

T-Bulletin

The school's Temporary Bulletin

19 June 2020



1. Update from Mr Shapland

As I began to write this week's update, the TV news was playing 'We'll Meet Again' in tribute to Dame Vera Lynn. The film montage accompanying it reflected unity and resilience in the face of adversity and uncertainty; that message of the power of community and the importance of positivity seems especially relevant at the moment.

On the theme of positivity, I have been particularly impressed with the participation of our students in the inaugural Virtual Sports Day. It appears they have worked harder at maintaining their fitness than me. Even Mr Preston's puppy appears to have entered into the spirit of the event - by submitting an entry in the agility category - perhaps he has decided to follow in the footsteps of internet sensations, Olive and Mabel. Due to the challenging weather this week the entry window has been extended until Monday so students who have not yet entered can make the most of the opportunity this weekend. Further details can be found in section 7 below.

Of course, this week also signalled a return to some face-to-face support for some students. It has been great to have them back with us as we begin the journey to a wider school opening.

Back in March, when it was still uncertain whether schools would have to close, I mentioned that schools received no prior warning of the updates from central government and so we heard plans at the same time as everyone else. In the last few days, it seems media interest in school support has increased; we understand there may be more details of the proposed 'catch up tuition' in the next few days and maybe something on September plans in the not too distant future. I am aware that all of this might add to levels of concern and anxiety - and I want all our students to know that the staff at Ashlyns will be here (as they have been throughout) to support them in whatever form that may take.

Finally, in the week that more shops opened and professional football restarted (the midweek results made me realise I hadn't missed it!) I hope that students might take some inspiration from Marcus Rashford's principled campaign to support others - and be encouraged to think about ways in which they can show compassion and kindness as the UK's Covid-19 alert level is reduced from 4 to 3.

Have a restful weekend.

James Shapland

2. Face-to-face sessions

It has been a real pleasure to spend time with our students, who have had the opportunity for face-to-face sessions in school this week, focusing on wellbeing, study skills, preparation for assessment week and the UCAS process. Feedback has been really positive, with students and teachers enjoying the opportunity to meet - socially-distanced, of course!

3. Remote Learning

Live teaching We are delighted to hear that students are enjoying the live teaching lessons that are being piloted currently in KS3, following a successful trial in KS4 and KS5. The core part of our remote curriculum is via tasks set by teachers on Google Classroom; this is because an underlying principle of our remote curriculum is that it should be accessible and manageable

Students of the Week

ART

Daniel S Y12

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Y8: Lara A, Adelaide B, Luca B, Verity B, Jasmine C, Charlie D, Nia H, Kate H, Ellie H, Stefan R, Aidan R, Jacob S, Ella S, Lillie S

Toby K Y10

DRAMA

Theo B Y10

ENGLISH

Matthew D Y7, Skye L Y7
Marcus A Y10, Nicola K Y7

Cerys O Y12

GEOGRAPHY

Y8: Martha F, Amber P

HISTORY

Y8: Harriet G, Kate H, Gracie L
Ibraheem K Y10

MATHS

Abbie C Y7, Ava B Y7, Eddie H Y8, Gracie L Y8, Evie P Y8, Agatha P Y8, Bella W Y8, Toby H, Y10, Harry L Y10, Jamie P Y10, Ben R Y10

Malachy A Y10, Olivia S Y10
Robbie S Y10

LANGUAGES

Isabella M Y10, Beth M Y12

MUSIC

James G Y7

PE

Lily V Y8; Y10: Amy E, Lois E
Abbie F, Daisy L, Sahill M,
Luca W

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Martha F Y8, Matthew H Y9

SCIENCE

Emily N Y7, Charlie R Y7, Oscar W Y7, Conor F Y9, Marcus S Y9, Gracie W Y9, Toby H Y10

Jamie S Y10

YEAR 9

Joely B

Joshua N

Jack W

YEAR 11

Simran A

Nika J

for all. Live lessons, therefore, are not intended to be a normal way of working and are supplementary to the main curriculum which is delivered via Google Classroom. Teachers decide where and when a live lesson may be beneficial and manageable within a scheme of learning; this means numbers of live lessons vary from day to day, week to week, and subject to subject.

Extension work If your child would like to complete further work on top of the work set on Google Classroom by their teachers, we find Seneca to be an excellent resource for all key stages. Parents can view Seneca on this link: <https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/parents> and sign their children up (free). The parent section allows parents to see how much learning students have completed through the Seneca platform and on which topics.

Year 9 There is also English, Maths, Science and PRE extension work as part of our Challenge Curriculum in the Year 9 Google Classroom (under 'classwork').

IT support A reminder that you can email the Ashlyns IT Support for the following queries:

- Queries relating to Insight including; reset of passwords for Insight
- Queries relating to Google Guardian Emails

If you have queries/problems relating to your own personal devices and/or home WiFi, please try 'google' and 'youtube' for FAQs and troubleshooting remedies.

Opportunity to purchase a chromebook package through Freedom Tech for Years 8, 9 and 10. We have arranged this offer for you as an extension to the offer we have made to our new Year 7 students. We are not expecting students in Years 8, 9 and 10 to have a chromebook but wanted to extend the offer to pay monthly if you were considering the purchase of a device for use at home. [You can see the devices and answers to FAQ on the school website - link here.](#) Please be reassured that there is no need to purchase a chromebook as students can access the google suite from any device.

