

FAMILY MATTERS

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER



FROM EVERYONE AT HOLY FAMILY

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

2020

2021



HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Quotation of the week

"You'd be so lean, that blasts of January
Would blow you through and through."
~William Shakespeare, Winter's Tale,
c.1610 [IV, 4, Perdita]

Covid update

As you know following the government's decision to go to a 3rd national lockdown, we have moved to remote learning for all students except vulnerable and key worker children, who may still attend school, for at least the rest of this half-term. This week we have had between 30 and 35 students attending school each day. Thanks to staff who have come in and supervised and supported them.

Remote learning

In terms of remote learning you can expect that there will be a high proportion of 'live' lessons and we are following the school timetable as best we can. We have circulated a code of conduct to everyone setting out the ground rules and expectations for taking part in lessons. We record everyone's attendance at each lesson and follow up if students are absent or appear to not be participating well. Please try to help us in this - one thing we can try to do as parents/carers is to encourage our children to get up, get dressed, eat breakfast and treat the school day as a working day. We will be sending out a parental questionnaire at the end of next week to ask you for feedback about your experiences of remote learning.

Pastoral support

Pastoral support continues and your son/daughter's year team will be communicating with you and following up any issues that arise. We are calling home where we have concerns or to offer support and we will be expanding our KIT (Keeping in Touch) calls next week as we did during the summer lockdown so that we try to personally contact everyone fortnightly if possible.

Digital devices

We have supplied quite a number of devices to families this week and are looking at what we can do to help with broadband issues and with data for mobile phones. This issue has moved up the national agenda recently too which is good to see. If you have any issues with digital access to remote learning please let us know - you can contact me or any other member of staff about this. My details are supplied again at the bottom of the newsletter this week.

Exams GCSEs and A levels update

The Secretary of State for Education announced that GCSE and A level exams are cancelled this summer and that grades will be awarded based on teacher assessment of the progress and performance of students in Yrs 11 and 13. This is likely to be a similar process to that used last summer and we are told there will be support and training for teachers. We are awaiting this and as soon as I know more I shall let you know. For the moment it is vitally important that every student continues to engage with their lessons, completes any assignments set and completes all tasks as their teachers require them to. We will be making assessment decisions based on all the evidence and data at our disposal.

Amended Risk Assessment

The Borough has asked us to make some further amendments to the school's risk assessment. This includes requiring everyone attending school at present to wear a face mask at all times except when eating or drinking. In addition, everyone is asked to bring at least **two masks per day** because there is evidence that the effectiveness of face covering diminishes over time and an individual mask should not be worn all day. The amended risk assessment can be seen on the school [website here](#).

Mass Testing

You may have heard about the planning for mass testing using Lateral Flow Tests (LFTs) that schools have been working on this week. We are piloting our testing on staff who are present in school today, Friday 8th Jan. LFTs provide a result in 30 minutes and are useful for discovering where there may be asymptomatic cases of covid within the school population. Our plan is to offer this weekly to students who are attending school at present subject to parental consent and we hope to offer this from next week. Further details will follow.

Parents' surgery

Parents' surgery is currently a remote service. If you would like to speak to me please contact the office on either site and they will let me know that you would like me to call you on Thursday afternoon between 4pm and 5pm. You can also email me directly at anytime on a.stone@hollyfamily.waltham.sch.uk

And finally...

To end on a positive note, we have been very impressed with the maturity and engagement of our students with their online learning. It is not easy and there are many challenges, but our students have high levels of motivation and resilience and I want to thank all of you parents/carers for the support and encouragement you are providing at this time.

Please continue to remember us in your prayers.

With best wishes

Dr Stone, Headteacher





HEADTEACHER'S

COMMENDATIONS



**This week we have some
Headteacher commendations for the following
students:**

**Arnold Cyril,
PJ Mavungu
and Ruth Denkyirah
all students in Yr 11.**

**They have each been nominated by Ms Atakan for
their commitment to online Maths revision lessons.**

Well done to all of them!

