



# NEWSLETTER

6<sup>th</sup> April 2020

**Years 7 and 8**

Hello again Year 7 and Year 8,

I hope that you are all well.

The Year 7 and 8 team of tutors and I have been busy calling you all last week. We had an online meeting on TEAMS on Thursday (it was so nice to see all my colleagues!) and we all agreed that we really enjoy catching up with you and your families and we are glad to hear that you are all doing so well and that many of you are able to access the work on TEAMS. Over the next two weeks you may not receive a call as it is the Easter holidays and some staff members will not be available. However, if you do receive a call, please do let the staff member know if you are struggling with anything – as I said last week, the reason that we are doing this is we want to make sure we can help resolve your problems at this difficult time.

Over the next two weeks (The Easter holidays) we will be having a break. Although Mini WES will still be open for those students who are eligible to come in. We will not be setting you the usual weekly tasks. However, you will be set a smaller revision task just to keep your brains ticking over. This will also give those of you who haven't got a grip of this new way of learning, a chance to catch up and hand in any work due.

*Many of you have given feedback during your phone calls about the work that has been set on Office 365 and how easily your sons are accessing it. So that we can collate this information easily and make sure that we are supporting students as best we can, we'd be grateful if you could fill in this survey before Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April:*

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=T\\_RtZGf1r0KbB32KQY1B2ImjbgCQyk9PsuJAE3r2c0xUOEJKTOMxQlpKNkdHVEtHMTdZTVhaMDZTUi4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=T_RtZGf1r0KbB32KQY1B2ImjbgCQyk9PsuJAE3r2c0xUOEJKTOMxQlpKNkdHVEtHMTdZTVhaMDZTUi4u)

## **WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP YOURSELF?**

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### **Continue to learn and READ!**

As well as the schoolwork there are other things you should/could be doing like reading!

You may have read in last week's newsletter that I am reading a book about medieval life in England.

This week I learnt that if you really wanted to go on a pilgrimage but were just too busy, you could pay someone else to go for you! I'm not sure how you would check that they had been, maybe ask them to buy a souvenir. I also learnt that in 1340 you could buy a conger eel or 24 doves for three shillings and six pence (one shilling = 12 pence). They were for eating...yummy.

### **Be creative**

**Make sure that you check your Form TEAM as all your form tutors will have set you an assignment. I believe it's some origami!**

**Ms Madsen, Head of Art writes:**

The William Ellis Make a Wish Project - 1000 origami cranes

There is an ancient Japanese legend that says that anyone who folds 1000 origami paper cranes will be granted a wish. Paper cranes are also a symbol of community and healing. Couldn't we all do with some magic right now?

We hope that students, teachers, and families can take part by making as many cranes as possible. They can be made from any type of paper and we hope you can be creative using magazines, flyers, newspapers or old wrapping paper! When we return to school, we will create an installation.

**There are instructions on how to make a square and how to fold a crane in your tutor group on TEAMS.** This is a lovely activity to do as a family over Easter so we hope you will get involved!



Here are some that were made by Ms Maclennan last week.

**Ms Damms writes:**

**We also have a great recipe for you all to try. It's from Hamza in 8F.**

## **Hamzah's Salad – Shafout**

You can be quite flexible with the quantities you choose to use for this traditional (and beautiful) Yemeni salad.

### **Ingredients:**

Some wholemeal/brown bread slices (bread with seeds is good)  
500g (a large carton) full fat natural yoghurt  
Half a cup of milk  
2 cloves of garlic  
Pinch of dried dill  
Pinch of coriander  
1 or 2 tomatoes  
1 spring onion  
Fresh parsley

The salad part:

Half a lettuce  
One small cucumber  
One carrot  
One spring onion  
Pomegranate

### **Method:**

Cut or shred the wholemeal bread to make small pieces then put them in a bowl.  
Blend all the ingredients in the top list: the natural yoghurt, half a cup of milk, 2 cloves of garlic, the pinch of dill and of coriander, the tomatoes, which you can roughly chop first and the sliced spring onion.

