

STUDENT BRIEFING

Week commencing 6 July 2020

LOVE

“Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins” (Peter 4:8)

Important Dates

Forward Notice

As we learn of further useful/important dates for you whilst we are not working in school, we will put them here for you.

Network Rail - Trespassing On Railway Lines

Due to the very high level of trespassing on the tracks by young people in our local area, Network Rail in partnership with Learn Live are working to help raise awareness to students across the UK educating them about the dangers of the train tracks. Please watch the video through the link below.

<https://learnliveuk.com/network-rail-primary-school-safety-talk/>

Message for Year 11s

A letter was sent via e-mail to your parents and carers giving updated information about the prom. Please ask your parents and carers to look at their e-mail accounts for this.

Careers notes

1. Swindon College Virtual Art Final Year Exhibition 2020 – At this time of year, Swindon College usually invites students from schools in Swindon to attend an exhibition that showcases the work of the degree students and the Level 2 and Level 3 Art and Design students. The College is offering a virtual exhibition, which you can access on <https://schoolofart.mypportfolio.com>. This would be a good opportunity for you to see if this is something you would be interested in studying after your GCSEs.
2. Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust Careers Guidance – GWH is disappointed that it cannot offer work experience placements this year (for obvious reasons!). However, they have sent us some links that they think will help students who are interesting in investigating careers in medicine and health care. Please see the links below and give feedback to Mrs Sanders on what they are like for you:
 - a. A day in the life of the Great Western Hospital: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DWZsvtEIQS8>
 - b. Health Care Careers website: <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/>
 - c. Exploring health care roles: <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles>

- d. Find your career by completing this test: <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/FindYourCareer/intro>
- e. Resources for each career: <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/career-planning/resources>
- f. Nursing Careers: <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/nursing-careers>
- g. Career planning: <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/career-planning>
- h. Step into the NHS: <https://www.stepintothens.nhs.uk/>

3. The Royal Agricultural University – The RAU has asked for us to pass on this message to year 10 and year 11 students:

The RAU is keen to learn more about the plans of students in our local area, and whether or not they intend to study at university. We'll be using this information to help inform what the university offers in the future, including our outreach activity with local students. Please could you complete [this questionnaire](#) by Monday 13th July? It is completely anonymous and should only take a few minutes to complete. We're really grateful for your help!

The RAU is also running a virtual summer school, which is taking place on 6 July 2020 to 10 July 2020. This is aimed at students in years 10 and 11. It is worth investigating what this is about and visiting their website to see if there are any courses that might interest you in the future, especially if you are interested in an management or agricultural career. You can find out more information [here](#) .

Please look on the next page for an important notice about student leadership.

Student Leadership – Your College Needs You!

It is a truth universally acknowledged that students have more opportunities to have an impact on their community than they ever realise.

In last week's *Life in Lockdown* blog, Mr Matyla talked about how you have the power to make a difference in your College's community. We now invite you to take this opportunity to be that person who does make that difference to our daily lives.

Before we return in the next academic year, we would like to get started on making plans for how our College is going to be a place of dynamic change in the student body. All of you do care about your community. All of you do want to make a difference. All of you do want to work together to make a better place in which we work and live.

We do this through our student leadership body.

Many of you out there have already impressed students and teachers alike with your organisational skills, your resilience, your leadership qualities. You know that change takes time to happen, but you want to be a part of that change.

Student leadership is open to students in all year groups. Every single person in this College has the potential to be an agent for leadership and change. Every single person has something to give.

If you are interested in taking part in student leadership, getting excellent experience that will help you with future college and employment applications, and having the chance to make a real difference, contact Mr Matyla on: AMatyla@stjosephscollege.net

Don't be afraid. Student leadership is for you. Contact Mr Matyla now. You will not regret it!

The next briefing will be Friday, 10 July 2020.

Please look on the next page for a blog entry from one of our students.

Life in Lockdown



Quarantine has been pretty quiet, It's actually very odd for me since I got used to the daily noise of cars and people talking but now there's barely any of that. I have been really stressed out at times with online work and I'm still getting used to it. So I figured something out, I decided to do one piece of work one teacher each day. Don't get it? One day I'll do English, the next day I'll do art and on and on.

I feel as though life is a bit better for me in quarantine. I didn't get as much sleep before when school was still open so I felt like I wanted to doze off in class. But, now I feel so refreshed. I get so much sleep and I'm way more energetic than usual!

I've been feeling very insecure, not just about how I look or how my body looks but my skills in specific subjects. Art especially. I get very jealous when people are better than me but I don't want to show it, I tried improving but I just can't seem to do it. I do hope I get better.

I've been on an app called *Wattpad* recently, that's a lie. I've actually had the app for a long time and a few weeks ago, I began writing my own story. It's not popular but one of my good friends read it and I tend to update it every week just so I can reply to her comments! It's very fun and sort of relaxes me. I'm currently at Chapter 24 and I'm starting a new Arc! I've written around 1,000+ for each chapter, sometimes less and sometimes more.

I've been a bit into the news recently, mainly for the Black Lives Matter movement and the Yemen Crisis! The world is in a frenzy right now and it's terrible. People of Colour are being discriminated against and a country is being starved. My sister made a painting of a man named George Floyd. He is the man who died at the hands of police. When he died, people had enough. Protests all over the world broke out, people of different culture and nationality joined together to get justice for those who died at the hands of police. Say their names! The crisis in Yemen is leaving millions of children starved and without home or education. It's one of the biggest humanitarian crises in the world! More than 24 million people living there. Children are being killed, hospitals and homes are destroyed leaving people without medication or help. What's worse is that children are facing malnutrition, futures are being robbed. We need to help them!

Shanaia Da Cunha, Year 8

Don't forget: you, too, can write for this blog. To do so, please contact Mr Matyla on: AMatyla@stjosephscollege.net .