



Update and Guidance

I hope you are all safe and well. As we move towards the half term break, I would like to congratulate you on the efforts you have made towards your learning over this time so far. It has certainly been challenging, and while we do not have formal guidance on our return to College, you have shown great resilience, which I am sure will, in the long run, be of great benefit to you all.

The Principal's update last week suggested that you may want to ask your parents to share with you the update letter that was sent to them following the recent government advice. If you have not done this yet I would recommend you do, so you know what has been said in relation to the plans moving forward.

Home Learning Update

With half term arriving, hopefully you are all in a situation where you can take a well-earned break! While maintaining social distancing guidance and keeping safe, aim to rest, relax and get some time outdoors and enjoy the *hopefully* lovely weather!

When we re-engage after half term, you will have another set of submissions to complete, hopefully you have managed to complete the ones that were set and requested for today (Friday, 22 May). If you have not yet submitted the work it is not too late. You can do it today! If you are struggling with a particular task please contact your Tutor, your subject teacher, Mrs Mandeville or me, so we can try to help you. For those completing their work on paper, please endeavour to take a photo of your work and send it to your teacher so that they can see what you have done.

A message from the LRC

Want to help us understand more about what is going on and how we can help you? The National Literacy Trust has launched some surveys that aim to help them understand more about students and families during lockdown. There is one survey for children and young people (aged 8 to 18) to find out more about the reading, writing, speaking and listening they are doing at home during lockdown. If you have brothers or sisters who do not attend the College, they can get involved too, as long as they are aged between 8 and 18. They have also launched two surveys for parents to help understand how families are coping with supporting their children's literacy and wellbeing at home since school closures in late March.

It would be really helpful if you and your families could complete the relevant survey. The information from them will really help the National Literacy Trust, and therefore us, to understand how we can best support you in the future. The surveys close on Sunday, 31 May 2020.

https://literacytrust.org.uk/contact-us/childrens-literacy-and-wellbeing-at-home-surveys/?mc_cid=383185cec8&mc_eid=c0ba69a348

Cyber School Opportunity!

An update to the message below: you may need to use a personal email address, rather than College email for this, some issues are coming through with the filtering of emails!

The online initiative aims to inspire future talent to work in the cyber security sector and give you a variety of extracurricular activities to do from the safety of your home. There are free weekly webinars run by industry experts teaching fundamental security disciplines such as digital forensics, cryptography and operating systems. If you are interested, please sign up here: <https://cyber-school.joincyberdiscovery.com/>

> More information about the government initiative can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-virtual-cyber-school-gives-teens-chance-to-try-out-as-cyber-security-agents-from-home>



Wellbeing

Taking a moment to reflect, it seems surreal that it has now been nine weeks since the country entered 'lockdown' due to this coronavirus pandemic. During this time, a lot has changed. We have all found this challenging and adapting to this 'new normal' has been tough for us all, but we should remember that adapting is what we as people do best! I think during this time, it is very likely that you and your family have been through a whole range of emotions! I have heard it described light-heartedly as a 'corona-coaster'. Tackling this wide range of emotions is important, and below is a link to a lot of resources and guidance on how best to manage and cope during this tough time. Have a look and see if there is anything you can take or use!

<https://foldr.ivybridge.devon.sch.uk/files/2/wellbeing/coronavirus-dealing-with-effects-toolkit-5.pdf>

As with each previous week, I would also direct you to the NHS website in terms of their support and guidance on mental health and well-being, useful guides and videos! Check back through the other bulletins for some more guidance on how to support yourself while we are away enjoying the half term break! The bulletin will return the following Friday!

<https://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/top-tips-to-improve-your-mental-wellbeing/>

Remember the NHS website for more guidance and some videos to help as well!

HAVE A GREAT HALF TERM!

Challenge

Creative Writing Competition

Have you ever wondered how your favourite novel would have been ruined by lockdown?

This is what happened in Charlie and The Chocolate Factory...

Charlie Bucket finds a golden ticket to Willy Wonka's legendary chocolate factory, but the day before the big tour, lockdown is effected. As a measure of compensation, one of Wonka's Oompa-Loompas is sent to each ticketholder's home, to sing their quirky songs from an appropriate two-metre distance. It's just excruciating; insult to injury, really. Even the kind, lovely Bucket family find it grating.

And this is what happened in Lord of the Rings...

Local government has imposed strict guidelines about leaving one's hobbit hole, and Frodo's planned quest to destroy the One Ring for Gandalf is going to take more than his apportioned 'exercise time'. He sends the ring, via courier, to Mount Doom, paying extra for tracking. He couldn't be more relieved when the email comes: 'Your package was successfully delivered to the Cracks of Doom at 14:37 p.m.'

The English Department would love to hear your synopsis of any novel being ruined by lockdown. Entries are open to parents too! Send your entry to ccjohnson@ivybridge.devon.sch.uk by Sunday, 31 May for a chance to be published on our website!

From last week!

Thanks to those of you who sent me a message about your achievements last week! Good to hear some of you are pushing the limits on what you have previously achieved!

Keep going and remember to spend some time on yourself for your own wellbeing!



Finally, a little KITE Book challenge before you go!

Grab your KITE booklet and have a go at these quiz questions!

Year 10 answers for last week

1. English: A philanthropist is a person who seeks to promote the welfare of others.
2. Maths: The equation for Pythagoras' Theorem is $a^2+b^2=c^2$.
3. Science: A nebula is a cloud of cold hydrogen gas and dust in outer space.

Year 10 questions for this week

1. English: What year was A Christmas Carol written?
2. Maths: What is the square root of 225?
3. Science: What does the pituitary gland do?

Answers will be revealed next week