



NEWSLETTER

18th May 2020

Years 7 and 8

Hello, Year 7 and Year 8,

I hope that you are well.

As the sun is streaming through my window this Sunday afternoon, I am reminded of the fact that we are now allowed to go out for exercise, more than once, every day, so please do try and regularly get some fresh air! Remember, I have created a daily timetable for you that incorporates leisure time. After finishing this Newsletter, I'm off for a cycle to my mother's house, I'm not allowed to go in, as she is on the vulnerable list, so I talk to her from the front doorstep or sometimes from the back garden.

The Year 7 and 8 team of tutors and other staff members will continue to call you all. Remember when you receive a call, please do let the staff member know if you are struggling with anything – the reason that we are doing this is we want to make sure we can help resolve your problems at this difficult time.

You should now have received the hard copy of your Summer Term 1 work booklet. These are also in your class TEAM in the class materials section as a PDF or a Word document. If, for some reason you have not yet received one, please email admin@williamellis.camden.sch.uk

You can fill these in on the hard copy or alternatively you can fill in the word document. Either upload a picture of the hard copy or upload the relevant pages on the Word document each time you finish an assignment. Please make sure that you try to stick to the deadlines given by your teachers. It is obviously better if you are doing the assignments when they are set rather than leave them all to do later. It also helps with your daily routine.

We have been delivering laptops to some families. We are currently prioritising students in years 10 and 12 but **we will have a small number available for Year 7 and 8 boys as well.** We also have a small stock of basic stationery resources, pens, pencils, exercise books etc. **Please contact us if you feel that you need to access either of these.**

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP YOURSELF?

Continue to READ and learn!

I am currently reading a book that I started a while ago, but it then disappeared. I have recently found it on my youngest son's bookshelf...it's called *Danubia* and is about the rambling Holy Roman Empire, more specifically about the ruling Habsburg family. One of whom, Rudolf II (1576-1612) was a great collector. He had a '*lion and tiger which wandered around Prague Castle more or less as they wished...Surviving account books are dotted with references to compensation paid to surviving family members or to mutilated attack survivors!*'

Here is a link to our website with information about the FREE CAMDEN LIBRARY.

<https://www.williamellis.camden.sch.uk/page/?title=Free+ebooks+from+Camden+Libraries&pid=1288&action=saved>

Be creative

Make sure that you check your Form TEAM as all your form tutors will have set you an assignment. We've had Origami, if you haven't tried it yet please do so, it's great fun.

For the next few weeks we have a Happiness Project that will be assigned to your Tutor TEAM so please do go on and have a look.

I was fairly creative last week, having hosted the WES staff quiz. Here are a couple of questions for you:

1. Here is a French idiom

Quand les poules auront des dents

And here is the literal translation

When chickens have teeth

What is the English equivalent?

2. Here is a German idiom.

Das ist ein Katzensprung

And here is the literal translation

That's a cat's jump

What is the English equivalent?

By the way the answers to the previous questions (from two weeks ago) were

1. A wombat and 2. Farting!

Take comfort in the world outside

LEGS!

Many of our tadpoles now have back legs! You can see this one has them, if you look at its shadow. I look forward to the mass exodus of tiny little frogs in a few weeks' time. Having said that, my wife and I pondered about this as we gazed into the pond on Saturday morning. There will be a lot less activity once the tadpoles have gone.



Earlier that morning my wife had to shoo away a fox from the side of the pond. Perhaps it fancied fish and frog for breakfast. I had spotted a fox near our garden earlier this year in March. Here it is on top of a neighbour's shed snacking on some bird food. It could have been the same animal.



On a walk in some woods in Hertfordshire on Saturday afternoon, I heard a Cuckoo. Sadly, these birds have declined in numbers quite dramatically in recent years, so it was a joy to hear it. They are very interesting birds as not only do they migrate every year from Africa but when they do arrive, they lay their eggs in other birds nests and let the other birds raise their young! Extraordinary

Be active

We all are continuing to stay active here in the Altmann/Brown residence and we have gone a little bit further afield when exercising, as I mentioned, we were lucky enough to be able to go walking in the countryside.

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

OVER TO YOU?

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.

Monty here -7F.

I read a really good book that I would like to recommend. It is called 'The Goldsmith and the Master Thief' by Tonke Dragt.

I really liked it because it was full of adventure and mischievous characters. Also, I thought that the book had no downs but a lot of ups the whole way through I really liked it and I think others will like it to. It was an adventure the whole way through.

I also saw 'The Letter to the King' it was on Netflix. It is by the same author. The letter to the king is also a book that I would like to recommend.

Another recipe from Ms Damms 8F cookbook.

Spaghetti alla Puttanesca

This piquant pasta dish was made beautifully by Francis with the help of Alonso. This would serve 4–6 people.

Ingredients:

- 2 cloves of garlic
- ½ teaspoon dried chilli flakes
- 8 anchovy fillets (canned or bottled)
- 4 tablespoons of olive oil
- 2 x tins of tomatoes (chopped or chop whole tinned ones yourself)

100g black olives
1 tablespoon of capers

500g pasta, e.g. spaghetti or fusilli

Method:

Warm two thinly sliced garlic cloves, the chilli flakes and the chopped anchovy fillets with the four tablespoons of olive oil. Stir as it cooks for a couple of minutes. Add the tinned tomatoes and turn up the heat. Cook down for about 20 minutes. Meanwhile cook the pasta in boiling salted water (we used fusilli, as you can see from the picture) until tender (about 11 minutes, depending on the variety you use). Add the sliced olives and capers to the sauce then mix all together and serve.



