

# T-Bulletin

The school's Temporary Bulletin

10 July 2020



## 1. Update from Mr Shapland

Last week's guidance for September's full return to schools and the July 4th opening of key businesses seems to have provided a step towards something more akin to 'normal' life. I do hope that you have been able to take advantage of some of the easing of restrictions over the last week.

It seems a long time ago since we were struggling to find a shop that was able to sell us some toilet roll or paracetamol in early March. Indeed, it's been over one hundred days since the Prime Minister announced that schools were to close to most students and place the country in lockdown for the foreseeable future. This week I'd like to take the opportunity to commend our students on their stamina. The summer term is often a long one and the circumstances this year have no doubt made it feel even longer. The quality of the work and the continued engagement is a testament to their resilience and your support. However, we do appreciate that some of you may well now be on 'countdown' to the end of term.

Our planning for managing the logistics of the September return is well underway. We will be providing some more detail for parents, carers and students next week but will also confirm and update our plans, if necessary, in August. We know this is an ever-changing situation and we recognise the need to be responsive and responsible in our planning. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Meanwhile, the end of term always signals some level of celebration for students both past and present. It's always good when we hear back from students about their achievements after they leave Ashlyns. This week congratulations go to Emma Jones who has just achieved a first class honours degree from Balliol College, Oxford.

Finally, I am delighted that we will be running a virtual end-of-year assembly next week, where we will announce the final house results: I hope all our students will take the opportunity to reflect on their own achievements this year - big and small.

Wishing you all a good weekend  
James Shapland

## 2. Last Week of Term and Remote Learning

A reminder of the structure of next week's events and remote learning:

- Normal remote learning on Monday for all in Years 7-10
- Years 7-9 online tutor mentoring sessions on Tuesday (letter sent)
- Y7-9 virtual Activity Days Tuesday to Thursday (see menu on google classroom)
- Y10 virtual Activity Days Weds- Thursday (see menu on google classroom)
- Friday - Last day of term - Hub provision closes at 12.30pm

HoY online challenge; online assembly for end of year

Next week has been designated for Year 12 Work Experience. Many students are undertaking virtual placements, and some are undertaking experiences in workplace settings during the summer break. Guidance has been sent home for parents and students and the placement form is on Google Classroom to be returned to Mrs Gorst: [rgorst@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk](mailto:rgorst@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk).

## Students of the Week

### COMPUTER SCIENCE

Ava B Y7, Harper C Y7,  
Amy D Y7, Suri D Y7  
Finn D Y7, Chloe E Y7  
James G Y7, Lily G Y7  
Anna J Y7, Seb L Y7  
Arthur P Y7, Joel P Y7  
Joseph R Y7, Saranya S, Y7  
Josh D Y10

### DRAMA

Maybelle B Y8

### ENGLISH

Adam H Y7, Tomma C Y8  
Mrudula K Y8, Stefan R Y8  
Emma A Y10, Abbie F Y10  
Daniel J Y10, Ellie W Y12

### GEOGRAPHY

Margot M Y9, Gracie W Y9

### HISTORY

Milo M Y9

### MATHS

Jacob B Y7, Arthur P Y7  
Luca W Y7, Leona E Y8  
Archie S, Y8, Kacey A Y10

### MFL

Josh T Y8, Isabella M Y10

### PE

Chloe B Y10, Laura C Y10  
Harry L Y10, Madeleine M Y10  
Victoria O Y10, Brooke W Y10

### RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Izzy C Y9

### YEAR 9

Albert E, Freddie F  
Grace J, Ria K  
Torryn R, Alfie T

## Science and Business

### Virtual Talks

'Speakers for Schools' have a schedule of V-Talks on a range of issues for KS3 to KS5 [Please click here for their schedule next week](#)

### 3. Face-to-face sessions

Year 12 have had more face-to-face sessions this week, making a flying start to the university applications process and research into alternative career pathways. The sessions focused on using the UCAS website and Unifrog platform, researching different courses and universities and how to write an outstanding personal statement.

We are also looking forward to online small group mentoring sessions with the majority of students in Year 7-9 who have opted in next week. Please would parents discuss instructions sent out by separate letter today with their child, and ensure they check their school email on Monday.

### 4. Summer Reading Challenge

Please click below for full details:



## **ASHLYNS SUMMER READING CHALLENGE**

### 5. SEND

The Inclusion Team is making arrangements to support students with SEND through the process of returning to school in September. Details to follow.

Just to remind you of **Hertfordshire SENDIASS** which is an impartial Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS). They have really useful information on their website - use [this link](#).

