



Friday 8 May 2020

Headmaster's Update

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Dear Parents,

As we prepare to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Liberation of Jersey, this week's newsletter is once again packed with all kinds of events that highlight the extraordinary things our students, staff and parents do to support our local community. In addition, as we continue to embrace the challenges of working from home, there is important academic information later in this newsletter for parents of boys in all year groups.

The coming long weekend is a wonderful opportunity for all of our families to celebrate the Island's Liberation on 9 May 1945. Despite the lack of students and staff, the Victoria College main building is ready, too, for Liberation 75 and a special thank you to OV Adrian Rowland for this excellent photograph.



ASSEMBLY ON THE LIBERATION OF JERSEY – Delivered by Mr Gosling, Assistant Head Pastoral

As we approach the 75th liberation anniversary, Mr Gosling presents his appropriately themed assembly on Liberation and its importance to us in Jersey. We hope you and your families enjoy the presentation which can be [viewed here](#). A challenge has been set for the boys and we hope they will take this opportunity to ask questions, learn about their families' WW2 involvement and their occupation experiences, and take pride in their history.

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.

WHAT ARE SIXTH FORMERS UP TO? – Music event information from Scott D

We are delighted to hear that musicians who took part in the House Music Sixth Form Jam have collaborated again to perform for care home residents. The band, made up of Columba M, Ben S, Ben LG, Charlie C, Jordan K, and Xavier B have been learning songs at home, practising together over Zoom and are now ready to perform.

The group will start their events from outside Les Houmets care home at 7.15pm this evening to perform for residents and locals, before leading everyone into the Clap for Carers at 8pm. Travelling separately and observing the two-meter distancing policy, the band members can perform safely and are delighted to have the opportunity to entertain. We hope to be able to share images from [Les Houmets](#). Good luck boys!

CHALLENGE 75 – Victoria College launches community challenge

As the 75th Anniversary of the Liberation of Jersey draws nearer, Victoria College is welcoming one and all to join their community in its fundraising campaign [#Challenge75](#). Money raised will go to [Jersey Hospice Care](#) and [Age Concern Jersey](#) as an appreciation of all they do for us on the island, especially during these extraordinary times we are facing.

Together, students (past and present), parents, teachers and staff will be challenging themselves to achieve something in relation to the number 75.

Over the next 2 weeks, we will be sharing how our community are challenging 75, including Mr O'Hare who is planning to run 75km (equivalent to round the island) on a treadmill in his garden; Victoria College's own Head Boy, Sam Moore will also be attempting this huge challenge! Mr Lumley and Dr Hughes will be cycling 75km on their turbo trainers – and live streaming their efforts! Their message can [be viewed here](#).

We hope that you can join us and celebrate [#Liberation75](#) and help raise money for these great charities.

Please post your challenges on social media and tag Victoria College, use the hashtag [#Challenge75](#) and share our fundraising link. To donate, in aid of Jersey Hospice Care and Age Concern Jersey, please follow this link to our fundraising page: <https://my.race-nation.co.uk/sponsorship/entry/315245>

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. Details can also be found on the College website Coronavirus Information Banner.

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

We are delighted that £2,865 has been raised so far for Caring Cooks and Brightly. Our group has already completed the 300km distance to London and we are now making the distance back to Jersey. Both of our selected charities are working hard to provide meals and supplies to vulnerable people during this time and we thank everyone who has donated to our challenge. If you are able to do so, you can [donate here](#), it would be greatly appreciated and will make such a difference. Thank you.



Again, a shout out to Victoria College's Foundation Partner, [Saltgate](#), who has offered to match our fundraising efforts for the Nightingale Hospital Challenge. Thank you for your continued support!

ACADEMIC AND HOME LEARNING UPDATE

Whilst the coming weeks and months are still uncertain, we have continued to adapt what we are doing at school and the continued roll out and uptake of Teams by teachers and boys has resulted in an ever increasing number of lessons being delivered live, as well as filmed demonstrations, narrated PowerPoints and other interactive tools.

A number of boys mentioned that they hadn't realised when these lessons were scheduled for. To help with the clarity of Show My Homework, many have found using the Calendar function a little easier to navigate. [Please see this video, which may be of use.](#)



Please see below for year specific updates on a range of matters. Our plans remain adaptable should circumstances change and as the current situation unfolds.

As ever, for any questions or comments of an academic nature, please do contact Patrick Crossley, Assistant Head Academic (p.crossley@vcj.sch.je).

Year 7 and 8 Assessment Week – w/c 18th May

The timetable for these assessments, to be completed online, will be shared at the start of next week. To continue to balance structure with flexibility, the assessments that are set will be spaced out across the week and be open for completion for 24 hours. Subject teachers are already sharing revision aids with students to help them prepare and give them an idea of what sort of things they will be asked. As part of this new way of doing things, we are aware that many students may not be familiar with Microsoft Forms where many of these assessments will be held, and so we have prepared a [Practice Form](#) for your son to log in to and to complete some dummy questions. He will need his @vcj.sch.je email address.