4. SEND

Temporary changes to the law around some parts of the EHCP process EHC Plans and the principle of 'reasonable endeavours' have been extended until 30th June by the Government who will review the situation again at the end of June. The information on the SEND Local Offer has been updated and the leaflet for parents that schools have been asked to send to parents can be found [here](#). If you have concerns about the proposed arrangements for your child then please contact our Inclusion Co-ordinator in the first instance. The InCo will work with colleagues in Integrated Services for Learning to help find a positive way forward.

DSPL fortnightly newsletter

Please [click here](#) for a link to DSPL's fortnightly update to parents and carers.

5. Student Wellbeing

We are looking forward to welcoming more Year 10 students to school next week. It may help and reassure students to see some photos showing the safety measures we have in place in corridors, the dining room and classrooms. [Here is a link to the photos in a slide presentation.](#)

6. Safeguarding - 'Keep It Real Online'

The New Zealand Government has just launched a new campaign with four videos illustrating the different challenges for parents in managing their child's activity online, which are just as relevant in the UK. The videos can be found here:

1. Pornography: <https://www.keepitreonline.govt.nz/pornography/>
2. Online Bullying: <https://www.keepitreonline.govt.nz/online-bullying/>
3. Online Grooming: <https://www.keepitreonline.govt.nz/online-grooming/>
4. Inappropriate Content: <https://www.keepitreonline.govt.nz/controls-and-settings/>

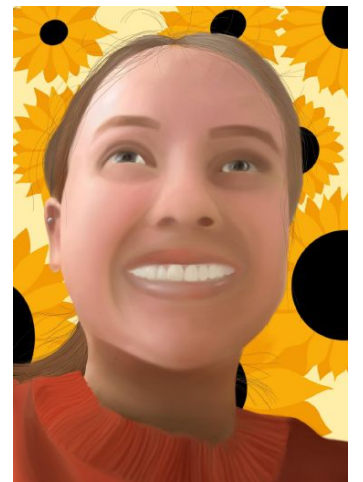
Flash Fiction Winners



Well done to all students who entered a story in the flash fiction competition. The high calibre of entries demonstrated a wealth of writing talent with stories featuring memorable characters, vivid settings and compelling plots. Our students' literary talents were so good in fact, that we couldn't decide on the winners, so we asked the author Cliff McNish to help us choose from a shortlist of our favourites. The winners are:
Isla L-M and Archie I in Year 7
Nia H in Year 8
Georgina J in Year 9
Sam R in Year 10

They received feedback from Cliff along with an Amazon voucher. Everyone who entered has been awarded 30 House Points. The winning stories will be available to read on the LRC app. And finally to all the students who entered, please keep writing. Your stories were amazing!

Virtual Art Gallery



Please enjoy another gallery of [work here](#)

7. House Update



Current house points



Bourne	Coram	Handel	Raven
28508	32133	30207	28594
4 th	1 st	2 nd	3 rd



(Virtual) Sports Day 2020 Update

Due to the awful weather we have had this week we have extended the deadline until Monday 22nd June 6am. We have had hundreds of entries so far, so keep up the good work, every one of you will really make a difference. For those of you who haven't submitted yet, it is not too late, so use the weekend to help your house and tutor group to get their names on the trophy. Well done to those who have submitted already; don't forget you can keep practising and edit your score if you improve.

We will be **doubling the points for any entries that include family members!** This could be your parents, grandparents, pets, or younger/older brother or sister, anyone not at Ashlyns. Good luck and may the best house win!

<https://sites.google.com/ashlyns.herts.sch.uk/ashlynsvirtuelsportsday2020/home>

8. ASA News

Family Fun Quiz - Thursday 26 June: 8pm

Get trivia ready for the ASA's first family quiz night for current Year 7s and Year 6s; please share the link with any Year 6 families you know joining Ashlyns in September.

ZOOM LINK ID: 879 5422 6978

ZOOM LINK PASSWORD: 536489

Suggested donation £3 per family via the ASA PayPal account:

<https://www.paypal.com/fundraiser/charity/3153935>

Enter the amount you wish to donate and please ensure you tick the share your name and email box to confirm the suggested donation.

Good As New Uniform

The ASA's Good As New uniform provides an invaluable service for many families and students as well as raising much needed funds for the school. Our Team Leader, Charlie, has had to step down due to work commitments and we are urgently in need of a few parents to help coordinate this area, and for Charlie to be able to assist with a handover. If you can help, maybe get a few friends together, please contact the ASA: asa@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk

We wish to say a huge THANK YOU to Charlie for all she has done.

If you have any uniform donations (except trousers and shirts), please ensure they are washed, mended and hanging up - please contact us via the school admin account for further details on how to get this to us.

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 (8.35am-3.20pm). 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.

Current Vacancies

We are currently recruiting for an IT Technician in school.

[Further details can be found here.](#)

Letters sent out this Week

- Y8,9 and 10 opportunity to buy a chromebook
- Y10 DofE Bronze update