SOCIAL MEDIA CATCHUP



@HFCSWALTHAM



@HFCSWALTHAM

Chaplaincy Corner

The New Year can often bring a mixed bag of emotions and memories for many of us. We have all just experienced a long and difficult year, whilst others will have experienced the best year ever, the birth of a child, a marriage. The fresh calendar year brings desperate hope for things to be better, with an ache for the still-fresh wounds to slowly begin their process of healing. Whether you've just walked through the greatest year of your life, or are incredibly glad to see this one finally over, one truth still rings clear amidst it all. You are not alone. Not ever.

"Do not be afraid, I am with you! I am your God, let nothing terrify you! I will make you strong and help you; I will protect you and save you." Isaiah 41:10



Wednesday 6 January was the Feast of the Epiphany and Holy Day of Obligation. We were able to join Fr Dominic in his parish in Romford for a live stream Mass.

There is an old tradition of "chalking the door" to celebrate the Epiphany, the day that marks the arrival of the magi, to the place where Jesus was born. "Chalking the door" is a sign and symbol of asking God's blessing upon those who live, work, or visit throughout the coming year.

+20 C M B 21+

The letters C M B come from the traditional names for the three kings: Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar.

It is also an abbreviation for ***"Christus Mansionem Benedicat"*** which means, ***"May Christ bless this dwelling"***. The first and last numbers refer to the current year.

Lord,
You make all things new.
You bring hope alive in our hearts and cause our Spirits to be born again.
At the beginning of this new school year, in this time of uncertainty and
anxiety, we ask for your mercy.
Bless and protect our students, teachers, staff, their families.
Give wisdom to the decision makers.
In these days when so much has changed, help us to trust in the love of your
Son Jesus, who is the same yesterday, today and forever.
Amen

Every blessing for the New Year - Mrs. Grierson, Chaplain

Feast of the Epiphany



The Feast of the Epiphany was live streamed on Wednesday 6 January, at 12.15pm from St Edward the Confessor in Romford. It was celebrated by Fr Dominic a

The Epiphany celebrates both the Magi (three kings or wise men) visit to Jesus shortly after his birth and also Jesus' baptism by John the Baptist.

According to the Gospel of Matthew, the three wise men - named Melchior, Caspar and Balthazar - followed the star of Bethlehem across the desert to meet the baby Jesus, offering gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. The three Kings represented Europe, Arabia and Africa respectively. The gifts were symbolic of the importance of Jesus' birth, the gold representing his royal standing; frankincense his divine birth; and myrrh his mortality. In many countries the day is a public holiday. In the Spanish speaking world, Epiphany is known as Dia de los Reyes (Three Kings' Day). In Mexico, crowds gather to taste the Rosca de Reyes - Kings' bread. In other countries, a Jesus figurine is hidden in the bread.



The Feast of the Epiphany (B) - 12:15pm Wednesday 6th January - Livestream Mass

431 watching now · Started streaming 13 minutes ago

52 41 SHARE SAVE



Holy Family Catholic School

Remote Learning Agreement



You should adhere to and follow these rules when online.

Be Ready

- Use the school resources in the way they are intended to be used.
- Plan and use your time effectively online.
- Know your username and password to all school accounts, i.e Google Classroom, Mathswatch, Seneca etc
- Join all online lessons on time
- Check your accounts regularly so you are up to date with the work set.
- Complete all tasks by the deadline.

Be Respectful

- You should respond in a polite, respectful and appropriate manner to all posts online.
- You should respond in a polite, respectful and appropriate manner to members of staff in online communications (E-mail, Google Meets etc).
- Inappropriate behaviour includes:
 - Complaints about any post, individual or activity.
 - Intolerance towards any individual or group of people.
 - Posting inappropriate images.
 - Using the platform as a form of social media or as a chat forum
 - Posting and sharing information and/or images that are not related to the learning set.
- Report any cyber bullying or harassment immediately.
- Never do or say anything online that you would not do or say offline.

Be Safe

- Set yourself a screen time limit - it is important for your mental health.
- Never share your password or any personal details online
- Do not forward spam. It is not fun and it could damage the computer through viruses embedded in the emails.
- Report any unusual or suspicious online activity.

