



Tring School

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Mortimer Hill Tring Herts HP23 5JD



27 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Head of School Update

I hope that you are all keeping well and observing the new social distancing requirements. The sooner we stop the spread of this virus, the sooner we can all return to something that resembles normality. I have been quite disturbed this week by the reports of the speed that the virus is spreading and also the impact on young lives, without any underlying health conditions as well as the elderly. Please act responsibly and make sure you are limiting your contact to your immediate family members only.

I would like to thank all of you that have taken the time to share kind and supportive messages with me and our staff. It has really helped boost our morale in this difficult time, as we all work together to provide the best that we can for your children in very difficult times.

I think it is fair to say that all students, staff and parents are still adjusting to new ways of working. Teething problems are inevitable with such drastic and rapid changes to our ways of working. As classroom teachers continue to work with individual teaching groups, they will adjust their delivery and expectations to take into account the proficiency of the students in their class. If students experience any difficulties with their Chromebooks, or technical difficulties in general, please contact our IT helpdesk - IT@tringschool.org

I have been very impressed with the levels of engagement from our students and also with the high quality lessons that are being prepared by our teachers. We have asked teachers to record on Go4Schools if students are not engaging with their learning or completing tasks set. This is to raise awareness of any student who may be experiencing difficulty completing the work. For ease of collation and accuracy, this is presented as a neutral behavior point on the parent/student page. If your child becomes unwell and is unable to complete the work set for that day, please notify our attendance officer and your HOH who can adjust the daily record - attendance@tringschool.org

Some parents may feel that this is a harsh action; however, we are endeavouring to ensure that all students 'keep up' with their learning and avoid having to 'catch up' at a later date. It is really important that the students remain motivated to continue with this independent learning, and having their teacher notice their level of work as well as providing feedback to students as they work, will all help.

Tel: 01442 822303 Email: tringschool@tringschool.org www.tring.herts.sch.uk



I also understand that the Tring School virtual learning day conflicts with Joe Wicks' live PE class. It is with regret that I need to ask that students start their lessons on time and maximise the availability of their class teacher. We absolutely support students engaging with exercise and it has been signposted to students in PE lessons, the Literacy & Wellbeing lessons in Year 7 and on the Well Being Website.

Alongside our formal lessons students can also access our Well Being Website. There are a huge range of external resources presented below with a focus on important wellbeing tips, careers activities and general wellbeing activities. Try some and let us know what you think!
<https://sites.google.com/tringschool.org/enhancement-website/wellbeing/wellbeing-during-isolation>

Please can I ask that once the school day has ended you do encourage students to take a break and gain some fresh air, whilst observing the social distancing requirements. We are still receiving reports from the local community of groups of teenagers congregating in groups larger than two and with people other than family members. We all have a social responsibility to adhere to these stringent guidelines.

Due to the uncertainty and lack of time frames around the current school closures and restricted social activity we have taken the decision to suspend all planned school trips and visits for the remainder of the academic year. Please do not make any further payments at this time. World Challenge will contact challengers separately regarding the arrangements for their expeditions.

Today I have sent a letter to Year 11 and 13 students and parents offering reassurance regarding the collation of their centrally generated exam grades and the steps that we may be able to take to ensure they are able to progress onto the next phase of their education / employment.

Please can I ask parents to be aware of the following disgraceful behaviour -

Scam email being sent to parents asking for bank details if they are Free School Meals

HCC has received reports that a scam email is being sent to parents, asking them for bank details if they have children who qualify for Free School Meals. Please could all schools send out a communication to their parents, warning them about this scam email. In addition, it may be sensible to remind them not to give out private information (such as bank details or passwords), reply to text messages, download attachments or click on any links in emails if you're not sure they're genuine. Please see this government link for further helpful information:
<https://www.gov.uk/report-suspicious-emails-websites-phishing>

Students have one more week of home learning to complete before looking forward to a two week Easter break. I will share a further update next week and again during the second week of the break, when we will have received further guidance regarding the status of schools.

For all Key Workers, we are planning to be open for your children over the Easter break, where we will plan a recreational programme of activities to help support your children. Please can you confirm with Mrs Kay at skay@tringschool.org if you would like to use this.

Our school ethos is built around the concept of a caring community and I am so proud of how our community is coming together to support each other at this time. I would like to wish you and your families well over this next week. Stay safe and look after each other.

Kind regards

Sally Ambrose
Head of School