



S. Peter's Sixth Form

Parent & Student Newsletter
June/July 2020

Worship & Faith In Action

O God, the strength of my life,
make known your will for me in this place:
help me to discover friends among strangers,
to meet opportunities and challenges eagerly,
and to do my daily tasks in your name.
Give me strength to overcome my worries,
and preserve me in your safe keeping,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Holy Frog Blog- Each Wednesday in our google classroom you will receive a message from our Acting Chaplain- Joe Maggs. Keep your beady eyes peeled for it...

Joe Maggs
Acting Chaplain - S.Peters Collegiate School -
jmaggs@speters.org.uk



#218603655

News

A lot has happened since our last newsletter in regard to our current lockdown and COVID-19 situation- which has had some impact in school. Year 12 have been invited in to school for 1-2-1 tutorials and will see that the S. Peter's site is quite different to the S. Peter's site they left. A lot of work has been done in school to keep students and staff safe and this work will continue in readiness for September.

I hope you and all your families are well, and are keeping busy in these unusual times. I am aware that a lot of you in both Year 12 and Year 13 have a lot of unanswered questions in regard to school opening, exams, results day, your future pathways etc. At present, we are continuing to take our guidance from the government and DfE. If we have, any updates we will communicate them to you via the website, your year's google classroom and your emails. So do keep checking. Please also read the frequently asked questions section below.

If you are struggling either emotionally or academically please get in contact with us- Take a look through the keeping well section of this newsletter.



It can be incredibly difficult to get motivated, but please remember you're not the only one. EVERYONE is in the same boat! Do not give up on any future aspirations you may have. Just keep working hard and be kind to yourself. **Stay Safe, Stay Well.**

1-2-1 Tutorials

As you are aware, we are completing these tutorials for the majority of students in school – these have proved to be generally incredibly useful to you and the school. Any questions you were asked during these tutorials that couldn't be answered at the time will be followed up generally via email. We are in the process of organising some subject tutorials in school generally for the more practical based subjects. You should have received emails about these. If you have any questions or want to enquire about them, then please email lrthomas@speters.org.uk

Completion of Work

For the vast majority of you, work is being completed and submitted. It is imperative you keep on top of your work so that you don't fall behind. At present we don't know what next year's exam process will be, it could include an element of center assessed grades – which can only be evidenced by the work you do. I am aware that some of you have found it difficult to motivate yourselves and keep on top of the work. PLEASE don't panic – but you do need to do something. Something- however small is better than nothing. Very often, once you get started it's not half as bad as you thought it would be and you will feel so much better knowing some work is done. Subject teachers and the 6th form team are keeping an eye on the completion of work and as some of you know we will be chasing missing work. If there are any problems at all and you are feeling overwhelmed please contact the 6th form team. We can help to put a study timetable together for you if need be.

UNIFROG

You should ALL be logged onto UNIFROG. Login page; <https://www.unifrog.org/sign-in> If you have forgotten your password click on the 'Forgotten your password?' link on that sign in page. You should be using UNIFROG to help with your personal statement. Completing hobbies/competencies etc – will really help you to put together a successful personal statement.

Personal statements.

These should be well on the way. You will have several drafts of your personal statements- so don't expect to get them done in one go. Once you have completed/started your personal statements you should share them with your form tutors who will start to go through them, and offer some critical advice. Google Docs is a good way to do this. Also at this do not worry about the word count at this point, more is definitely better than less at this stage. It is much easier to reduce your personal statement than try and 'bulk' it up. You have also been sent a booklet to help you write your personal statement. It was shared on google classroom.

Pathways Booklet

Post-18 Pathways Available:

- 📖 Under-graduate degree at university
- 📖 Degree Apprenticeship
- 📖 Higher Education Study
- 📖 Higher Apprenticeship
- 📖 Employment (not linked to apprenticeship)
- 📖 Gap year travel / volunteering

You have all been sent a pathways booklet on google classroom.

You can also access it here: But you will need to be logged into the school website to do so;

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1HnFQdhEI-fw4MMiGdB6Um_LUHVN-M6lR6eyPt6jbrC0/edit

UCAS

The search engine for 2021 courses is now OPEN.