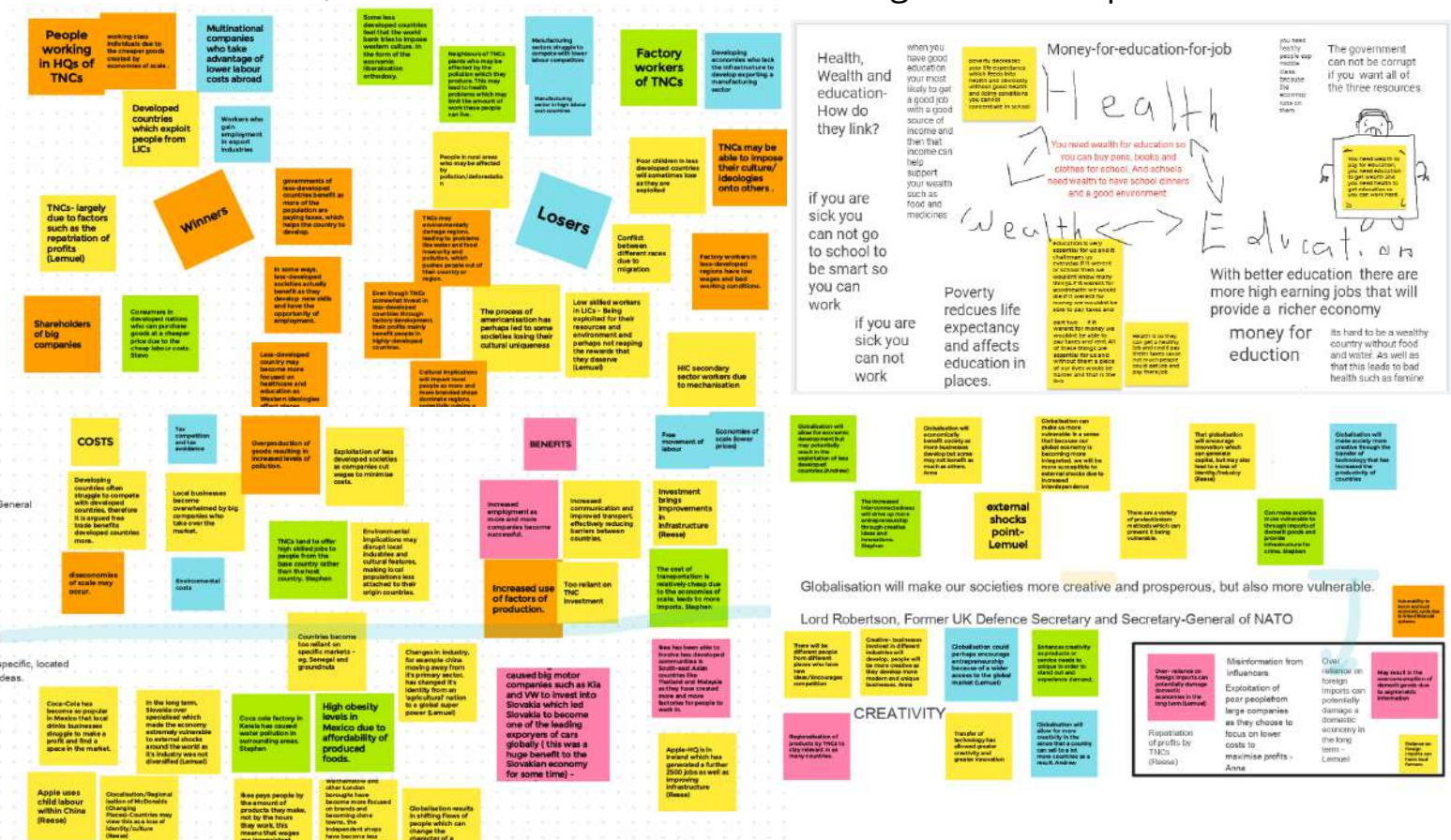
What happens if I break the rules?

- Any account where inappropriate behaviour is reported or suspected will be suspended immediately.
- Parents will be contacted to discuss the inappropriate behaviour and when it will be reinstated.

