

3rd July 2020

Dear Parent/Carers,

Update:

Having asked teachers to give an indication of the levels of engagement in the work being set, you will have all received an update for your child. I apologise if this came out of the blue and caused some concern. It was simply intended for us to check on student progress and get an idea where the engagement levels were good and where they were not very good.

Since this went home we have had a flurry of work submitted as students have realised that teachers are waiting for the work that has been set. I would like to take this chance to thank parents for chasing where work has not been coming in so that we are able to change reds to amber, and ambers to greens or even gold. We have also been holding invitational meetings in school (with students and their parents) to make sure that the messages are clear and that high expectations are set. Teachers will be letting me know which students have improved their levels of engagement with the remote learning. Please talk to your child about this and about the work they are doing. As always, if your child is unsure what they need to do, please use the systems in place to contact their teachers and the school.

September:

As I am sure you are aware, we are planning for all students to be back in school come September. There may well be things that we need to do differently and we will be in touch with parents when we have more information. In the meantime, one change that we have already determined is that there will be five one hour lessons each day rather than six 50 minute lessons. We have done this to ensure we can maximise learning, reduce movement between lessons and help teachers to plan their teaching more effectively. The start and end times of the school day are not changed.

Boost your language skills:

Spanish

¡Hola chicos y chicas! The MFL department offers you the opportunity to explore the work of main Spanish artists while learning about Spanish history in a journey through *Puertas del Tiempo*.

If you want to expand your knowledge on Spanish culture in a dynamic way, accompany Amelia, one of the Agents of the Ministerio del Tiempo (= *Ministry of Time*). What is el *Ministerio*? A secret Spanish government institution. Their task? To keep history as it is, preventing any events or actions which may alter the past and present.

Want to give it a go and discover Spanish art and history with us? Click on the link to start this secret visit. Enter the password **Wrenschoo120** to access the virtual visit:

<https://view.genial.ly/5e9891cb206ade0e19f1fda4/guide-spanish-art-guide-by-msenero>

Totally optional and interactive - no written work required!

¡Adiós! (The MFL team)

*email Miss Senero at msenero@wren.excalibur.org.uk to get your certificate of completion.

<https://view.genial.ly/5e9891cb206ade0e19f1fda4/guide-spanish-art-guide-by-msenero>

German:

Hallo! Have you ever tried an escape room or fancy doing one? The MFL department offers you the opportunity to learn a new language in a fun and different way to pass the time while being at home!

We have received a letter from Helga, a little girl who lives in Germany and needs to solve a mystery that has occurred in Munich, her hometown...

Want to give it a go and solve the mystery with us? Click on the link to set off on an adventure.

Enter the password **Wrenschoo120** to access the escape room:

<https://view.genial.ly/5e8f8713fba9d40d9e3b2822>

Totally optional and no prior knowledge required!

Tschüss! (The MFL team)

*email Miss Senero at msenero@wren.excalibur.org.uk to get your certificate of completion.

Numeracy Puzzle Competition - Sukoku Challenge

Fill in the puzzle so that every row across, every column down and every 3 by 3 box contains the numbers 1 to 9.

	6			7	2			1
8			1	3	6	5		
		3	4					
2			6	5			3	
		6			7		1	
			2			8	6	4
9		7		8	4			
		8			9		7	
			7	2	1		8	3

What to send in to Mrs Bover (gbover@wren.excalibur.org.uk):

- A picture of your completed puzzle for checking/marking.
- The (honest) time it took you to complete. Ask a friend or family member to time you.

Prizes:

- All submissions will receive Praise Points.
- Fastest and most accurate submissions will be entered for further puzzle competitions next academic year.

Deadline for submissions: Wednesday 15th July 2020

If you would like an Excel version of the puzzle to complete using the computer then please email Mrs Bover.

Junior Maths Challenge

Huge congratulations to our top mathematicians in Years 7 and 8 who took part in the first online version of the UK Mathematics Trust Junior Maths Challenge www.ukmt.org.uk on Thursday. Students were able to take part whether they were in school or working remotely at home. We are immensely proud of how hard they worked in this national competition, answering as many as 25 complex maths problems in just 60 minutes. We expect to receive results from UKMT in time to send them out to students in the last week of term.

Here are just a few of the lovely comments made by students and parents after the event:

"Thanks for entering me into the maths challenge miss. I have just completed it and am very happy with what I was able to do."

"I have had a good time with this challenge. I cannot wait for the score I got."

"It was really tough but I hope I get a good score. Thanks Miss"

"I am really pleased my son worked really hard at each question. It was fascinating for me to watch his thought process and how he went about solving the tasks!"

"He seemed to really enjoy himself this afternoon when he was working through the challenge... Thank you for taking the time to follow up and continue to provide encouragement"

Write to Unite Competition Winners:

We were thrilled to receive so many poems entered into our 'Write to Unite' competition. Mr. Elford has picked a winner from each year group, which can be read in the attachment to the student bulletin. Congratulations to the following students who will receive a prize in the post in the next two weeks:

Year 10: Ella Flitcroft

Year 9: Abeer Makin

Year 8: Sofiyah Dem

Year 7: Sophie Lynch

Black Lives Matters Writing Competition:

We know that so many of our young people have a story to tell about their opinions and views of racial injustice in our country and the US. We invite all students in years 7-10 to write a story of no more than 500 words or a poem to express their feelings on this matter. See the poster attached and send your entries to Mr Elford at: selford@wren.excalibur.org.uk for a chance to be published in the school and to win some prizes.

Art project:

The Art department are inviting students to **reflect on their time in Lockdown** and **create a personal piece of work that illustrates either their experiences** or their vision and feelings about the future. The work can be any media – drawing, painting, photography, sculpture.....whatever is accessible.

We plan to have an exhibition of the work produced when we return to school. Further information and examples of work will be on ClassCharts. The deadline for the piece will be **16th July 2020**.

This work is being set as compulsory for Years 7 and 9 and Year 10 Textiles, 3D and Mrs Coleman's Art class. Miss Taylor's class are currently in the middle of a coursework piece and so this must take priority but they are invited to submit an additional piece if they have time and would like to do so. All work can be submitted within the coursework component.

We would love to see work submitted from students in Years 8 but as work has already been set, it is not compulsory.



Support for families:

Given the current climate, we know that some families are struggling and we would like to support those who need it with a food and essentials parcel before we break up for the summer holidays. If this is something your family would benefit from, please email: jjuster@wren.excalibur.org.uk by Friday 10th July. Requests will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Mrs Jo Juster

Wellbeing – Zoom Relaxation Sessions

The Healthy Minds group is offering free Zoom sessions!

From Monday 8th June to Friday 17th July, we will be delivering two free online relaxation sessions a week. To join these sessions, please click on Zoom Registration below. Please note two, one time only registrations. Once registered, you will receive an email with all the details to join the sessions. You are welcome to join as many sessions as you would like.

Mondays 2.00pm to 2.30pm Registration: [Zoom Registration](#)

Fridays 11.00am - 11.30am Registration: [Zoom Registration](#)

Finally....

Thank you to those parents who have been in contact school to thank staff for the work they have been involved in. It has been a very challenging time for all of us, but I am really proud of the way that staff at The Wren School have managed during constantly changing circumstances, and your recognition of this makes all the difference.

Kind regards,

Mr S Duffy
Interim Principal