



18 June 2020

Dear Year 7 Students and Families

Hello!

I hope you are all keeping safe and well. You will remember I wrote to you at the beginning of the summer term. I wanted to use this opportunity to say thank you to all The Hayesbrook School families for the support that has been given to the students over the last 12 weeks. It's so pleasing to see so many students submitting outstanding pieces of work, despite working in a totally new environment.

Over the past few weeks we have all been able to enjoy the glorious sun, so I have tried to spend as much time as possible outside. I must admit my BBQ skills have vastly improved and I've even successfully made pizzas on the BBQ. You might also remember that I was in the early stages of waiting for my plants to blossom and eagerly awaiting for the return of my perennials. I thought I'd add a couple of pictures of the progress. Achievement points are up for grabs if you can name the plants in the photos....



Now I am equally anticipating the return of the Premier League season. As all the students will be aware I am a huge sports fan which has made the last 12 weeks even tougher.

Well done to all the year 7 students who produced letters, poems and pictures to send to Tonbridge House Care Home. The residents have been incredibly touched by your efforts and have loved hearing about what you have been up to during the lockdown.

Show My Homework

I have seen some excellent engagement with work online. Well done to those of you who have been submitting high quality work regularly. The tutor groups with the best engagement as a whole has been 7E and 7Y. A huge well done to all the students that have consistently submitted excellent work - this is the vast majority of you.

In addition teachers have been issuing achievement points throughout the lockdown. Here is the current tutor standings for achievement points since lock down:

1 st	7E
2 nd	7H
Joint 3 rd	7Y 7A

There are a small number students that have had issues submitting work on SMHW. Sometimes it may be simpler to hand-write the work and then submit a photo. If you chose to submit a photo of your work please ensure that the image is clear and the work is neat. If in doubt about the types of resources to use for a certain subject, send the teacher a message on SMHW and they will give you some suggestions. If you are using SMHW on your mobile phone you may have difficulty submitting work online. If you'd like to set up SMHW on a laptop or computer to submit work more easily, but can't remember your login details, and for any other SMHW queries, please contact secretary@hayesbrook.kent.sch.uk

Mr Upton's tips for a successful school day at home:

- I always set an alarm so I don't lose any of the day and I am ready to start work early
- I get up, and get washed and dressed, to feel more proactive
- I have breakfast to give my body and brain the energy they need
- I find a suitable workspace away from distractions as far as possible.

Throughout the remainder of this academic year I will continue to closely monitor SMHW and carry on with my keeping in touch phone calls. Me, Mrs Concannon and school leaders have been contacting families to ensure you have all the support that you need during these challenging times. It is vitally important that during these times we stay connected in order to support one another. If you have any concerns or any points you'd like to raise please do get in contact secretary@hayesbrook.kent.sch.uk.

Subject Messages

In Science, Mrs Christmas has said that all Year 7 have been really enjoying their topic on Space this term. She has been delighted with the fantastic 'Flight Survival Guides' that you have been producing! The Science department is also looking forward to setting some simple home science experiments for you to complete over the remaining weeks of the term, plus organising some virtual science trips.

In English, teachers have been impressed by your short stories. You have been practising all the key skills you have learnt over the year – comprehension, summarising, inference, analysis, opinion and analysis. Remember when analysing there is never a wrong answer if you can explain it. The English department has been encouraged by the fantastic work being submitted - keep it up.

In Maths, Mrs Hahn reports that many of you have engaged wonderfully, and the whole department has been overly impressed with excellent research pieces on famous mathematicians. Some of the work produced has included fascinating and engaging research on Alan Turning, Pascal and Pythagoras coming in. Make sure you keep an eye out for the virtual tour of Bletchley Park and code breaking activities coming up in the next few weeks.

Tutor Messages

7H- Mrs Gillespie

Hello 7H! I Hope you are all okay in lockdown and have been able to enjoy some of the sunny weather. I moved house on the day lock down came into force so it's been a bit surreal for me and my children. We do however have a lovely garden so I've been working outside a lot and, when out taking my dogs for walks, have populated most of the local woods with rope swings. (If you live near Southborough common go and check them out....I made 4 with my Son and Daughter).I would just like to say how impressed I've been with your continued engagement with online lessons. Some of the work you have produced for me has been excellent and I've seen that other teachers are also getting

some great work back from you - well done! Keep working hard till the end of term and then hopefully we can all enjoy a lovely sunny summer holiday. Missing you all! Take care.

7A - Mr Milner-Pearce

Hello 7A! Have I missed you? Yes! You guys are a huge part of my life and I miss our time that we have together in tutor time. Lockdown happened just after I had moved into my new house so when I am not preparing lessons or doing school work I have been King of DIY. Some of the jobs I have tackled so far are:

- Moving light fixtures
- Changing light switches
- Replacing a garden gate and surround
- Cutting down lots of trees and finding the garden.

I hope you are all coping well. Keep being kind, doing your work and generally being awesome. When term is finished I hope that you will be able to take a break from all of your hard work so that when we can get back into school safely you are all refreshed and ready to win all the achievement points again. It is a pleasure to have you as part of my family and I hope you are looking after yourselves.

7Y – Miss McGuire

Hello Year 7. I have really missed you since I have been away on maternity leave, nevermind lock down. I have missed my lovely tutor group 7Y especially. During lockdown I have been getting to know my new little boy (his name is River). I have been spending it having lots of cuddles and going on walks with my dog Rolo. I hope that when the last term is over you can really enjoy your summer holidays and spend a stress free time with your families really enjoying doing lots of fun activities together.

7E – Mr Tanton

Hi 7E, I really hope you are well. Lockdown has been a strange time and I know we are all learning to adapt. Of course it hasn't been entirely without benefits. I have enjoyed spending much more time with Daisy, my dog, and being able to catch up on a few Netflix series and a few games, though I still haven't played Fortnite. It won't be long now until the holidays and not having to worry about scheduling work time around parents and siblings. Hopefully you can all enjoy many of the places that will be re-opening soon and we can look forward to sharing stories in September.

Mrs Concannon- Student Manager

I have been so impressed and proud of all the hard work and resilience that everyone in Year 7 has been showing over the last few months. The best part of my day is when I get to speak to some of your families to find out how you are doing. I miss you all and can't wait to catch up with you when we are back together again. In the meantime, stay safe, stay positive and look after yourselves and your families.

Finally I wanted to say how proud I am of every Year 7 student. From such a seamless transition from primary school, to excelling in lessons, it's a pleasure being your Head of Year.

I look forward to welcoming you back to school in the future. Stay safe and have a great summer.

Liam Upton
Head of Year 7