Go to UCAS, sign up and create your hub for your 2021 entry. You will be able to compare courses and universities easily.

<https://www.ucas.com/what-are-my-options/create-your-ucas-hub-today>

Your UCAS Application

By now you should have registered with UCAS to complete your online application. We sent out a step by step guide on a PowerPoint to guide you through the setting up of your application- this is lots of information within the powerpoint so please read it carefully. If you need another copy of this please email Mrs Leek: eleek@speters.org.uk

Vets/Medicine/Dentistry and OXBRIDGE – You are all early entrants. If you have not already let Mrs Leek know can you do so ASAP. Your application needs to be completed ASAP. eleek@speters.org.uk
You will also need to complete a UCAT (University Clinical Aptitude Test) before submitting. This year these will be completed on-line, or at a local test center and you need to apply now to secure a slot. Bookings open on 1 st July. UCAS are advising booking earlier slots.

<https://www.ucat.ac.uk/ucat/ucat-2020-update/>

I would strongly recommend completing practice tests on-line:

<http://practice.ukcat.ac.uk/pages/menu.aspx?pack=bd52c8e6-da13-44a8-ac5d-3a02d2c1e21b>

Conservatoires – If you are thinking of applying to a conservatoire please can you let Mrs Leek know ASAP- your deadlines are all different depending on the establishment you are applying too. Most of these are early.

Virtual Further Education Events

Under normal circumstances, you would be heading off to open days etc. However this just is not possible so... Universities both UK and abroad/apprenticeship providers and careers are delivering virtual events. We have shared several lists with you on google classroom- a link to the most recent one is below – you will need to be logged into the school website for the link to work.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1lbGAo60PJx5NhMxZ2yKou09dNoY49WEN75DP6TvAgCg/edit?usp=sharing>

MOOC's (Online courses)

A document has been shared with you on google classroom. This outlines a whole range of online courses you can complete in your own time. They are split into relevant subjects and can make you stand out in letters of application for jobs/uni and during interviews. They are completely free, so a win win situation all round!

Apprenticeships

Below are a couple of links that you may be interested in if you are wishing to pursue and apprenticeship. I have also included information sent from Amazon in terms of their current status re apprenticeships.

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

<https://www.ucas.com/understanding-apprenticeships>

Amazon are still recruiting for their apprenticeship program and as a company that has done extremely well in lockdown they have a lot to offer. There are 3 degree apprenticeship streams in the UK:

1. Mechatronics, HNC in Electronic and Electrical Engineering
2. Automation Engineering, Bachelors Degree in Controls and Automation Engineering
3. FC IT, BSc in Digital and Technology Solutions Professional, specializing in Network Engineering

Full job descriptions for each program and more information about Amazon's Apprenticeship program are available at https://www.amazon.jobs/en-gb/landing_pages/apprentices

Something to keep you busy?

A document has been sent to you via google classroom called 'Something for Enrichment' There is a whole host of different online activities that you could get involved in. From Theatres, to women in football, to a bit of David Attenborough. I am sure there will be something you are interested in. Now is the perfect opportunity to find out a bit more about something you are interested in!

Frequently Asked Questions – Year 12 (Year 13- see below)

Are we going to have any subject time?

In some subjects especially the practical subjects subject tutorials are being organised. You will have been contacted via email about these.

Why are we not having virtual teaching at present?

The governors decided against this in order to safeguard both students and staff. There has been an addendum to the safeguarding policy- this is available on the school website. However, we are in the process of organising face to face subject tutorials. Staff are also regularly updating the google classrooms for your subjects where work is being set (with a deadline) and then should be submitted by you and feedback provided from your teachers. You also have the opportunity to email your teachers directly should you have any questions.

Will I have exams next year?

At this stage, we cannot answer the question, as the government/DfE have not made any final decisions. A first draft of an exam timetable has been circulated- however 'Draft' is the key word. Due to the current COVID-19 situation and the concern of a second peak-, NOTHING can be guaranteed at this stage. That is why it is so important you keep working as hard as you can. We could (but hope not) be in a similar situation next year when your teachers have to provide centre assessed grades and they can only do this based on the evidence that you provide.

