

## **Teaching and Learning Newsletter - 3 June 2020**

*Dear Parents, Carers and Students,*

*I hope this message finds you all safe and well, and that everyone managed some form of break over the last week. As we move in to the final half term of this very strange academic year we focus on two very different curriculum areas. This week's focus is on PE and ICT/Computing, two very different curriculum areas.*

*Our new reading initiative is up and running Tommo Reads, and to start us off Mrs Briggs is reading 'The Day I was Erased' by Lisa Tomson. If you have not had chance then students can access via the student area of SMH, and hear the first chapter being read with Mrs Briggs and a very special guest star. You may even want to purchase the book and read along. Each chapter will be shared every Tuesday and Thursday, read by a different member of staff.*

<https://thomastleycc.sharepoint.com/:v:/r/sites/Curriculum/Shared%20Documents/Tommo%20Reads/The%20Day%20I%20was%20Erased%20Chapter%201%20Mrs%20Briggs.mov?csf=1&web=1>

*Stay Safe*

*Mrs Young*

### **PE**

In core PE keeping active has been the name of the game! There have been a variety of fitness based activities to choose from as well as skills based practices. Pupils have been swapping between the two depending on their fitness needs. Now the government has said that outside exercise in a group of 6 is ok so get out there, keep socially distanced and keep your fitness up.

In GCSE PE we have switched to a new learning platform called 'everlearner'. This has enabled pupils to access interactive resources, live teaching and also test their knowledge at different check points.

Mr O'Flynn

### **ICT/Computing**

In over 20 years of teaching I don't think that I have ever seen the need for everyone to develop a robust set of IT skills as required now. I am not surprised at the resilience and adaptability that our learners have displayed in adapting to new ways of working using technology in these strange times.

Work for Information Technologies has consisted of working through a previous exam task providing solutions to the set problem and following the Project Lifecycle model that the course is built around. Students are given a set of data and free rein to choose how to solve the problem.

The work set for year 10 is to prepare to develop their programming skills in the Python programming language. In school this is achieved through all of the computers being identical and running the same

software. Each student has their own account on Dynamic Learning and work has been set on there. An advantage to this way of learning is that it allows for supported skills development at the pace of the learner.

KS3 work is based on preparing for a variety of scenarios. Some students will move to choose Computer Science or IT and others won't at KS4. The work is available on the link <https://sites.google.com/view/teccks3> and covers a variety of skills from spreadsheets to computer programming. Year 7 were just embarking on a programming project using the excellent Scratch software, Year 8 were working through building websites in school, using a software package in school, and now they have moved onto starting to learn to code using Dynamic Learning and Year 9 have completed projects on careers in IT. In preparation for year 10 this term we are moving onto a refresher with basic office skills starting with word processing.

I look forward to seeing the skills developed across the spectrum of my subject being used in work from the whole curriculum. Hopefully we will be back to some normality in the near future. In the meantime, stay safe.

Mr Hardy