



24/04/2020
Issue 3

The Ax@Home

WELCOME

Welcome to our third 'Ax@home' Newsletter. I hope you are all keeping well. As a staff we have been focusing on how we are 'staying close, staying connected' with our students and parents whilst we are working and learning remotely. There is so much happening at the moment in these uncertain times and it is important that we can all 'stay connected' and support each other as best as possible. It still remains so pertinent at this time that although we may not be together in person that we ensure that students, staff and parents continue to work together in partnership in the best ways possible.

I hope you are finding the use of 'Google meets' and 'Keep in Touch' phone-calls useful to help with your connections with staff.

Enjoy the Newsletter and do make sure you take the time to digest the information and advice and use the support that is available.

With all best wishes to everyone in our community.

Mr Keogh

TEACHING AND LEARNING

The Academy held their first virtual INSET day on Monday. Over 40 teaching staff took part in the various activities throughout the day. Lots of good practice for teaching and learning was shared by staff who have been experimenting with the remote learning resources. Teachers and students should now be getting used to this new way of learning and using Google Classrooms to complete their school work. Teaching staff will be setting work in accordance with the Ax@home Learning planners, so it is vital that students look at these daily timetables so they can get organised and plan their work. Teaching staff will also be available to contact during these times to support students with their subject classwork. Many departments are now planning Google meets fortnightly with students, to give students a chance to talk to teachers, address misconceptions, ask questions or to deliver new concepts in a more traditional way. If students are invited to a Google meet it is important that they attend, if students are unsure how to access the Meets they should contact the teacher who has invited them to it. In addition to the curriculum work they are also the Ax@home Activities highlighted in the last newsletter that students can get involved in.

I would like to thank all the teaching staff and students for their resilience during these times. The speed in which staff and students have adapted to this new way of working is exemplary and I hope you feel the same when I say I'm proud to be a part of the Academy community.

Let's start this new term with learning as a focus, well done to all the students who have made a good start on their learning this term, let's keep that momentum going!

Mrs Kinroy



Free School Meals (FSM)

'If due to recent events you feel that your children would be entitled to Free School Meals, an application should be made to the Local Authority, using the link below

<https://www.northlincs.gov.uk/schools-libraries-and-learning/schools-colleges-and-further-education/free-school-meals/>

500 Words 2020

Year 7 students have been taking part in a writing competition creating a story in no more than 500 words.

Jake Pullen has been selected for the second round of the competition with his story 'The Ghost of Agathor Road'

They received nearly 135,000 entries and only around 5000 go to the Reading Agency for the second round of judging. You should be very proud! They will be back in touch in May with an update when they selected their Final 50.

Good luck Jake from all at the Academy!



Aspire and Achieve

YR11 EXAMS

As you'll already be aware, GCSE exams have been cancelled for Year 11 students. During this term, the exam boards will be asking teachers, who know their students well, to submit their judgement about the grade that they believe the student would have received if exams had gone ahead. To produce this, teachers will take into account a range of evidence.

This means ensuring GCSE students are awarded a grade which fairly reflects the work that they have put in. There will also be an option to sit an exam early in the next academic year for students who wish to.

One update we have recently had is about when results will be published. The Government has confirmed that GCSE results will be published on 20 August, as originally planned. This will enable progression to further education to take place in the normal way.

We will continue to communicate new developments to Year 11 students and parents as and when we receive them.



"I want to thank all the education and local authority staff going above and beyond to support children throughout this holiday period – their work is more valuable than ever before".

Rt. Hon. Gavin Williamson CBE. MP , Education Secretary

GCSE RE

All year 9 students that have GCSE RS as an option have been invited to a new GCSE RS Google Classroom.

Please can you make sure that you join as soon as possible.'

Thanks, Mr Wayte

WELL-BEING

ACTIVITIES

Reminder to all parents that all students are receiving a wellbeing email and activity each day. It is intended to be just for relaxation and fun, but may provide a welcome break. a laugh or a topic for conversation for the whole household, not just our students.

