

S. Peter's Collegiate School

ISSUE 01 06/11/2020

-Parent Bulletin-

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Welcome back everyone! I hope you all had a restful half term. I am pleased that despite the announcement of a second countrywide lockdown, schools are currently still due to remain open. Although things are not quite normal in

terms of movement around the school and being able to offer the usual curriculum experiences in some cases, I do feel that there is a strong learning ethos and sense of community amongst the students.

During half term I took my three children to visit my Grandmother in Hemel Hempstead. At ninety-nine years old, she is a very impressive lady. She greeted the children with elbow bumps and we laughed throughout the afternoon.

Despite not being mobile and having not left her house since March (due to Covid-19), she remains positive and very astute. My eldest child asked her with enthusiasm what she made of Covid-19. Her answer was quite profound and stays with me as we enter the new half term.

She replied, "We may have lost some of the things we take for granted, but we still have more comforts than many. There is, after all, nobody shooting at us."

For someone who lived through and even gave birth in an underground station during the war, the current situation was put into perspective.

I hope that we can all remain strong and enjoy a successful half term.

NEW ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME

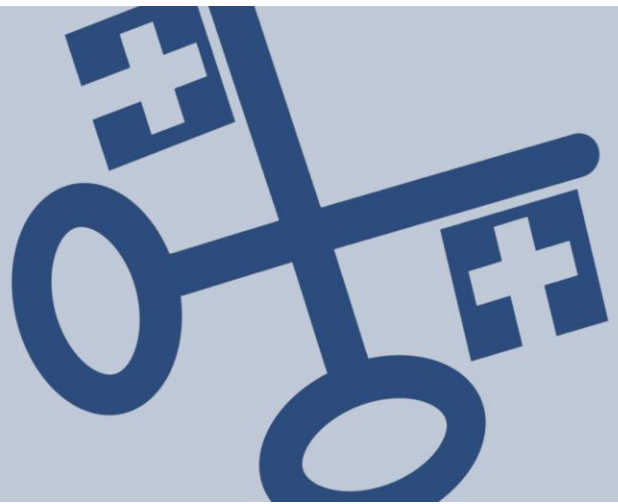
During September, we launched our new enrichment and enhancement programme, which so far has been a great success. However, following new government guidance we have made the decision to suspend part of the programme. We remain committed to offering both Year 11 and Year 13 academic intervention sessions and these will continue. This time is so important for those students who are preparing for forthcoming examinations and we are determined to ensure they achieve their full potential.

[TO FIND OUT MORE CLICK HERE](#)



REMINDERS:

- Please can we urge that students are prompt to school. We have re-commenced Form times from Tuesday 3rd November and it is essential that part of the day is well supported.
- Can we also remind everyone that it is compulsory to wear face masks in all communal areas in school.



SPOTLIGHT ON ENGLISH

Mrs. Crick - Head of English

It's been a fantastic start to the year and the English Department has been delighted to have our students back in the classroom, producing the wonderful work we know they are capable of. We've been so impressed with students' drive and determination and have been infected by their sheer love of learning.

As we all know, this year has been a year like no other - but that's certainly not going to stop us from planning lots of exciting things for the year ahead!

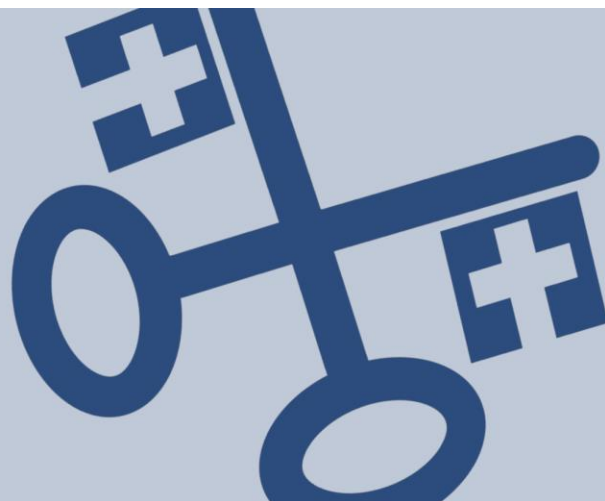
"Whilst things might be a little different than usual, we pride ourselves on our creative approach to overcoming life's challenges and being able to offer a wide variety of opportunities to not only support our students in achieving their full academic potential but also in helping them to grow as cultured, curious and empathetic individuals".