Please confirm you have read and agree to these rules by submitting the following form. <http://tiny.cc/HFCSRemoteLearningForm>

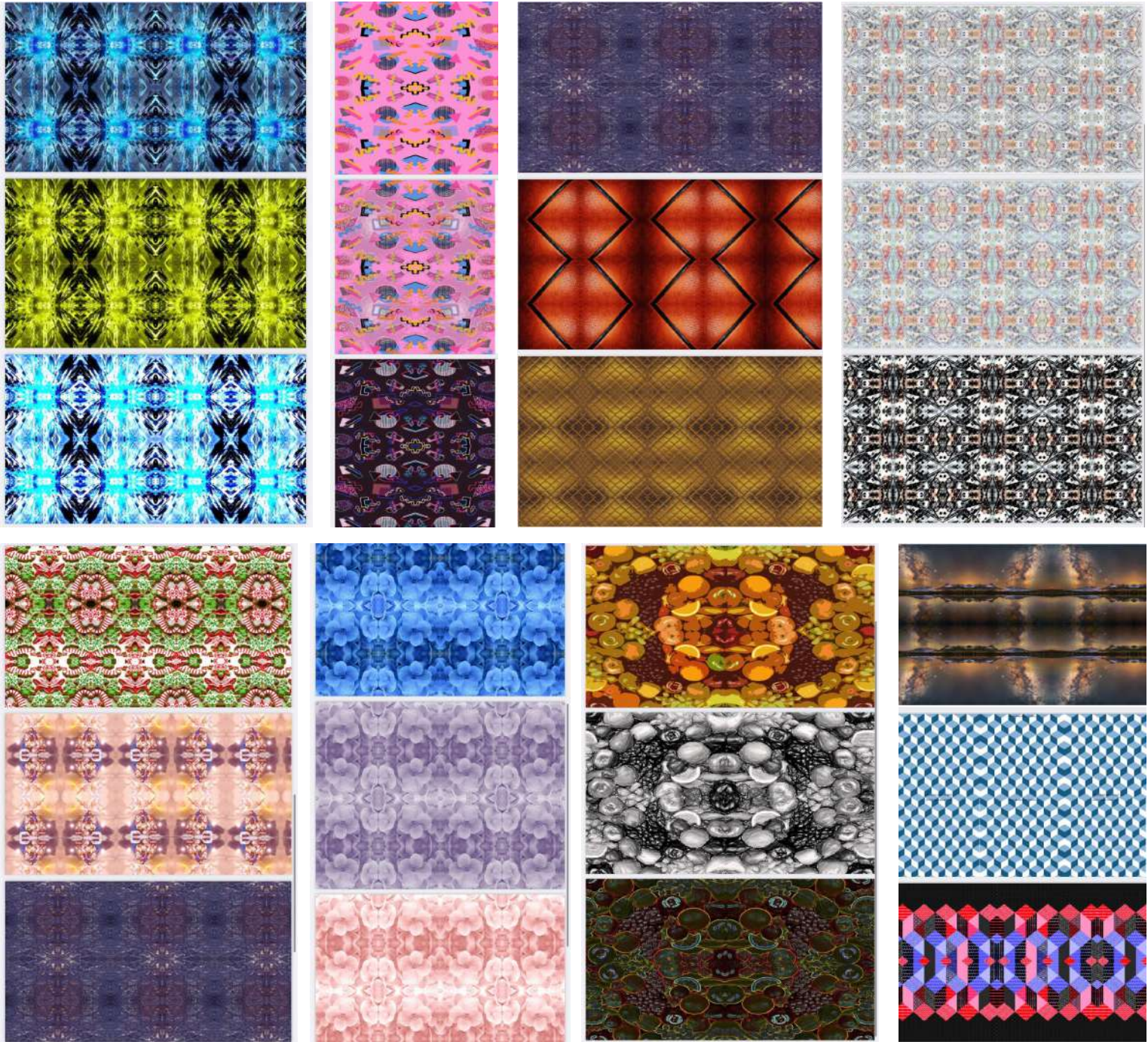
The Royal Institution Christmas lectures this year were aimed at young people and teaching them all about the planet. The first one was extremely relevant to GCSE Geography and the second two were very interesting as extra learning.