Chop the salad ingredients quite finely.

Put the salad on top of the blended ingredients. Lastly put the pomegranate seeds on top and serve cold.



**Mr Forbat, Head of Music writes:**

William Ellis Music Department is excited to be able to offer online instrumental lessons whilst the schools are shut. This is a reminder; parents of students who learn an instrument at school should already have received an email about this. Please ensure you have **filled in the form in the link by Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April to let us know if you would like online lessons:**

[Form for expressing interest in music lessons](#)

If you have any questions, please email Mr Forbat, Head of Music [forbat@williamellis.camden.sch.uk](mailto:forbat@williamellis.camden.sch.uk)

Here's a picture of William Ellis boys singing as part of the Royal Albert Hall concert, moments before the country shut down!



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### **Online Clubs**

**We are also pleased to let you know of our very first Online After School Club.** It will run on Wednesdays in April, the first day will be on the 8th April.

The online club will be running via Zoom from 5-6.30pm. When students sign up, we will send over some more information on how to use Zoom.

This month, designer [Hanna Schrage](#) will be introducing students to 3D animation using the software Cinema4D. Please see the example below and the attached poster with more information. **In this workshop students will need access to a computer.**

## **Take comfort in the world outside**

As you know, if you've read the previous newsletter, the Altmann – Brown family are lucky enough to have a little garden with a small pond. I told you last week that I was very excited that so many amphibians have made their home in our pond. On Tuesday I thought disaster had struck as many of the tadpoles had died and our two small goldfish seem to find them rather tasty. Happily, things seem to be back to normal and hundreds of tadpoles are growing up fast. They need to, as the bigger they are, the less likely they are to become dinner for the fish! We also seem to have a Robin nesting somewhere in the garden, I haven't found the nest yet but I hope they are more successful than the Robins last year – their nest was attacked by some Magpies who ate all the chicks!

Please do try and enjoy the natural world as much as you can, even if you don't have a garden. When you go for your daily outdoor exercise see how many different birds you can identify and look them up online.

## **Be active**

Ms Brown, my wife, is keeping up with Joe Wicks and jogging and I am going out on my bike as much as I can. I'm having to learn how to do some tricky repairs myself, Youtube has been very helpful! We got our table tennis table out on Saturday and my eldest son beat me 3-1 in games (each game is up to 21). My youngest son is learning to enjoy jogging, he's trying to improve on his times using the Strava app.

Please do stay active, it's so good for the body and mind!

## **OVER TO YOU?**

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We will be sending out something like this every week – but want to include some stuff from you, too. So, let us know what is helping you out, or what you would like to celebrate.

**Here's some fantastic artwork from Jasper in Year 8.....**

And here's  
equally  
art from  
7



some  
impressive  
Noah in Year



**Arian in Year 7 has been creative with his Lego...**



**Remember to create a schedule. See the example on the next page. It's for a school day but you could adapt it for the holidays.**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Get up! Shower and get dressed.				
	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
	Indoor physical activity				
	Lesson 1				
	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
	Lesson 2				
	Break/Lunch	Break/Lunch	Break/Lunch	Break/Lunch	Break/Lunch
	Lesson 3				
	Daily outdoor exercise				
	Music/games/gaming	Music/games/gaming	Music/games/gaming	Music/games/gaming	Music/games/gaming
	Help around the home				
	Read	Read	Read	Read	Read
	Dinner time				
	Music/TV/games	Music/TV/games	Music/TV/games	Music/TV/games	Music/TV/games
	Bedtime without phone or screens				

**PLEASE KEEP LOOKING AT THE WES WEBSITE FOR UPDATES...**

**Any questions not answered on the website? Send me an email.**

[altmann@williamellis.camden.sch.uk](mailto:altmann@williamellis.camden.sch.uk)

**Stay safe**

*Mr Altmann*