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Dear Parents,

As I mentioned in yesterday's parentmail, we would now like to seek your views on the Home Learning provision that we currently have in place for your son. We always knew that this new way of learning, and teaching, would provide challenges and we would now like to understand what works well and what we need to adjust to bring about an improvement in learning for your son.

I would be grateful if parents could complete the survey below. Our boys will be sent a similar survey via Show My Homework and their school email and I would ask you to encourage them to complete this too.



Home Learning Survey - Parents
Please take the time to complete our survey. Your feedback is important.
www.smartsurvey.co.uk

Once we have collated the responses, we will be better informed regarding changes that we need to make to improve the educational experience for our boys as we plan to remain closed until at least half term.

You may also be aware that next week brings two bank holidays, on Monday and Friday. Virtual school will be closed for these two days and therefore work will not be issued on these days and students will not be expected to complete any work. I hope that you can use this time to enjoy some relaxing and quality time with your families.

If you have not already viewed it, please do watch this video compilation "[What is a school without its students?](#)" which was kindly put together by one of our Senior Teachers. From all our teachers and staff to our students...we miss you and look forward to welcoming you back soon!

CYPES 'LEARNING AT HOME' PROJECT

CYPES has launched the new "Learning At Home" project to provide parents with practical advice and resources to help with home learning, while schools are closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The link can be found [here](#) and details will be available on the College website Coronavirus Information Banner shortly.

VICTORIA COLLEGE WEBSITE - Coronavirus Information and Updates

Our website has a coronavirus banner on the main page, please click [here](#) for key information for parents – staff directory, governmental advice and home learning guidelines. This will be updated regularly.

JCG & VCJ SIXTH FORMERS CHARITY RUN – Message from Sam M, Head Boy

In order to raise money for two great charities, Caring Cooks and Brightly, a group of Sixth Form students from Jersey College for Girls and Victoria College, including Sam, will attempt to run the distance from the Nightingale Hospital Jersey to the Nightingale Hospital in London (approximately 600km) across the 6th, 7th and 8th of May. Both of these charities are working hard to provide meals and supplies to vulnerable people during this time.



We are absolutely thrilled to announce that Victoria College's Foundation Partner, [Saltgate](#), has offered to match the Sixth Formers' fundraising efforts for their Nightingale Hospital Challenge. Thank you for your continued support!

If you are able to do so, you can [donate here](#), it would be greatly appreciated and will make such a difference. Thank you.

HOME LEARNING UPDATE

As in previous weeks, thank you for the ongoing messages of support and feedback that continue to shape how our remote learning is working. Many of you have commented to me on the increased number of lessons delivered via Teams and the increased clarity of tasks set via Show My Homework. We are constantly trying to adjust what we do to meet the needs of all our students and provide the right balance of structure and flexibility for them and their families.

The core principles remain the same. Students will receive;

- One post, per subject, per week
- Clearly broken down work
- A week to complete the work set
- Guidance on where and how to submit it

Year 7 & 8 Assessments - w/c 18th May

In a normal school year, we would be approaching the end of year examination season for Y7 and Y8. Traditionally we have done these before the summer half term, and then reported back to parents with information about how your boy has done. This year, nothing is as it was. For this reason, we do not propose to attempt formal end of year examinations. It would be an unacceptable pressure for our students, for you and for our staff.

However, we do want to gather some information that we can use to standardise and measure how effective the home learning has been. We know that when the College re-opens we will need to support the whole community in readjusting to school life and part of this will be knowing how the boys have got on with working from home.

To this end we are planning on a one week assessment block, which will replace the regular home learning for that week. The assessments will be no longer than 45 minutes, conducted online and either take the form of an online multiple choice quiz or short written answers. Not every subject will be a part of the week and Mr Crossley is preparing a timetable for the week, to ensure that you, and your sons, have a clear understanding of when to do the work. It is a flexible timetable, as we want you to be able to find the best way for your own circumstances.

To be clear, these assessments are not:

- High stakes
- Going to be the sole means for assessing your son's ability

So, why are we doing them?

- When we return, we will need to have clear strategies in place to support students, as well as identify any gaps in understanding. These assessments will allow teachers to get a sense of where the boys are.
- To give the boys a threshold, shaping their year.
- We are also examining our curriculum for after half term to help make sure it caters for all needs and circumstances, which will be guided by the feedback we receive from parent and pupil surveys.

We will continue to share information, including any technical guidance that might be helpful, in the weeks ahead.

Year 12 Pre-Public Examinations - w/c 1st June

Year 12 Examinations have been moved to 1st-5th June following feedback from students. This will give students additional time to adjust to new routines and to revise effectively. These will take place remotely, and department staff will provide further information on how these will be conducted on a subject-by-subject basis. Further information was sent to parents of Year 12 students earlier this week. Any queries should be directed to [Mr Falle](#).

The Higher Education Information Evening couldn't take place as a result of the enforced school closures. Instead, we have provided the presentation content in a PowerPoint on the [school website](#)), along with additional resources. Parents of year 12 boys should have received a letter about this earlier this week. Again, any queries to [Mr Falle](#).

