

27 April 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that this letter finds you and your families well. By now you should have received the second work packs for our students, whether this be by post or accessing them online. Please remember that there are emails set up in each subject area should your child need extra support, I have relisted them below for ease. These emails are monitored daily by specialist staff so someone will be in touch to help if you raise a query about the work.

mathsstudents@jws.bham.sch.uk
sciencestudents@jws.bham.sch.uk
geographystudents@jws.bham.sch.uk
restudents@jws.bham.sch.uk
businessstudents@jws.bham.sch.uk
musicstudents@jws.bham.sch.uk
artstudents@jws.bham.sch.uk

englishstudents@jws.bham.sch.uk
mflstudents@jws.bham.sch.uk
historystudents@jws.bham.sch.uk
socialsciencestudents@jws.bham.sch.uk
technologystudents@jws.bham.sch.uk
pestudents@jws.bham.sch.uk
dramastudents@jws.bham.sch.uk

Heads of House have also posted out subject challenge resources to all students in Years 7, 8 & 9. These are activity grids which allow you to complete challenges and record them on your master score sheet in order to gain house points. Please keep these sheets for when you return to school as they will be worth a lot of house points.

I am pleased to also tell you about the new John Willmott School YouTube channel which can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCd7tDwoiDSL0iPIM4NH9YwA>. On this channel you will find a range of resources including weekly reflections in place of assemblies, house and subject challenges where students can earn house points, and a section on staff book reviews.

Students are invited to send in a short book review in order to gain house points while they are at home. These reviews will also then be shared on the channel for everyone to enjoy. Mr Richardson has also introduced a 'keepy uppy' challenge as he has completed 54 'keep uppies' and filmed it for the channel, let's see who can beat him and score the most!

Keep an eye out for new challenges each day and if you know anyone in Year 6 who will be joining us next year there are clips and information for them as well.

The challenges and book reviews will need to be returned to your HoH at the following email addresses:-

hurricane@jws.bham.sch.uk
wellington@jws.bham.sch.uk

spitfire@jws.bham.sch.uk
lancaster@jws.bham.sch.uk

Sutton Town Council have created a very useful website which can be found at tiny.cc/suttontgether

This provides a guide for help and support during the current national situation, including advice on benefits, council services, health and well-being, foodbanks and a much wider range of support. If you live in or near Sutton Coldfield I would recommend that you access this website for this support.

There are also a range of resources available to support young people at this difficult time. Kooth is being provided now as a free, safe and anonymous service to support young people's emotional and mental health in Birmingham. Because young people have suddenly had exams cancelled, transition arrangements thrown up in the air and are dealing with the impact of COVID-19 on their loved ones this is important. The new service is available for young people from Year 6, aged 11 up to 25. The full offer, including online self-referral can be accessed at <https://www.kooth.com>.

In addition, Pause, part of Forward Thinking Birmingham, are offering a telephone based service for under 25s on 0207 841 4470. They suggest that you email first to askbeam@childrenssociety.org.uk and they will ring you back. It is much faster by email.

Please do read the letter to parents from Richard Gill, CEO ATLP which can be found on the website. I know that a lot of parents have expressed concern about students completing work at home and Mr Gill addresses these concerns in detail in his letter.

Finally, can I please stress that if your circumstances have recently changed you may well be entitled to free school meals for your child, even if you claim these for a short time the government continues to provide additional money to schools for the benefit of the students for 6 years. It is therefore beneficial to apply using the link below. It is easy to complete and the decision is usually reached very quickly. Simply apply online at <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/birmingham/>

Our pastoral team will continue to contact families to see if there is any way that we can be of help, however, in the meantime if you have any concerns please contact school via the enquiry address at enquiry@jws.bham.sch.uk and we will do what we can to help.

Yours faithfully

Mrs T Peters
Headteacher