[Click here to watch them](#)



D&T ASSEMBLED

Year 8 have been using
Computer Aided Design (CAD)
to produce fabric print designs.



KEY WORD ALERT!

C.A.D. - COMPUTER AIDED DESIGN

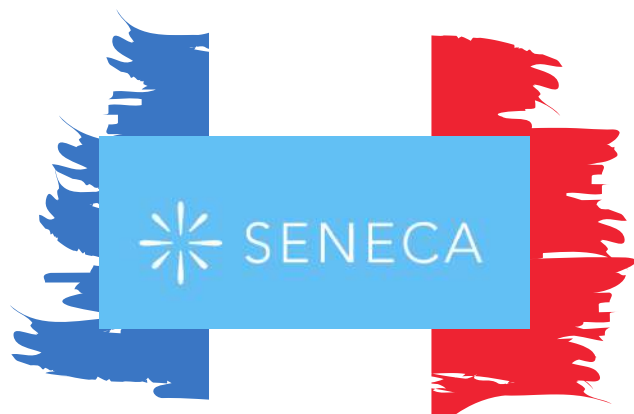
Computer aided design is the use of computers to aid (help) in the creation (making), modification (changes) or analysis of a design.

Positives: increased productivity of the designer, improved quality of design, easy to share

Negatives: High purchase cost for new systems, takes time to learn how to use software, loss of work due to sudden 'crashes'



Well done to the following students who
have put in the most hours on
Seneca and Active Learn as well as
producing excellent work!



**Nevin R., Julianne A.,
Benita S, Arjun T.**



Javel S., Trinity A.

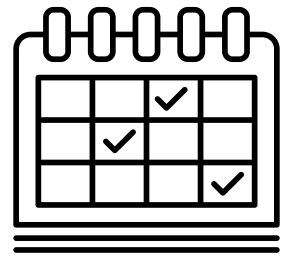


**Isabella C. , Janna S.,
Benita S., Nevin R.,
Julienne A., Chelsy S.,
Ryan V.**



**Rory O'C., Crystal M.,
Maria F. P. , Kaylen R.,
Oscar N.**

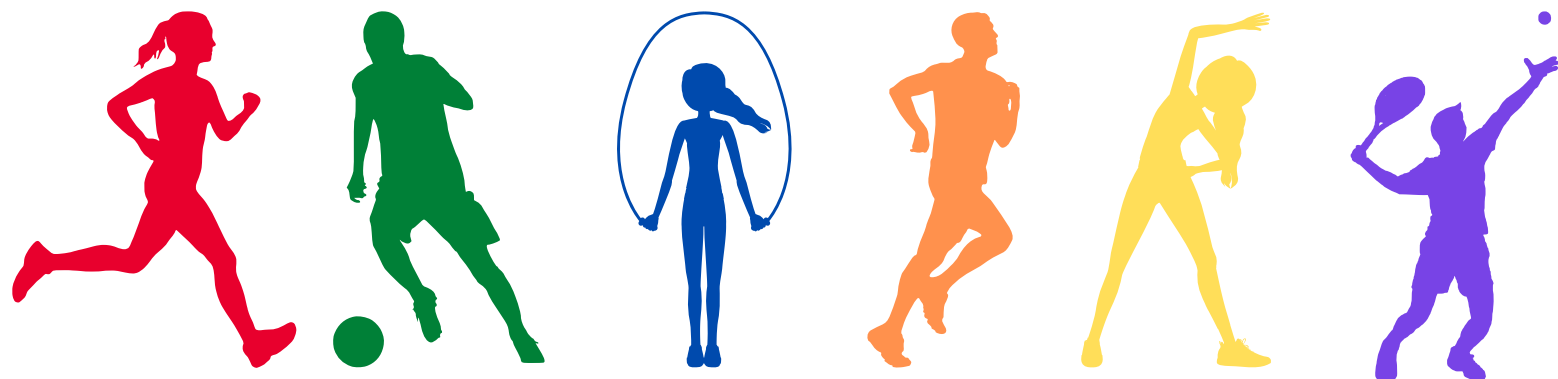
PE



There is a GoogleClassroom for all students for Core PE so that all students to participate in PE.