Thanks, Mrs Gwyther

PASTORAL & SEN TEAMS

This week has seen the launch of our ambitious home support package using Google Meet software. Both the SEN and Pastoral Teams have been relentless in their attempt to replicate outstanding care, learning support and guidance in your homes.

SEN

Care: Needs, Motivation and Learning

Ms Harrison's team have launched a wide range of groups and individual sessions for our students with learning needs - specific sessions run all fortnight now. If parents or students believe they should be accessing some support from SEN could you please check your Academy PC emails for the personalised support timetables - these have joining instructions embedded. If this presents a problem or you don't have the email please email Miss Harrison directly on jharrison@theaxholmeacademy.com .

PASTORAL

Care: Engagement, Anxiety and Mindfulness

Mrs Carter's team have also risen to the challenge and Mrs Moss, Mrs Millward and Ms Lewis have designed a programme to support a wide range of learners who need some help at home. Perhaps students are finding motivating or organising themselves remotely a challenge? Or is isolated anxiety becoming too much to bear? It's nothing to be ashamed of. These are tough times! Perhaps speaking to a member of the support team directly just once would help - or perhaps a student might need that regularly - alone or as part of a group. It may be that we start with the first then progress to the second.

Have a read through the groups offered below and be in contact with Ms Carter on ccarter@theaxholmeacademy.com or Mr Bennett on jbennett@theaxholmeacademy.com if you just need a hand just now. It's not 'one size fits all' and we can be fluid about what that looks like when possible. All these interventions are fully resourced and whether they run as groups, drop ins or individual sessions may alter depending on demand.

UNPRECEDENTED SUPPORT IN UNPRECEDENTED TIMES

PASTORAL INTERVENTIONS

(Weekly unless stated)

MONDAY

11.30am – 12pm Yr 7/8 Isolation Issues

12pm – 12.30pm Yr 9/10/11 Isolation Issues

For students who are missing their friends, feeling lonely and wish to talk through their experiences. Come and find ways to feel more positive.

TUESDAY

11.30am – 12pm Yr 7/8 Anxiety Unloaders

12pm – 12.30pm Yr 9/10/11 Anxiety Unloaders

For students who are feeling more anxious or whose previous anxiety is certainly not helped by the circumstances.. It will give them an opportunity to discuss their anxiety and find ways to reduce this.

1.30pm – 2pm Yr 7/8 Finding Motivation

2pm – 2.30pm Yr 9/10/11 Finding Motivation

For students who are currently struggling to motivate themselves to engage in the work being set. It is an opportunity to break down any barriers to the work and find ways to manage the work whilst being at home.

WEDNESDAY

11.30am - 12.30pm All years Pastoral 'Just Drop-in'

Drop in session to discuss any issues that may arise for students and to just get a little support or advice. It's open to all of our students and can address any issue - it could be around a friendship issue that has occurred or an opportunity to talk and check in with someone at school.

1.30pm – 2pm Yr 7/8 Organisation Support

2pm – 2.30pm Yr 9/10/11 Organisation support

(Fortnightly only from 5/5)

Support for students who are struggling to organise their day and find a balance between completing work and being at home and engaging in other activities.

1.30pm - 2.30pm Parent Support

(Fortnightly only from 5/5)

An opportunity to seek advice and share experiences with the Pastoral team around motivation or organisation. To support parents who may wish for advice on how to motivate their child, help them in their organisation to complete work etc. Please email us if you need a little of this slot. It's tough on you too!

THURSDAY

11.30am – 12pm Yr 7/8 Mindfulness

12pm – 12.30pm Yr 9/10/11 Mindfulness

To present mindfulness techniques, coping exercises, wellbeing tips, therapeutic activities (Similarly to the way teachers are presenting an academic class but with a pastoral edge). The session will also signpost students to websites and other external agencies.

FRIDAY

11.30am All years E-Safety and Awareness

To keep students safe in their use of social media and websites where they can gain advice or ask for support in some issue they may have related to these two areas.

