



Warlingham School
& Sixth Form College

Warlingham News



AUTUMN TERM EDITION 8

8TH JANUARY 2021



Message from the Headteacher



Normally, my message at the start of a new term would focus upon how we have enjoyed welcoming back the students following the Christmas break and highlighting the exciting events and opportunities in the term ahead. Although, this new term and new year have been very different to the norm, our aim is to do all we can to maintain the sense of community as a school, alongside student learning and hence this newsletter and other communications that will continue during this period of lockdown.

The initial decision to stagger the return to school and then to move to a national lockdown were both sensible and necessary, as has been evidenced by the current challenges faced by our hospitals. While you may, as I have, felt frustration at the delay in decision-making or late U turns it is clear that we all need to adapt to the conditions of lockdown and remote working and learning. I would like to stress that the communication of what is happening regarding schools is not shared with me as a Headteacher or the schools themselves in advance and so thank you for your patience and understanding while we systematically and strategically adapt to the constantly changing landscape presented by the pandemic and the actions of the government in managing it. Please do bear in mind that this week teachers and school leaders, like everyone else, have had to adapt to

their own children re-starting remote learning or caring for young children or elderly parents and relatives alongside trying to deliver meaningful and effective remote learning for the students at Warlingham, set up and staff provision for the children of critical workers and vulnerable students, facilitate the sitting of public examinations and establish initial Covid testing facilities and programmes. We are very aware of the pressures that all parents are under currently (as the majority of us are parents too) and we appreciate and value both your support and how positively the students have embraced having to adapt to new ways of working.

Nonetheless, we have been reviewing our approach to remote learning in order to increase the direct interaction and live learning experiences for students using Microsoft Teams. While we are not making every lesson a live lesson for all 5 hours of each day, we are providing a daily live tutor period and a number of live learning experiences for students within a clear structured day in the same way as the school timetable operates, see diagram on page 4. There is a good deal of research evidence that shows the quality of the learning activity, resources and explanation to support learning is considerably more



Message from the Headteacher (continued)

impactful for remote learning than the method of delivery itself or for it to be live/synchronous. Moreover, that a mixed diet of screen-based learning and off-screen learning is better for learners both in terms of their learning and their wellbeing. We are committed to increasing the level of teacher and student interactivity whilst remote learning in as many ways as possible and utilising all the technology at our disposal (and accessible to the students) and we are committed to learning the lessons from the first lockdown both at Warlingham and from other schools. Please see the updated elements of our approach in the letter sent out today which will also be on the remote learning section of our website. We will continue to review our approach and inform parents and students promptly of further updates and improvements.

You will be aware that the government announced just before Christmas a programme of rapid mass and routine testing of students and staff to identify asymptomatic cases, which may otherwise not be identified. I am confident that the introduction of testing in schools will provide an additional layer of protection to members of our school community (staff, students and families) alongside the other protective measures in place in school. In light of the

national lockdown and closure of schools to the majority of students, our focus is now on testing the small number of students and staff members currently working in school. We will be looking at a programme of testing later in the Spring prior to the return of students to in-school learning and during normal school opening.

The new year provides us all with an opportunity to take stock and hit the reset button. A chance to give up bad habits and try to establish healthy ones as well an opportunity to be kinder to ourselves and each other. There has never been a greater need to be kind to ourselves and each other than now, and I urge us all to accept that there will be difficulties, highs and lows along the way and to seek support from others when we need it.

Finally, I would like to wish all members of our school community a happy and healthy new year. Stay safe,

Paul Foster
Headteacher



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Registration 8.35 ALWAYS LIVE on Teams					
Period 1 9.00 -10.00 <i>Check Satchel for instructions and if a live lesson</i>	satchel: 	satchel: 	satchel: 	satchel: 	satchel: 
Period 2 10.05 – 11.05 <i>Check Satchel for instructions and if a live lesson</i>	satchel: 	satchel: 	satchel: 	satchel: 	satchel: 
Break 11.05 – 11.20					
Period 3 11.25 – 12.25 <i>Check Satchel for instructions and if a live lesson</i>	satchel: 	satchel: 	satchel: 	satchel: 	satchel: 
Period 4 12.30 -13.30 <i>Check Satchel for instructions and if a live lesson</i>	satchel: 	satchel: 	satchel: 	satchel: 	satchel: 
Lunch 13.30 – 14.05					
Period 5 14.10-3.10 <i>Check Satchel for instructions and if a live lesson</i>	satchel: 	satchel: 	satchel: 	Early Close	satchel: 





Are you eligible for free additional mobile data?

Due to the current national restrictions the DfE and some mobile network providers are allowing temporary increases in mobile data so that students are able to access online learning from home. Please see the requirements below:

Who can get help

We can request mobile data increases for children and young people who:

- do not have fixed broadband at home
- cannot afford additional data for their devices
- are experiencing disruption to their face-to-face education

Children with access to a mobile phone on one of the following networks might be able to benefit:

- Three
- Smarty
- Virgin Mobile
- EE
- Tesco Mobile
- Sky Mobile

Other providers may join the scheme at a later stage.

