in a different situation. Lessons are set as per the school timetable, and just as in school, if work is not complete at the end of lesson time, students should stop and submit what they have done. We don't expect any student to be working all night or through their lunch breaks.
- Teachers are available on email during lessons. If your child has questions or wants their teacher to go over something please ask them to email for support. Students can also stay at the end of live lessons for 1:1 support from their teacher. Please encourage your child to make use of these options where necessary.
- We are tracking submission of student work so we can identify students who need additional support in some areas. This is not something that students need to be concerned by, but is simply so that teachers can monitor progress and ensure they target any gaps.
- Students are sometimes finding they cannot access live lessons despite being logged in. In most cases, this is because they are also logged into personal accounts. If this happens, ask your child to try using a different internet browser – this should rectify the issue.



Year 11 Monday
Mindfulness
3.15-4.00



Year 11 Monday Mindfulness, 3.15-4.00:

Lockdown has meant our usual weekly yoga and mindfulness sessions have moved online, increasing our capacity! The session involves a wellbeing check-in, some gentle stretching, followed by practicing different breathing techniques, mindfulness strategies, guided meditations or relaxation techniques. These aim to improve concentration and focus, promote better sleep and share strategies to support students with managing big emotions such as stress and anxiety. If your Year 11 son or daughter would like to participate in Monday Mindfulness please encourage them to log onto the google meet link that will be sent to all Year 11s every Monday morning. Students this week began the session describing their emotional state as "tired...stressed...bored...annoyed" and ended with "relaxed...calm...less stressed...hungry!"

Weekly wellbeing tip:

This weeks tip comes from some our Year 11 students who recommend getting out into nature and going for a walk to support your mental and physical wellbeing in lockdown. Mental health charity Mind have some suggestions of other activities you can do to get you and your family outside here: [Ideas to try in nature](#). They include star gazing, building animal habitats, and even bringing nature inside with flowers, pictures and sounds.

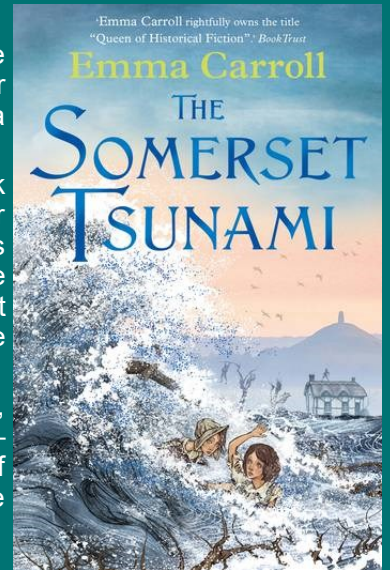
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Book of the Week - The Somerset Tsunami by Emma Carroll

Set in deepest Somerset during the 17th century, Fortune Sharpe is not your average girl. Strong-witted and determined, she sets about making a boat with her brother Gem. It might seem like something fun to do, but Fortune has to leave her home in a hurry when she is spotted rowing the boat on the Sabbath.

Fortune is sent off to find work disguised as a boy, but luckily, she doesn't have to look far before she discovers that Barrow Hill, the local manor house, has an opportunity for her. Yet Fortune slowly realises that this manor house holds many secrets within its walls. When the other children of the house discover she's not who they thought she was, suspicions are raised. And with King James' witch finders roaming the West Country, will Fortune – a girl in the wrong place at the wrong time – escape unscathed?

This is another glorious example of historical fiction from Emma Carroll: a feisty, female-led adventure that is based on real-life events. It creates a curiosity for history – for the 17th century, the witch trials and the real history of Somerset (the floods of 1607, now considered to have been a tsunami by some), while encouraging girls to be resilient and have faith in themselves.



LRC News

Have a look at the following websites for lots of book reviews and activities

www.literacytrust.org.uk, www.booktrust.org.uk, www.worldbookday.com, www.lovereading4kids.co.uk
www.goodreads.com

Loads of authors are on YouTube reading their books and on their websites. Search your favourite author to find out more! **Don't forget courtfields.net has lots of links including to our Reading Cloud and Accelerated Reader. Post your reviews and you can still do your quizzes.**

Remember your log on is the same as when you use the school computers and your password is your date of birth. For lots of resources and ideas have a look at the following websites:

Students under 12: wordsforlife.org.uk **Students 13+:** wordsforlife.org.uk/zone-in

CyberFirst Girls Competition (Year 8)

Calling any Y8 girls interested in Computing and Cyber Security: This year Court Fields School are going to be taking part in the CyberFirst Girls Competition. The Competition aims to support girls interested in a career in cyber security. The NCSC are working hard to get more girls interested in a career in cyber security. The competition provides a fun but challenging environment to inspire the next generation of young women to consider a career in cyber security. The competition is a team event, with each one made up of 4 female students from Y8 in England and Wales.

Whatever your ability, from beginner to expert, the Competition is an opportunity to learn more about cyber security. More information is at:

<https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyberfirst/girls-competition>. If you are interested, please email Mr Hold thold@courtfields.net before to find out more. **The deadline is Thursday 21st January.**

Updates from the Finance Office

Oliver! Refunds - If any parents still have their tickets for the cancelled shows in March 2020 please send them in to the School in an envelope marked for the attention of the Finance Office. Please also supply a phone number or email so that Finance can contact you for the details needed to process the refund.

Music Lesson Credits carried forward from last year - If you were owed money for the cancelled Music lessons during March 2020 you will soon be contact by the Finance Office so that the monies owing to you can be refunded.

YR8 Celebration Trip - The payments that were made last year for the current YR8 Trip have been held in the hope that the Trip will be possible this year. As this is now unlikely, arrangements are being made to refund all money paid. If you have paid for the trip, please contact financecourtfields@educ.somerset.gov.uk for further information.

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