If, for any reason, your son is unable to complete an assessment during the set time (device availability, connectivity issues, or other), please contact [Mr Crossley](#) directly who will be able to help and advise throughout the week.

Year 7 and 8 College Diploma

As a recognition that the formal taught curriculum comes to an end with the Year 7 & 8 Assessment week, I can now outline the plan for after half term. During the first week back from half term, boys will receive feedback in their subjects, as well as Academic Enrichment opportunities from across the curriculum. Then, from Monday 8th June, students in Years 7&8 will begin working towards their College Diploma. The Diploma gives boys a chance to select from a range of exciting and clearly structured tasks that are being prepared by their teachers, to work at a pace that is suitable to them and to help them explore areas beyond their usual taught curriculum.

Further details will be forthcoming in next week's Bulletin, but as well as being able to achieve their Bronze, Silver and Gold diplomas, the boys will also have a weekly offering of their core subjects, a daily class reader read by a member of staff, age appropriate careers work and opportunities to take part in discussion based seminars.

Year 9 – GCSE subjects and end of year examinations

As of Monday, boys in Year 9 will no longer be required to follow subjects they are not taking for their GCSEs. This will allow boys to focus more keenly on their chosen subjects, and, where staff feel it appropriate, begin to adapt their work for their classes. Boys will no longer be members of their non-selected subjects on Show My Homework.

As a consequence, the planned end of Year 9 examinations have been cancelled this year. Instead, boys will continue to prepare appropriately for commencing their GCSE subjects in September. Mathematics and English will still provide an end of year assessment towards the end of the Summer Term; further details will be made available when we know more about what the next few months hold, but these can be held online or in person.

Year 10 – end of year examinations

The planned end of year examinations for Year 10 have been postponed indefinitely. We are acutely aware of the need to conduct these formally and their potential use for evidence should next Summer's public examinations be disrupted. Again, whilst there is uncertainty over the conditions of a school return, we will need to balance our boys' wellbeing and the need to help them adjust to whatever normal school life looks like. We have a number of contingency plans in place that we will use depending on further developments.

Year 12 examinations – w/c 1st June

As stated in previous communications, these will be conducted online. We are finalising the timetable for the week, and the means of delivering these assessments electronically; further updates will be made available to the students and parents next week. These examinations will allow staff to assess progress and learning at this important point in the A level courses, whilst providing staff with an opportunity to give exam-specific feedback. These grades will enable students to have an understanding of what they might be likely to achieve in their final A Level examinations, and this information can then help to guide them in making informed choices for their post-A Level pathways.

Year 12 University preparation

After their examination week, Year 12s are moving onto UCAS research and are receiving regular updates from Mr Falle. In the absence of our annual Higher Education Information Evening, Mr Falle contacted parents with information about the university application process, and a series of presentations are now available on the [school website with voice overs](#). This term boys are completing an independent research task in relation to their post-A Level studies, and will soon be commencing the next steps of personal statement writing.

All Year 12 boys receive a weekly e-mail from Mr Falle on a Monday with updates and additional learning opportunities. This information will also be shared with boys on ShowMyHomework, and is accessible through the Noticeboard function. Boys will also receive a phone call every two to three weeks from a member of the Sixth Form team or their tutor. These phone calls are to check in with the boys in relation to their well-being and their academic progress, and also provide an opportunity for students to raise any concerns or queries. Boys need not wait until this phone call however, and are welcome to e-mail Mr Falle (a.falle@vcj.sch.je) should they wish to discuss anything.

Year 11 Update

Year 11 students should now have received two of their four learning tasks from their chosen A Level subjects, in addition to the academic enrichment tasks provided at the start of this term. Over the next two weeks students will receive further subject-specific tasks to help them to prepare for A Level studies.

After half-term Mr Falle will contact students via e-mail and ShowMyHomework to share additional opportunities with them. This will include an EPQ related research task and online learning opportunities that the College have been able to secure to stretch and challenge our students.

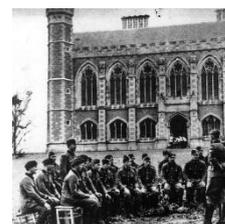
Year 13 Update

Year 13 boys will continue to receive a weekly e-mail from Mr Falle. These e-mails provide students with additional learning opportunities, including university reading lists, guidance for preparing for employment, and online courses. These e-mails will continue to include new tasks and opportunities in the coming weeks.

In addition to this, boys will receive a phone call every two to three weeks from a member of the Sixth Form team or their tutor. These phone calls are to check in with students and to see if they have any concerns or queries. Boys need not wait for this phone call to raise a concern, however, and are welcome to e-mail Mr Falle (a.falle@vcj.sch.je) should they wish to discuss anything.

VICTORIA COLLEGE STORIES

Our librarian and archivist Mr Woolridge, (@VCJLibrary on Twitter) has been posting Occupation & Liberation stories from Mr Lewis's (Victoria College Head Porter) previously unseen memoirs to commemorate #Liberation75 – have a [read and enjoy the stories](#).