When help is available

We can request mobile data increases when we report a closure or have pupils self-isolating.

We can also make requests for children who cannot attend school face-to-face because:

- they're clinically extremely vulnerable
- restrictions prevent them from going to school

How to request a mobile data increase

For each request, we need to know:

- the name of the account holder
- the number of the mobile device
- the mobile network of that device (for example Three)

Completing the MS Form below with your details will allow us to request additional data from your network provider.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=JJIPGEbQlOWK_zLihujW6mTInuP7RqxImVydweUCnMxUMTBQOEEdCRERIRVhaMTA4WVU3UDBPTU9YMS4u



Free School Meals

At this time, we are aware that family's financial circumstances may have changed. If you feel this applies to your family, your child/children may now be entitled to Free School Meals.

If you are eligible for Free School Meals, you will receive £15 vouchers via email from Warlingham School weekly during the home learning period. When your child/children return to school, £2.45 will be credited to their Wisepay account daily to purchase lunch at school.

Your child/children will also receive Pupil Premium. This funding is given to the school by the government and used to benefit your child/children.

Please see attached Free School Meal application form. Please complete and return to me via email.

If you have any questions, please contact Nicola Jenkins n.jenkins@warlinghamschool.co.uk

Exams Information

Release of Exam Results from the Autumn 2020 Series

During the current school closure, exam results will be sent to the student's school email address on the following dates:

GCSE English Language and Maths
Thursday 14 January 2021

All other GCSE subjects
Thursday 11 February 2021

Results will be emailed as soon as possible, but we are not able to give a set time. Students who have not received their results by 3 pm, should email the Exams Office on exams@warlinghamschool.co.uk Please note that any request for results must come from the student and not parents/carers.



Laptop purchasing scheme

Last term we asked through our IT survey for expressions of interest in the assisted purchase of laptops.

After further investigation into the available offers for providing laptops to parents via the school, we have decided that due to the limitations and costs of the devices available this is not as viable as we had hoped. With the ever increasing range of IT specifications and services available on the open market, we feel that it would be more beneficial for parents to buy devices according to their need, which may include home working alongside home learning, rather than a flat limited standard of product which would be provided by these schemes.

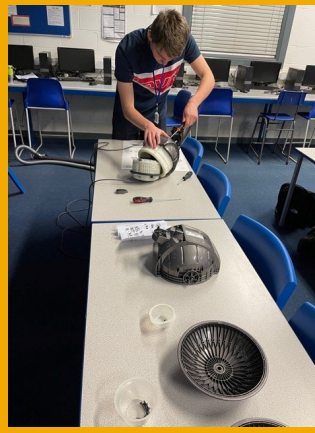
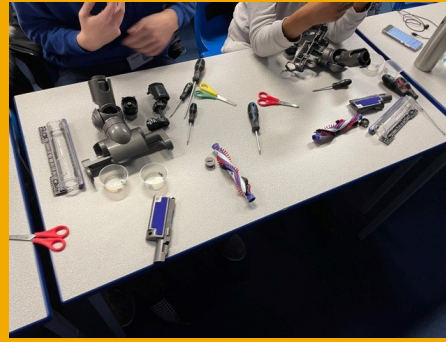
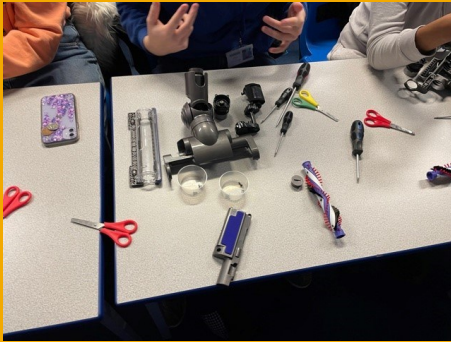
If you are looking to purchase a suitable device and require some general information on requirement please feel free to contact our IT team on itsupport@tandridgelearningtrust.co.uk who will be able to assist you.



Design Technology—Year 12 Product Design

During the two weeks before Christmas, the year12 Product Design class took part in a series of Lessons Organised by the James Dyson Foundation using their "Engineering Box" resource. Students explored the roles of different types of engineers ranging from design engineers and materials engineers to aerodynamics engineers and electronics engineers. We listened to their stories and heard about their involvement in the development of a product.

We then studied the Dyson DC39 vacuum and looked at its development and design features. Next we disassembled the DC39, taking it apart completely to understand its manufacture and assembly, before fully reassembling the vacuum cleaner. Finally we carried out further disassemblies on the "Carbon Fibre Turbine Head" and the "Tangle-free Turbine Tool". The lessons helped us gain a good insight into the role of engineers and the design and manufacture of modern consumer products.



Lockdown idea—Make your own reading nook!



Here's a nice idea for a lovely lockdown activity that students (and parents of course!) can do independently at home. Reading for pleasure is one of the best things any student can do to help increase their literacy. It introduces them to a range of ideas, cultures, characters and even historical events. The options are endless and the benefits for their wellbeing are immeasurable.