You'll be hearing more about our projects and initiatives in due course but here are a few hints at things we have planned so far:

- Opportunities for students to participate in national writing competitions (last year over 100 students had their work published)
- Young Librarians' Project
- Extra-curricular clubs such as Young Writers Club, S. Peter's School Newspaper, Book clubs, revision classes etc.
- Theatre visits/in school performances (currently on hold until COVID restrictions are lifted)
- Live RSC performances streamed directly to our school with supporting cast and crew interviews
- Partner school projects with the National Theatre (London) including live and streamed performances (Last year, the NT brought their own professional cast, set and crew to S. Peter's to perform the award-winning play 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime' for our students)
- Participation in the Carnegie Book Shadowing project
- Author visits/interviews

IMPORTANT DATES:

09/11/2020 - Maths Week
10/11/2020 - World Science Day
11/11/2020 - Remembrance Day
16/11/2020 - Engineering & Manufacturing Week



FAITH MATTERS

THE NEIGHBOURS, on either side of the house I lived in as a child, were very different and yet both needed love. On one side was a family with three children with whom my brothers and I played constantly; so much so that eventually, the fence panel we used to climb over, was removed to make it easier to get next door. We enjoyed our times together. It was easy to love them.

On the other side however, was Mrs Ferzackerly. An old widow with three dogs; a pug, a Pekinese and a ginger dachshund. No-one went round to her house. The fences stood tall and imposing. An unwelcoming barrier shutting out the world and noisy kids. Defying anyone to go and visit! At least so I thought, until I discovered that my mum had been making regular visits to see our lonely, isolated and frail neighbour, to help her with shopping, housework or just to chat. Mum encouraged me to go with her on subsequent visits to Mrs Ferzackerly's house and although I didn't find it easy to like it, eventually, we became good friends - me and the dogs that was, Mrs F always remained a bit scary to be honest! Who knew our neighbours had the same need for love and friendship?

This half term, we will be exploring Jesus command to "Love your neighbour as yourself" and considering what that actually looks like in practice. I expect we would all rather spend our time "playing with the fun neighbours next door" than giving up time and effort to look after "the old widow and her dogs" however, our school values and Christian ethos point us in a different direction towards others. Agape love gives unconditionally.

[CLICK HERE TO READ THIS WEEKS
HOLY FROG](#)

SIXTH FORM NEWS

We are delighted to announce that S. Peter's Collegiate School has established a partnership with Oxford University. As part of the Oxford University Scholastica programme, our students get priority access to Oxford Universities popular online content. The content covering courses, internships and conferences really gives our young people the experience of what University has to offer.

[Oxford Scholastica](#)'s mission is to inspire students to discover, explore and prepare for their futures at an earlier stage, giving them the edge to enable them to succeed, have purpose and make a difference, and they partner with leading schools who share those values.

Mrs. Leek in Sixth Form spoke about her delight and excitement for partnering with the oldest university in the English-speaking world. Birthplace of famous leaders, entrepreneurs and cutting edge scientists. The inspiration behind Narnia, Alice in Wonderland and Harry Potter. From literary greats to modern medical breakthroughs, Oxford is a place of discovery.

CONTACTS:

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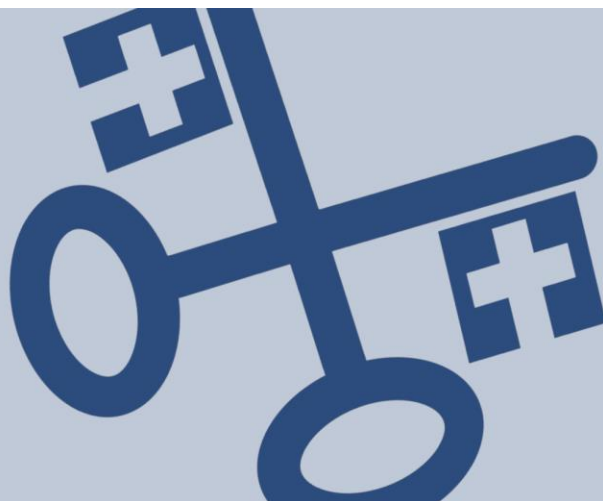
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Careers Update Mrs. Tranter



PREMIER LEAGUE INSPIRE PROGRAMME STARTS

On Saturday 17th October a number of our students took part in the Medic Mentors University



Hospitals Trust virtual work experience on Saturday 17th October, those who took part have been offered a continued placement for the next six months. The event was very well received by our students.

Year 10 and 11 have now all been invited to sign up to unifrog a student destinations platform that allows students of all academic abilities to access careers and HE related material in order to make the best choices for their future. Years 7,8 and 9 will be receiving invites after half term.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

Year 9 Industry Day took place virtually on the morning of 6th November. A number

of local employees have very kindly given their time to inform Year 9 about their varying careers and opportunities that are available to them.

Year 10 will be taking part in the Young Professionals Conference on Thursday 12th November with a number of major employers including Vodafone and BP will be providing guest speakers, talks and guidance for our students.

This week a group of Year 9 pupils started the first of their Premier League Inspires programme with Liam Turner and Harina Basra from Wolverhampton Wanderers FC.

The sessions will focus on participation in physical activity and effective communication skills, and will give the pupil's involved an insight into the wealth of skills and knowledge that the club is able to offer. Sessions will include opportunities for pupils to develop their language skills, in English and using other languages either learned in school or spoken at home.

Over time, pupils will move to outdoor sessions where they can put the content of the course into practice. This is the first of a number of projects that we hope to deliver with the support of WWFC and we will continue to share these with you via the school website.