### 6. Student Well-being

As we head towards the end of term, it may be of value to talk to your child/children about what they have learnt during this time, even if this is not learning typically covered on the school curriculum (like baking or vacuuming) or something that was not set as a learning task (like finding out about the Amazonian rainforest). Highlight how these things and the qualities they used/learned to do these things, like kindness or perseverance, can be transferred into classroom learning in readiness for returning in September. It may also be useful to acknowledge how difficult the situation has been for everyone – they all lost something (e.g. contact with friends and wider family), even if they gained things too (e.g. more time with you, more time to do things they enjoyed). Next Friday all students will be set an activity to reflect on their feelings and experiences during lockdown. We would encourage you to discuss these reflections once they have completed it, or perhaps if you have the time all members of the family have a go at answering the questions together!

### 7. Safeguarding

Resources for students to access for self-help and counselling are publicised through school, and GoogleClassroom, and your child should be aware of many of the following:

Children and young people can access free confidential support anytime from Government-backed voluntary and community sector organisations by:

- texting SHOUT to 85258
- calling Childline on 0800 1111
- calling The Mix on 0808 808 4994

Children and young people can also find online information on COVID-19 and mental health on the [Young Minds](#) website.

The [Think Ninja app](#) (freely available and adapted for COVID-19) educates 10-18 year olds about mental health, emotional wellbeing and provides skills young people can use to build resilience and stay well.

### Dacorum Family Services

[Please click here](#) for the

Summer Newsletter which contains ideas of things to do during the break and helplines for additional support. Details of a drop in surgery at Ashlyns in September can be found at the end of the bulletin.

### Virtual Gallery



A bumper gallery to enjoy this week, including the House Photography Competition winners: [please click here](#)

### Senior Citizens' (Remote) Tea Party



Although our summer tea could not take place as normal, students wanted our guests to know that we are thinking of them. They designed cards which were delivered with a flower plant and our best wishes. The recipients were delighted. 'Afternoon tea in a basket' was also delivered to the residents of Ashlyns Care Home.

### Music Lesson Reminder

If you wish to end your child's music lessons this term, please contact Mrs Marval: [musictuition@ashlyns.herts.sc](mailto:musictuition@ashlyns.herts.sc) [h.uk](#)

### Home School Agreement

This document is annually reviewed. The updated version can be [found here](#)

The [Rise Above](#) website (adapted for COVID-19) aims to build resilience and support good mental health in young people aged 10 to 16. [Kooth](#) is a British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP) accredited digital mental health support service. It gives children and young people easy access to an online community of peers and a team of experienced counsellors. Access is free of the typical barriers to support.

## 8. ASA News

**ASA Meeting - Monday 13 July 8pm** VIA ZOOM: 811 0889 6919

Although we cannot hold our usual social end-of-term meeting, please join us from the comfort of your home, to find out what we have planned in the coming months and how you can help, but also raise a glass to say THANK YOU to all our fabulous ASA volunteers, and hello to our new members before we break for the holidays.

**Good as New Uniform Sale - Thursday 23 July - 10am - 3pm**

More details on this event will be made available next week.

**Congratulations to the McGrath family who won the ASA quiz last night.**

## Supervision for children of critical workers and vulnerable children

We continue to provide supervision for vulnerable children and children of critical workers, during normal school hours. If you are a key worker or the parent of an identified vulnerable child, and require supervision of your child for remote learning during the school day, please email

admin@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk.  
All spaces must be pre-booked to ensure we have adequate, safe levels of staff provision.

## Letters sent out this week

- Y7 reports
- Yearbook Collection
- Y12 work experience

## Current Vacancies

- IT Technician
- Pastoral Officer
- Lettings/Events Officer

Details can be found here:  
<https://www.ashlyns.herts.sch.uk/vacancies/>

## Prime Minister's address to school leavers

Year 11 and Year 13 students can [click here to view](#)

**Dacorum Family Services  
Berkhamsted  
"Drop in" Surgery  
Wednesday 9th September 2020**

**WE OFFER FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL SUPPORT FOR LOCAL FAMILIES. WE CAN HELP YOU WITH:**

Managing  
your child's  
feelings &  
behaviours

Parenting  
Advice

Family  
Wellbeing

Routines &  
Boundaries

Making  
Positive  
Changes

Linking with  
other  
Services

Call or text at  
**07780114079** or email Lisa at,  
lisamacgovern@hobbshillwood.herts.sch.uk,  
to book a time slot.