This is an activity that helps to encourage reading for pleasure, and might even give you some peace and quiet and some space from each other which can be a challenge during lockdown!

Remember building blanket forts as a child? Remember how they made you feel when you were snuggled inside them, protected from the world and feeling safe and secure? Why not recreate a blanket fort or reading nook at home? Just a few blankets or a sheet and some pegs is a great start! Then of course you could add cushions, fairy lights or any of your child's favourite things. This sounds very childish but applies just as much to A Level students as it does to Year 7s! Reconnecting with the feeling of security and comfort and associating this with reading for pleasure is a great way to encourage a life-long love of reading. I hope you enjoy building your blanket forts and would love to see some pictures of them, which we could share anonymously in a future edition of the newsletter to inspire others J All the best, Mrs McNally (Trainee English teacher and blanket fort enthusiast)



Book Buzz—Year 7 Book Buzz Competition



We wrote to all Year 7 parents before Christmas about our participation in the BookTrust's *Bookbuzz* Reading Programme again this year. We hope that students have been able to read the book they chose already or are able to use some of the current time at home to do this.

A reminder that we have a creative competition based on the students' chosen books, which they can still enter by the closing date of 29th January 2021. A leaflet detailing this competition was given to each student along with their chosen book and the details of the competition is on Satchel labelled as 'Bookbuzz Competition'. A winner will be chosen from each tutor group and will receive a prize. Students can submit their work on Satchel One.

Bookbuzz is generously supported by children's book publishers and run by BookTrust, an independent reading and writing charity that makes a nationwide impact on individuals, families, and communities in the UK. To find out more about BookTrust visit: www.booktrust.org.uk.

Happy reading!

Mrs Randall

Whole School Reading and Literacy Coordinator



Geography - Year 8 have their say about climate change!



Our Year 8 Geography Students in geography this term have been learning about climate change.

They have investigated how climate changed in the past, what is causing the current climate change today, and some potential solutions to the problem of global warming. As a department we have been incredibly impressed with how well the students have applied themselves to studying an issue that could affect all of us in the future.

Students in 8A took their studies one step further. After learning about climate change protests and some potential solutions to the problem, they each wrote a letter to our local MP to raise awareness about the issue and ask for action to be taken to reduce the problem. The quality of writing was excellent, and there were some very powerful arguments made about why the government should focus on reducing the impacts of climate change.

After reading all of the letters, a shortlist of seven (Dara Aderinola, Emily Payne, Erin Knight, Oliver Pyne, Thomas Holden, Lucy Hook and Gabby Shepherd) were chosen to be sent to our Headteacher, Mr Foster, to read. He was greatly impressed with the letters, commenting on the *"knowledge, passion and commitment that shines through in what they have written"*. From the shortlist of seven, he chose four to send to our local MP, Claire Coutinho.

The letters can be viewed on the school website

<https://www.warlinghamschool.co.uk/129/letters-and-presentations>

The geography department would like to congratulate the students and we look forward to sharing the responses from Claire Coutinho once she has had a chance to read the letters.

Mr Crenol,
Geography



PE Department Physical Activity Competition - Lockdown 3.0

The PE Department at Warlingham School & Sixth Form College would like to launch an exciting inter-house/year group competition during our time in lockdown 3.0. It is called the 'Physical Activity Competition - Lockdown 3.0' and starts from Monday 11th January. We hope that you have all been able to be active in some way, during this tough time and we would like to recognise your efforts!

At this time, it is more important than ever to keep active and reap the benefits of physical activity. It's medically proven that regularly undertaking physical activity helps to; promote positive mental health, maintain body weight, lowers blood pressure, increase muscle strength and function, improve bone health and strength, improve sleep and overall improve your quality of life.

How to enter:

1. Whenever you are physically active, record your time and/or distance.
2. Upload your time and/or distance on the Microsoft Form (takes about 1 minute), which can be found/accessed on Satchel One or via the link below.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=JJIPGEbQloWK_zLIhujW6jdW8MnQwRtDrYoi1eT3NqBUQVRGUjJVSovVCTkZUMjYwNkJRUTJCSk1ZTi4u

You can complete a Microsoft Form every time you are physically active (e.g. walk/run/cycle, home workout – fitness session, yoga, etc.). Therefore, the more exercise you do, the more you play your part for your house and year group! This is a house / year group competition, and the results will be published weekly (check our Twitter and Instagram)! Students and staff will be competing for the following:

- The longest time spent exercising
- The total amount of KM travelled

It would be great to see your stats (e.g. from Strava, Nike app, etc.) and a workout photo uploaded on to the Form, although this is optional!

The competition is open to all year groups AND school staff. Students do not let the school staff beat you and your year group! Play your part for your house and year group and get as active as possible over the next 5 weeks (until 14th February)!

The PE Department will also be posting PE challenges on the school's social media accounts to engage all students and staff. It would be great for your son or daughter to attempt these and to let their teacher know how they got on.

Good luck!

The PE Department