We really have not forgotten about you! We are still here to help and support you in any way that we can. I know the fear of the unknown is unsettling but we are all in this together!

Please make sure that you are ready for your chosen university/apprenticeships. You can be reading around your course or the company you are going to work for.

If you have any questions about how your courses are going to run contact the uni/apprenticeship provider and ask the questions – they are usually incredibly helpful.

Book returns

Many thanks to those of you who have returned text books and graphical calculators. Please can we have the rest back next week. Please only return them after 12.00pm when Year 10 have left the school site. There is a box by the entrance to the main reception so you do not need to directly come into school.

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MOOC's (Online courses)

A document has been shared with you on google classroom. This outlines a whole range of online courses you can complete in your own time. They are split into relevant subjects, previous students have really enjoyed completing them. They are completely free, so a win win situation all round!

The UCAS logo is displayed in white text on a red background. The letters 'U', 'C', and 'S' are in a bold, sans-serif font, while the 'A' is a stylized red triangle pointing upwards.

You should now have replied to all your offers for university. If you are in the position of not currently holding an offer please look at the following;

Clearing is now open – Clearing is how unis and colleges fill any places they still have on their courses. More information is here; <https://www.ucas.com/events/2020-entry-clearing-opens-348886>

On results day; There are often new spaces/courses made available – As some students will not have met the entry requirements.

Extra - If you've used all five choices on your application, and you're not holding any offers, you could still find a place using Extra – it's free! More information here; <https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/after-you-apply/types-offer/extra-choices>

Don't forget to apply for your student Finance.

The Student Loans Company has confirmed that the application service will remain open to students as part of its response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and are encouraging students in England to apply for student finance as soon as possible to ensure their finances are in place for the new academic year.

Applications for student finance can be made here:

- <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>

Uni finance quiz - maintenance loans - how much do you know? - [click here](#)

Your student loan - [start here](#)

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4. Mechatronics, HNC in Electronic and Electrical Engineering
5. Automation Engineering, Bachelors Degree in Controls and Automation Engineering
6. FC IT, BSc in Digital and Technology Solutions Professional, specializing in Network Engineering

Academic Requirements:

- Mechatronics: 3 GCSEs (English, Math & a STEM Subject) at C or above
- Automation: 2 A-levels (Math & a STEM subject for AE) at C or above OR a full 180 credits extended BTEC in engineering with further math OR a HNC/HND in engineering
- IT: 2 A levels (grade A to C) Math & IT/Computer Science
- OR Any Level 3 in IT or better (BTEC, extended BTEC, HNC, HND, etc.)
- OR 1 A level (grade A to C) in either Math, Physics, Statistics, Finance, Accounting or a heavy math subject + a level 2 in IT or the CompTia+ certification or software development/coding qualifications or professional experience in IT (anything showing they started acting on their passion for IT)
- OR 1 A level in IT (grade A to C) + GCSE grade A or B in math or AS level grade A to C in math or anything showing they have a very high level in math

Full job descriptions for each program and more information about Amazon's Apprenticeship program are available at https://www.amazon.jobs/en-gb/landing_pages/apprentices

Frequently Asked Questions – Year 13

Will I have a results day?

Yes on Thursday 13th August 2020. The format of this we are unsure of at present due to the COVID-19 restrictions. The Government has advised that students will have the opportunity of appeals after results are released and retakes of examinations early after school returns. We will update information onto the school website as it is released.

What will happen to my school email? Your email and the contents within will be removed on 31st August 2020

What will happen to my google drive Documents? Your google drive and its contents will be removed on 31st August 2020. You can download all of your documents onto a memory stick if you wish. If you need help to do this please contact the IT team: itsuteam@speters.org.uk

Will I have an end of year prom/event? We are hoping to have some sort of event. However, we can make no promise of an event or even begin to plan anything until the COVID-19 restrictions on mass public gatherings are lifted.