DRAMA - Ms Hill, Teacher of Drama

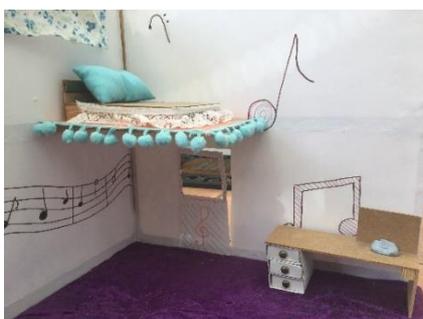
In drama the boys are working on creating their own theatrical performance. The task this week was to build their own set design to support their chosen storyline. I was so impressed with the level of creativity, well done to everyone that submitted their sets.

I would like to commend three boys for their great effort. Well done!

Edward K Yr 7

Joseph W Yr 9

Padraic D Yr7



MUSIC – Mr Murton, Director of Music.

Stars of the Week : Sheema B, Louis M, Ben N and Will S.

CCF Update – Message, Mr Fidrmuc, Staff School Instructor

Promotions

On Tuesday, we announced our promotions for 2020-21 and congratulations to all those moving up through the ranks. The new team, led by CWO Tom M, are keen to get going and hopefully June will see the start of the return to normality.

NCO PROMOTIONS 2020-21

Contingent Senior Cadet

Cadet Warrant Officer

Thomas M

Royal Navy Section

Senior Cadet RN Section

Chief Petty Officer

Elian C

2IC RN Section

Petty Officer

Charles B

IC Port Watch & IC Recruit Training

Petty Officer

Oliver W

IC Starboard Watch

Petty Officer

Moses S

2IC Port Watch

Leading Cadet

Teague M

2IC Starboard Watch

Leading Cadet

Edward R

Recruit Training NCO

Leading Cadet

Oliver C

Recruit Training NCO

Leading Cadet

James D

Army Section

Senior Cadet Army Section & Senior Female Cadet

Staff Sergeant

Fern LM

Army SNCO

Sergeant

Frederick C

Army SNCO

Sergeant

Robert M

Recruit Training NCO

Corporal

Ryanna C

Recruit Training NCO

Corporal

Liberty C

Army JNCO

Lance Corporal

Edward C

Army JNCO

Lance Corporal

Oliver H

Army JNCO

Lance Corporal

Seth R

Royal Air Force Section

Senior Cadet RAF Section	Flight Sergeant	George Y
2IC RAF Section	Sergeant	Oliver M
IC Sentinel Flight & 2IC Shooting	Sergeant	Toby J
IC Typhoon Flight	Sergeant	George D
2IC Sentinel Flight	Corporal	Henry H
2IC Typhoon Flight	Corporal	Heather R
Recruit Training NCO	Corporal	Joseph B
Recruit Training NCO	Corporal	Jonathan M
RAF JNCO	Lance Corporal	Austin G
RAF JNCO	Lance Corporal	Alex O

Shooting

Captain	Sergeant	Will M
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Awards

We have also started planning our CCF Awards Ceremony which will hopefully take place on Wednesday 8th July (the day after College Prize Giving). Details have been emailed to parents.

Cadet Portal

We have now gone live on the Cadet Portal. This system allows the cadets to view their own records, progression and sign up for camps and courses. The cadets are starting to get logged in and we are hopeful that they will use this opportunity to get set-up on the system ready for our return.

CCF Weekly Quiz

Last week we held our first CCF Inter-Section Quiz. The topic was military knowledge and over 40 cadets took part. The Navy came out on top in the Inter-Section competition, ahead of the RAF in second and Army in third place. Charlie B was the top cadet, followed by Oliver W in second and Tom M in third. Special mentions also go to George D (top Yr11), Conor W (top Yr10) and Lilly T (Top Yr9). This week's quiz is on first aid and results will follow next week.

VCPA MEETING

The Parents' Association is holding its next meeting on Tuesday 12 May, virtually by Zoom at 7pm in order to keep all attendees safe in the current circumstances. We would be delighted to welcome anyone who is interested in attending. Perhaps coming to a meeting is not convenient in your former, busy lives, but you might be able to make it remotely? Please email the Chair, Helen Worthy on VCPAChair@gmail.com by 10am on Tuesday to be added to the attendees list and receive the meeting ID.

EXTERNAL RESOURCES

Jersey Heritage has been busy adding to their [Heritage at Home](#) hub, as visitor sites and Jersey Archive are temporarily closed, Island's stories are available online.

GOVERNMENT OF JERSEY SURVEY – Children and Young People, deadline Friday, 8 May 2020



Survey for children and young people in Jersey during the Coronavirus ...
Please take the time to complete our survey. Your feedback is important.

survey.gov.je

It just remains for me to wish one and all a relaxing and enjoyable Liberation weekend from all at Victoria College.

With kind regards,
Alun Watkins
Headmaster