



WOODBROOK VALE SCHOOL

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7 May 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

Happy VE day!

I am sending an early update due to the Bank Holiday tomorrow.

Past

I have asked that NO WORK is posted on Friday. Tell students to take the day off. Take the time to celebrate Victory in Europe day. Students should watch one of the programmes on TV or search for some footage of the celebrations that took place on that day, 75 years ago when Europe celebrated the end of the Second World War.

Maybe make a cake (if you can get flour!), sing an old war song, or make a flag. Mark this day in history if you can. This link also might provide a good starting point for some information :

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/48201749>

Present

English

The English 'hand-in' programme is working well. Many teachers commented on the great work students had sent in, so thank you.

We do ask that you stick to the correct week for your year group in order to keep this manageable. Our fabulous English staff have been marking work from three of the year groups, but that was never the intention. Therefore, I do ask when we open up Year 7 Homework hand in week next week that the flow of work from Years 10, 9, and 8 stops briefly, for that week. We will reopen hand in for Year 10 in the week beginning 18 May 2020 and cycle through the year groups again.

Maths

The Faculty Head for Mathematics has prepared the following message for parents and carers:

Thank you so much for supporting us as we try to teach Maths online. We are aware that there have been some teething issues with our new systems and know that the immediate impact of these



issues has been on you, so thank you so much for bearing with us and encouraging your child with their Maths work.

All work for Maths is set on www.wbvsmaths.co.uk. Many parents have commented that initially we were setting too much work for their children to complete during the week. Thank you for letting us know! The new format for work will be as follows:

Each week we will set two lessons for each class along with extension work to go along with it. Our aim is that both lessons and extensions for the week will be out on the website on Mondays. Each of these lessons should take approximately 50 minutes to complete. It is important that your child attempts the work in these 2 lessons to help with the 'exercise' of mathematics. We will be linking to teaching videos. Do encourage your child to use these if they are struggling to understand any of the work.

Each class has a chat room linked from the WBVmaths website. The passwords for this was sent via Go4schools. Students can go onto the chat room to get help if they are struggling with a question.

We will try to ensure that little or no work needs to be printed and that all the work we set will be either done on screen (manga high, maths pad, DrFrost) or can be done in the maths book, as they would at school.

As a team we are so proud of the students and so thankful to you, who keep supporting them in their Maths work. We'd love to hear from you if your child is working hard, we are still awarding goals and certificates so please email us through the office or nominate them for Home Heroes awards.

Schooling for children of essential workers

Once again, a reminder that parents and carers whose circumstances are changing might find themselves in the category as outlined by the government here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-school-closures/guidance-forschools-about-temporarily-closing>

Parents must contact us first to add their child to the register before sending them in. However, do remember, the best advice, at the moment, is to keep children at home if you possibly can.

Future

We are awaiting announcements from the government regarding any plans to open the school in the near future. Obviously, we will be tailoring our offer and parents and carers will make a choice about schooling based on the information we provide. We envisage this being a matter of personal choice and circumstance so please do not feel anxious.

Uniform

In an optimistic spirit, in the hope of normality someday soon, I thought I would mention that we have been working with a supplier to ensure school uniform will be readily available. It is likely this will all have to happen by mail order.

How much the children must have grown since you last bought some uniform! We realise you might want to wait a little longer before making any decisions about what to buy and when, but the supplier's website will be open from Friday 15 May.



I admit we might have to make some decisions about certain things like tie wearing and hygiene, but the basics of uniform will continue and having PE kit will be especially important.

On a lighter note.

Mr Hayes is currently working on a special video message for our students from the staff here at Woodbrook Vale that should bring a smile, so look out for the link next week and please don't judge us too harshly. We are mere mortals!

No spoilers from me, but do enjoy.

All my best wishes, thoughts and hopes for your safety and wellbeing,

Rachael Fraser
Headteacher