There is a fitness plan so that all students can maintain a healthy, active lifestyle 5 days a week.

Ideally do one session during PE class and four other session throughout the week.



CAREERS CORNER

This is just a sample of the placements available at Speaker for Schools.

For a full list of placements - [sign in here to search and apply.](#)



SPEAKERS
for schools
EXPERIENCE



Corporate Strategy & Corporate Finance Virtual Work Experience

Laeceum

Available Between

9 9
FEB FEB
2021 2021

Information

Minimum Age 18

Duration 1 Day/s

Industry

Banking & Finance

Department(s)

Strategy & Planning, Management, Banking & Investments

Closing Date

11/01/2021

Farrans Construction Insight Day

Farrans Construction

Available Between

24 24
FEB FEB
2021 2021

Information

Minimum Age 16

Duration 1 Day/s

Industry

Construction

Department(s)

Development

Closing Date

22/01/2021

Tourism Insight Day with VisitBritain/VisitEngland

VisitBritain/VisitEngland

Available Between

15 15
FEB FEB
2021 2021

Information

Minimum Age 14

Duration 1 Day/s

Industry

Tourism

Department(s)

Press & Marketing, PR/Press, Mixed, Marketing & PR, Leisure, Events management/Hospitality, Digital & Online, Corporate, Communications, Business

Closing Date

15/01/2021

Virtual Work Experience with the national tourism board – VisitBritain/VisitEngland

VisitBritain/VisitEngland

Available Between

16 18
FEB FEB
2021 2021

Information

Minimum Age 16

Duration 3 Day/s

Industry

Tourism

Department(s)

Visitor Experience, Research, Publicity, Press & Marketing, PR/Press, Media, Marketing & PR, Leisure, Human Resources, Events, Digital & Online, Design, Corporate Communications, Business

Closing Date

17/01/2021

VWEX: Virtual Work Experience for Y10 within Tesco F&F Clothing

Tesco

Available Between

15 19
FEB FEB
2021 2021

Information

Minimum Age 14

Duration 5 Day/s

Industry

Retail & FMCG

Department(s)

Marketing & PR, Creative, Communications

Closing Date

15/01/2021

VWEX tailored for ambitious open-minded young women – careers within construction

Danny Sullivan Group

Available Between

15 19
FEB FEB
2021 2021

Information

Minimum Age 15

Duration 5 Day/s

Industry

Construction

Department(s)

Trading, Commercial, Advertising Sales & Marketing

Closing Date

15/01/2021

CAREERS CORNER



The SFS Virtual Talks programme allows speakers to remotely connect with students in classrooms and share their unique insights and advice with young people.



DATE: Thursday 14th January 2021

TIME: 17:00 – 18:00

YEAR GROUP: KS3 – 5 / S1 – 6

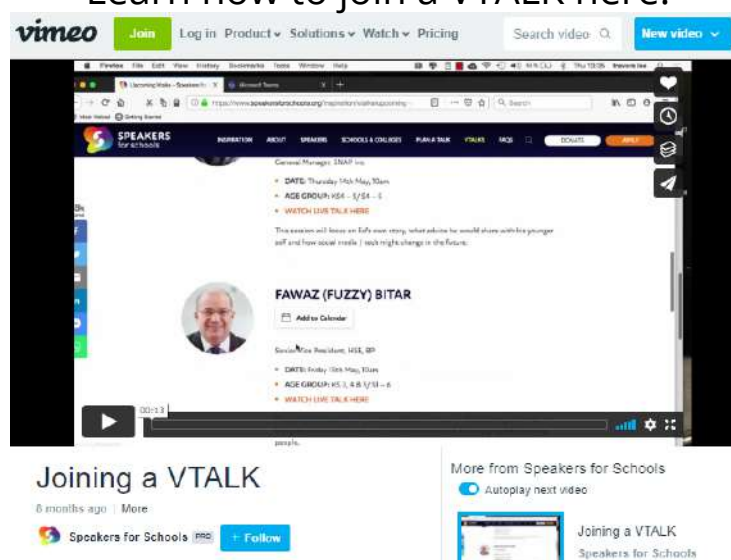
SPEAKER: Shai Weiss, CEO, Virgin Atlantic Airways

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN](#)

Join us to hear Shai Weiss share insights into his own career journey and discuss how he became CEO of Virgin Atlantic. Shai will focus on the importance teamwork, resilience and maintaining mental clarity during difficult times.

