



COVID UPDATE19

The Principal's update last week suggested you 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.

It's been a really testing time for all of us, but you are a resilient group and I am sure you are adapting and coping well.

YEAR 11 INFORMATION

I would like to bring a couple of things to your attention:

The Year 11 Leavers Survey is completed every year and we really value the feedback provided. Please take the time to answer the questions honestly and provide as much detail as possible. You will be asked to complete this survey using a link in the next bulletin after half term.

Secondly, we have had lots of orders for the Year 11 Year Book. You can order a copy until the Sunday, 31 May at which point the order will be made to the printing company and we will not be able to order any more. If you would like a Year Book, the cost is £15 and this is paid on ParentPay via the College Website.

HOME LEARNING

DO YOU WANT TO HELP US UNDERSTAND MORE ABOUT WHAT'S GOING ON AND HOW WE CAN HELP YOU?

The National Literacy Trust have 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 don't attend the College, they can get involved too, as long as they're 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. Please open this [link](#) for the survey.

Also, don't forget about the Post-GCSE tasks we've set for you! If you've applied to the Sixth Form, you'll receive more information after half term regarding our more formal summer work tasks.

WELLBEING

DEALING WITH THE EFFECTS OF LOCKDOWN

It is bizarre to think we have now been in lockdown for 9 weeks and you may well be recognising that this new situation is a strange one for all of us and one that can lead to a whole new set of emotions as well. You may have had more arguments at home, may have felt lonely and anxious at times, they call it a 'coronacoaster' as feelings go up and down all of the time. Here is a [link](#) to a whole range of guidance, videos, practical activities to support you with the different effects that lockdown may be having upon you. Have a look and see if there is anything you wish to explore more. Don't forget that the College is here to support as well.

HAVE A GREAT HALF TERM!

With half term next week, try to make the most of the break. Take the opportunity to relax and enjoy the good weather outside as much as you can, whilst following the current social distancing guidelines. We are incredibly lucky to live in an area which offers us so much to see and do within our natural environment.

COMPETITIONS

CREATIVE WRITING

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

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.'

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!

PHOTO COMPETITION. THEME: HOMETOWN PRIDE

I love my hometown, and I jump at any chance I have to show it off or talk about it. If your community is known for a product or its history think about how you could incorporate it in a photo. If you have a historical landmark or even many historical landmarks, consider how you could use those places. If you feel your community stands for particular values or attitudes about life, feature those.