Keeping Well (All links are clickable)

Mental Health support : [Young Minds](#) [Kooth](#)

Meditation and sleep : <https://www.headspace.com/>

Relax - mindfulness and meditation app : <https://www.calm.com/signup-flow>

Physical activities: [Sport England : Join the Movement](#)

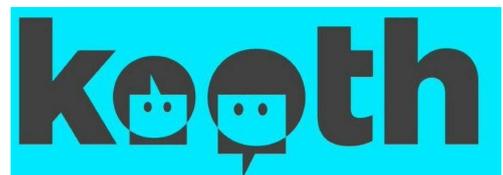
Joe Wicks : <https://www.youtube.com/user>

Musical activities : **Create short pieces of music-quickly and easily**

<https://musiclab.chromeexperiments.com/Experiments>

Kooth

Kooth is an online platform aimed at young people like yourself. It's online and completely confidential. The offer help, support and advice about mental health.



You can also contact your 6th form team:

Mrs Leek (Back from Maternity 29th June) eleek@speters.org.uk

Mrs Roberts-Thomas lrthomas@speters.org.uk

Safeguarding team safeguarding@speters.org.uk

Acting Chaplain Joe Maggs jmaggs@speters.org.uk

Speakers For School – Live streams

[Click here to access](#)

This week's talks

<https://www.speakersforschools.org/inspiration/vtalks/upcoming-vtalks/>



BIG NARSTIE & CIARAN THAPAR - IN COLLABORATION WITH PENGUIN TALKS

How to believe in yourself

- DATE: Thursday 25th June, 2pm
- AGE GROUP: KS5/ S5-6
- [WATCH LIVE TALK HERE](#)



British MC, rapper, TV presenter and author of *How to be Narstie*, Big Narstie, joins youth worker and freelance writer, Ciaran Thapar, to discuss the importance of living your own life and believing in yourself.

Have a question for the speakers? Email inspiration@speakersforschools.org

How to access VTalks

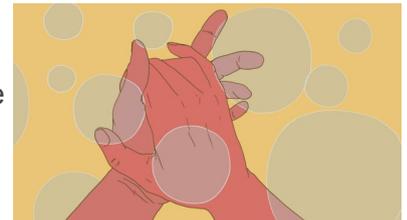
No logins are required and all attendees can stream the talks. Links should be opened in a browser that is not Internet Explorer. Students can view by clicking [WATCH TALK LIVE HERE](#) and then clicking 'Watch on web instead' and sign in anonymously. The speakers will appear at the set times e.g. 10am and 2pm.

Recommended Read

OCD: 'I spent 20 years preparing for the coronavirus pandemic'

I was sitting on my kitchen floor, using disinfectant to wipe down a bag of cereal, when I had a revelation: I've spent almost 20 years practicing for the coronavirus pandemic.

[READ](#)



Reflection

We have lived nearly a quarter of our lives and it could be considered a very good point in our life to reflect on ourselves and the life we have been living.

Self-reflection is a process by which you come to an understanding of who you are, what your values are, and why you think and act the way you do. It is the process of rebuilding yourself to be the best version of **you**.

Your **task** for this week would be to take a few minutes of your day to reflect back on your life. Think about all the acts that you have done that makes you feel proud of yourself. For example, achieving high grade in your subjects. Also think about what you could do better and change to improve and develop your skills.

Self reflecting will lead to self-awareness which could be considered the base of our internal existence, by being self-aware we are more likely to make wise choices in the present and the future, which would make us pro-active as well as becoming a better version of ourselves.

Reflecting back on our past is not just a memory, rather it is a lesson that we can use to learn from, which we can apply to our lives in the future to avoid repeating the same mistakes again.

This could be considered a very good time to think about your future goals. Ask yourself: “where am I now- where do I want to be- how can I get there- what do I need to do and who can help me”

Being able to formulate a plan when times are tough is a well-being issue. Planning to solve those things that we feel are currently getting on our way, to improve what we do or to reach a goal empowers us to feel in control over ourselves and our futures. This helps us see problems as a factor that we can solve rather than a barrier which is preventing us from moving on or feeling happy.

By no means do we expect you to decide what you will eat next year dinner but we ask of you and ourselves to have general plans in life, a goal that you are aiming for. This will help carve a path in life for you.

“A man who dares to waste one hour of time has not discovered the value of life”. Charles Darwin

Let's not be one of those people but the individuals that have a plan that looks to improve our future and lives.

Stay well, stay safe, look after yourselves and your loved ones and we will see you soon.