11.30am All years Enrichment

To offer enrichment ideas that can be carried out interactively - debating, discussing topical issues in a forum; giving students a chance to talk, but in a controlled, adult led environment. The filling of the hole that for many was made when we lost form time.

All the Academy's interventions are recorded for safeguarding purposes.

FORM TUTORS KEEPING IN TOUCH

As you are reading this notice, most students, parents and carers will have received contact from a member of staff today. I hope discussions have provided reassurance, advice and guidance where needed and will help students manage their work with confidence during the coming weeks. KIT calls will take place fortnightly, however, please don't hesitate to make contact if you have a question for us in the meantime.

GOOGLE CLASSROOMS

All teachers are now setting work using the Google Classroom learning platform. This enables work to be set, submitted and for meaningful feedback to be given. The learning platform also enables students to manage their work using a 'To do' list and sends daily and weekly guardian email updates. Google Classroom is now integrated with Google Meet enabling teachers to offer online video conferencing to teach new content and interact with students.

Please go to <https://support.google.com/edu/classroom> for guidance on all of the features available within Google Classroom.



Aspire and Achieve

STAY HOME - GET COOKING - GET INSPIRED

This week I am sending some links from the BBC Good Food website on how to make bread without using yeast and how to make cakes without eggs. Some of the Year 8's will have already made soda bread in Food this year, so will be familiar with the idea of this quick and easy method.

Those of you who are vegans have probably experimented with eggless cakes and know they can be equally as delicious as conventional cakes and I would love you to send me your recipes.

I also want to encourage students who are not currently doing Food as their technology rotation to join in with the Get Cooking project and share their recipes and pictures on the Google classrooms stream.

Finally, the weather has been fantastic over the Easter holidays and I have been getting my veg plot dug and planted up. The current situation been compared by many to the Second World war where people were encouraged to "Dig for Victory" and I think there has never been a better opportunity to get out in our gardens and start growing some veg. If you have a balcony or a back yard, this can easily be done in some pots or bags of compost. Salad and micro-greens will grow quickly,

are very nutritious and can be grown in pots on a windowsill.

Mrs J Straker

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/collection/soda-bread>

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/naan-bread>

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/flatbreads>

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/vegan-sponge>

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/vegan-chocolate-cake>



POETRY COMPETITION

People in North Lincolnshire are being asked to create a rainbow acrostic poem to show their support to our key workers who are continuing to provide vital services across the area. If you are unsure of what an acrostic poem is, please visit the BBC Bitesize Website.

All you need to do to enter is send your entry to wordscount@northlincs.gov.uk, including your entry, full name, age and postcode by 5pm on Thursday 30th April 2020. Submissions can be in any form, the more creative the better!

There are 3 £30 gift voucher prizes for the best submissions in the following categories:
Best Adult Poem
Best Children's Poem (aged 5-11)
Best Youth Poem (aged 12 – 18)

We hope that you will join others in North Lincolnshire in supporting our dedicated and hard-working hero key workers.

#DoOneThingNL #TeamNorthLincs

"To young people:

I know you will be missing your friends, your teachers and your lessons. I want you to know that you are an important part of this fight too and I cannot thank you enough for all that you are doing".

Rt. Hon. Gavin Williamson CBE. MP, Education Secretary

LANGUAGES WORK, WHAT SHOULD I BE DOING THIS WEEK?

Thanks so much for the excellent engagement from the students so far. It's been fantastic to speak with some students and parents via Google Meets and this has been an excellent way to touch base and respond to queries.

One question we've had is 'what should I be doing this week?'

Language lessons are being set on a weekly basis to enable students to divide their time how they wish as opposed to set 'lessons'. There are three tasks to complete: A quizizz vocabulary retrieval task, a grammar task with a video tutorial and follow-up assessment of understanding, and a research and culture task to extend and enrich student cultural knowledge.

These are clearly labelled on the student Google Classroom page under 'Summer Term' with the week and a 'deadline' for the Friday of that week. Work will be checked and marked after this point and any feedback shared with students.

We also welcome any feedback that you have on any of this and you can contact the languages team on languages@theaxholmeacademy.com