YOUNG ENTERPRISE JERSEY WINNER – Tom C., Financial Director

For over 30 years, the local charity, Young Enterprise Jersey, has given young people the opportunity to start and run a business. Students from different Jersey schools come together to create companies and back in September 2019, one of our boys took up the role as Financial Director for Pangea. A daunting process and commitment for six months, the students are expected to:

- develop a saleable product or service
- market and finance the product or service
- raise £400 in share capital
- pay the shareholders back their stake with any profit from the company
- submit financial accounts
- present their chosen product, a report and accounts to the shareholders

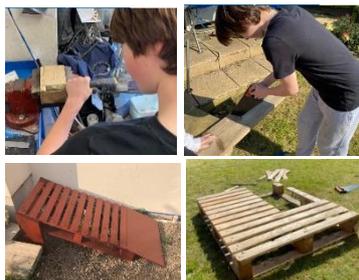
Facing a panel of judges online, the finals took place at the beginning of April and we are delighted to hear that Pangea were awarded 'Best Overall Company'. Our congratulations to Tom, his colleagues, and all the other deserving company winners. Pangea will go on to represent Jersey in the UK. Their final presentation can be viewed [here](#).



Details of Pangea's story and their cookbook, *A Taste of the World*, can be found on their [FaceBook Page](#).

PSHE PALLET WOOD CHALLENGE– Mr Batchford, Head of PSHE

I received a great response to this challenge set for Y10. The brief was to make something that could be used with a hobby. Charlie H, a keen cyclist, threw himself into this project and created a jump ramp. Great effort and now he's able to use this at home.



LAMDA : Distinction in Public Speaking Exams for VC Brothers

Congratulations to Zach (12Du) and Kane (10Du) who both achieved distinction in Grade 7 and Grade 6 respectively. What a great achievement, well done boys and your certificates will follow.

CO-CURRICULAR WEEKLY HOME LEARNING CHALLENGE

Rube Goldberg Machine – Mr Akers, Senior Teacher: Co-Curricular

Well done to all our entrants for taking part in the competition. A good mix of entries with some creative outcomes from the results of their machines. Well done to all boys!

The four runners up are (you will all receive a large bar of chocolate):

- 2nd place: Alex W_8Du
- 3rd place: Adam F_9Bw and Oliver P_8Bu (joint)
- 4th place: Russell W_8Du
- 5th place: Chris M_10Sa

And the overall winner, chosen for sheer determination and video editing skills is: Neil Se_8Du
Well Done Neil, a £5 Amazon voucher will soon be on its way to you.

That means that the final House positions for this competition are:

1st	Diarmid
2nd	Dunlop
3rd	Braithwaite & Bruce
4th	Sartorius

Next week's challenge is the "trick shot" challenge. Check on Show my Homework for the Co-Curricular "flexible challenge" as well as the parentmail that will be sent out for the information on the task and submission requirements.

FREE ONLINE RESOURCES – Ms Plummer Senior Teacher: Teaching and Learning

Students who are looking to extend their understanding of History, Politics, Classics, English, Psychology and Philosophy have free access to Massolit, a website that offers (at present) free courses on a range of topics. This access is free until the 15th May. There are lots of crossovers with GCSE and A level courses that we run in school. The lectures are delivered by professors and the language and content is challenging. However, it is a great way to enrich your understanding of a topic and develop your wider knowledge of a period or topic. You can find out more about [MASSOLIT here](#)

Username email address:

Password:

MUSIC – Mr Murton, Director of Music.

College Carmen

Come on gentlemen, where are the Carmen recordings? The lower school are motoring on and sending in recordings, but Years 10 to 12, are very thin on the ground - we need some weighty singing to support the teachers who are getting into the swing of things!

Instructions:

Play the backing track through headphones and record your singing into your voice recorder on your phone - then just send it [to me](#).

Music Orchestral Challenge – Outstanding musical progress stars:

Jacob C and Kai T

CCF Update – Message, Mr Fidrmuc, Staff School Instructor

Over the past few weeks our cadets have been completing end of year assessments, and we are pleased to report that nearly all of our cadets have now passed.

This week the CCF Adult Command Team met to look ahead to our return and plans for the Summer Term and beyond. During the meeting we also reviewed the applications for promotion, and these are now finalised. The Senior NCO's will be informed of the promotions on Tuesday afternoon, which will be followed up by a message to all our cadets' parents. A list of promotions will also be included in the next Weekly Update.

We are also keen to continue to keep our cadets engaged during this period and on Friday afternoon we are hosting an Inter-Section Military Knowledge Quiz, which will form part of this year's Inter-Section Competition. Results next week!

JERSEY RECOVERY COLLEGE – Message from Mr Gosling, Assistant Head Pastoral

Hope all is well during these challenging times.

The link below provides access to a range of courses supported by the Jersey Recovery College. In the current situation you may find these courses and accompanying information useful and supportive. The courses cover a range of issues linked to mental health and well-being. [Jersey Recovery](#).

EXTERNAL RESOURCES

Warwick University is running a [Journal Club](#), where interested parties can get together to discuss a particular scientific paper, their idea is to guide Y12s and possibly Y11s through reading difficult scientific papers to help inspire them and prepare them for future degrees and careers in science. This has been recommended to all Y12 & Y13 students, but is equally suggested for Y11 who are due to take up Physics A level in September.

I hope that you have a very enjoyable bank holiday weekend and you and your families are keeping safe and well.

With kind regards,
Alun Watkins
Headmaster