Join 10 minutes before the broadcast to be ready

Learn how to join a VTALK here:



SIXTH FORM LEAVERS 2020 DESTINATIONS



Abigail Bute

University of Nottingham

Studying: Sociology

Congratulations!



Dominik Chlebowski

University of Lincoln

Studying: Marketing Management

Congratulations!

Simya Campos Duarte

University of Northampton

Studying: International Business



Mary Ann Cooke

University of Hertfordshire

Studying: Social Work



Shannon Cutmore

University of Sussex

**Studying: Primary and Early
Years Education
(with Qualified Teacher Status)**



Ayse Demiroglu

University of Roehampton

**Studying: Primary Education
(Qualified Teacher Status)
KS1/KS2**



Congratulations!

Congratulations!

Chissola Da Conceicao

University of Manchester

**Studying: Geography with
Professional Placement**



Eugene Denkyirah

Nottingham Trent University

Studying: Computer Science



REMOTE EDUCATION 10 TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS

Remote education ensures continuous learning outside the classroom. For parents and carers, remote education isn't always straightforward and there can be a number of factors they need to consider, especially around ensuring their children feel comfortable and are familiar with the whole concept. That's why we've created this guide to help parents and carers support their child in getting the most out of their remote education experience.

1. TAKE AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING

As a parent or carer, your school may have explained how remote education works already, but children may still need help. Take an active interest in their learning and help support them whenever they need a helping hand.



2. MONITOR YOUR CHILD'S COMMUNICATION AND ONLINE ACTIVITY

It's important to remind your child that despite being at home, the same level of behaviour and conduct exists as if they were at school. Encourage them to remain polite, remember their manners and not to post or send any negative comments just because they are behind a computer.



3. ESTABLISH A DAILY SCHEDULE AND ROUTINE

Working from home and trying to learn in a more casual setting that children might associate more with play and a degree of freedom might take a bit of getting used to. Try to stick to a daily routine and use the timetable/schedule that schools have sent home to help children keep on top of their daily learning.



4. ENCOURAGE SCREEN BREAKS AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AWAY FROM DEVICES

Remote learning will inevitably require more interaction with computers, laptops and tablets. Teachers will invariably advise on screen breaks; however, it doesn't hurt to keep a check on their time online or encourage them to get some fresh air/exercise.



5. ENSURE YOUR LEARNING DEVICE IS IN PUBLIC SPACE IN THE HOME

It's important to consider where your PC or laptop is placed if live video is being used. Try to keep the background neutral, with no personal information visible and move learning devices out of the bedroom as this could be deemed inappropriate.



6. IMPLEMENT SAFETY CONTROLS AND PRIVACY RESTRICTIONS ON APPS AND SOFTWARE

Dependant on how your school implements remote education, your child may be required to download certain software or apps. Whilst these are likely to be relatively safe to use, like any other new app or platform, parents should still implement safety controls as a precaution.



7. ENSURE YOUR CHILD ONLY USES OFFICIAL SCHOOL COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

It's important that all communication with teachers and school staff is directed through approved school channels, whether that be through the school's online portal or the relevant secure messaging site.



9. MAINTAIN FEEDBACK WITH TEACHERS

Engage in communication with teachers where possible, and try to feed back progress and development as well as any helpful suggestions around the learning process. Be transparent but remain professional and only use official channels to communicate.



8. FAMILIARISE YOURSELF WITH RELEVANT SCHOOL POLICIES

Schools should have a policy on remote education that they can share with parents. Familiarise yourself with this and ensure you know what is expected of teachers and your child during lessons, both online and offline.



10. MONITOR YOUR CHILD'S WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH

Remote education will likely mean that your child won't get the same level of social interaction and might not see their friends for a while. Keep a check on their wellbeing and try to encourage them to get out as much as they can. Whilst learning from home might seem fun and exciting to start with, missing out on seeing their friends every day might take its toll.