Marvin's recipe for the last of the seasonal elderflower blossom (in his own words)...

Marvin's Elderflower cordial :

Ingredients

- 12-15 elderflower heads... more the better
- a lemon
- 750g caster sugar
- 750ml water
- 15g citric acid (*hard to find... i dont really know the difference it makes though cos i made it without and it tasted the same*)

Method

- 1) heat the sugar and water in a pan. Bring it to the boil and then take it off the heat to cool.
Dont touch it.... it hurts :)
- 2) in the meantime, wash the flowers and cut the lemon into thin slices.
- 3) put the lemon (including pips & peel) into the sugar water with the flowers and acid (if u have it)
- 4) cover and leave overnight or longer if you like it strong
- 5) strain and enjoy :) dilute it though otherwise it tastes disgusting

Why not try one of our writing walks – what can you see, what can you spot?

This is a series of outdoor walk challenges. We are suggesting you have up to 1 hour on each walk to locate and write or record notes on things we think you might be able to spot not far from your homes. If you wish to take a photo too (but not of a person unless they give you clear permission), go ahead.

Send your completed lists – one at a time – to your form tutor or Mr Altmann via Teams or email. The three best entries each time will be published and rewarded. Feel free to do them in any order:



WALK A

1. Something whose movement interests you
2. Something that gleams in the sun
3. Something fragile
4. A particular sound
5. Something that sticks (goosegrass, a burr, a thistle head?)
6. A distant feature

WALK B

1. A piece of graffiti/street art/pavement art that is new this year
2. An unusual or particularly special rainbow NHS tribute
3. A queue in which someone is reading a book or newspaper
4. A joke written on something/a funny sign
5. A printed spelling mistake
6. A poster/advert for something that couldn't go ahead/we can't do right now
7. A cat sitting on a windowsill
8. A bike or a dog on a balcony

WALK C (competitive nature-spotting; you may need to look up some of these!)

Birds

1. A green parakeet (5 points)
2. Two parakeets together or one woodpecker (10 points)
3. A thrush (15 points)
4. A swallow, swift or house marten (10 points)
5. A heron (15 points --- but often to be found in Regent's Park!)

Other things in the sky

1. A cumulus cloud (5 points)
1. A cirrus cloud (10 points)
2. A rainbow (15 points)
3. A brimstone butterfly (bright yellow) (10 points)
4. A vapour trail (10 points)

At ground level

1. A buttercup (5 points)

2. A grasshopper or cricket (10 points)
3. A dandelion clock (5 points)
4. Cow parsley (5 points)
5. Any wild blue flower that you find (10 points)

Trees

1. London plane (10 points)
2. Hawthorn or blackthorn (10 points – may be more of a wild hedge)
3. Oak tree (5 points)
4. A fir/pine tree (5 points)
5. A mulberry tree (15 points)

Miscellaneous (all earning between 10 and 15 points, depending...)

1. A puddle (that holds a good reflection or has bubbles)
2. A path where the trees join overhead to make a tunnel/shelter
3. Something you are proud of finding/spotting
4. A parent bird with chick(s), e.g. duck with ducklings, swan with cygnets
5. A squirrel squirrelling something...

Here is an interesting link sent to me by a parent. It's an animation activity that you may wish to try out.
<https://www.screenskills.com/careers/careers-resources/animation-lessons/>

I received this in an email recently. Why not try it out...the link is below the picture.



OPERATION BLETCHLEY

YOUR VIRTUAL CODEBREAKING CHALLENGE

SUPPORTING

ARF

THE SOLDIERS

CHARITY

The Army's National Charity

Urgent:

The country needs your codebreakers now.

Virtually cover 50 miles on foot in 31 days, from Bletchley Park to the Cabinet War Rooms in London, using a phone or fitness tracker. STOP.

Receive updates and codes to crack at regular milestones, direct to your email inbox. STOP.

With levels to suit every age group, Junior, Codebreaker, or Cypher Expert, the whole family can play their part in this effort. STOP.

For advanced operatives - a challenging 100-mile mission behind enemy lines in France. STOP.

The mission begins on 1st July 2020. STOP.

Share the virtual codebreaking challenge with your students and their families.

[Full mission details](#)

Here's the link...

The challenge combines physical and mental challenges within a historical context. It's a great way to bring the whole family together as it is designed to be inclusive for all ages and abilities - there are 3 levels of difficulty to choose from.

operationbletchley.soldierscharity.org

Remember to create a schedule. Here is one as an example below, it's for a school day but you could adapt it for the upcoming holidays as well.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:30	Get up! Shower and get dressed.				
8:30	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
9:00	Indoor or outdoor physical activity				
9:30	Lesson 1				
10:30	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
11:00	Lesson 2				
12:00	Break/Lunch	Break/Lunch	Break/Lunch	Break/Lunch	Break/Lunch
13:00	Lesson 3				
14:00	Outdoor exercise				
15:00	Music/games/gaming	Music/games/gaming	Music/games/gaming	Music/games/gaming	Music/games/gaming
16:00	Help around the home				
17:00	Read	Read	Read	Read	Read
18:00	Dinner time				
19:00	Music/TV/games	Music/TV/games	Music/TV/games	Music/TV/games	Music/TV/games
21:00	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

Stay safe

Mr Altmann