



Friday 15 May 2020

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Dear Parents,

Many thanks indeed to those parents who responded to our working from home survey. We have also received, this week, additional information from our boys and staff who completed their own surveys on their remote learning experiences. I also had the opportunity to speak to our Student Council via Zoom yesterday to gain their thoughts on what has worked well and what needs improving. We are currently analysing and evaluating all of this information and will report back in next week's newsletter.

Since the process for deciding centre-assessed grades was finalised just before the Easter holidays, our Heads of Department have been working hard with their teams to produce these for the public examination boards. Having considered a wide range of evidence from across these two-year courses and looked at historical trends of previous cohorts, myself and Mr Crossley met this morning to go through each subject thoroughly. We will now turn our attention to submitting these grades to the examination boards in June, who will run their own statistical model on grades nationally before releasing them to students in August. I understand from conversations with a number of you that this 'unknown' has been the cause of some anxiety for your son but now that the process is completed, I have written to your son to reassure him that all the examination grades have now been submitted and to encourage him to look forward to the next stage of his education or career.

Much discussion has been taking place this week at Senior Leadership level to begin the process of considering a partial re-opening of our school at some point after half term. It is too early to say when this will take place and the Minister for Education will, no doubt, be seeking further advice from the Health Department. Our main concern will be to ensure the safety of our students and staff. On this basis, I am sure that you will appreciate there is still much that needs to be determined before we can be confident of re-admitting our students. Meetings of key education personnel and headteachers will be taking place next week and I will update you on progress as, and when, we receive assurances that all safeguarding principals have been carefully considered in these challenging and difficult times.

I am aware that the current COVID-19 pandemic has caused a good deal of financial hardship for some of our parents. I would urge you to contact me, in confidence, should you wish to discuss your current financial

situation and what the school may be able to do to support you. In the first instance, please contact my secretary, Mrs Emily Oldridge via [e.oldridge@vcj.sch.je](mailto:e.oldridge@vcj.sch.je).

### **CHANNEL VICTORIA LAUNCH**

We have launched 'Channel Victoria' – a YouTube channel to provide updates, news stories and other information to the pupils (and their parents). Today's edition is on [this link](#), so please subscribe for regular updates.



### **#CHALLENGE 75 – Victoria College community challenge success**

Launched just one week ago, we have been amazed by the volume of students (past and present), parents and teachers who have taken up a variety of challenges, some of which have been shared on our [Facebook page](#). With 3 days left, we are delighted to announce that we have raised in excess of £6,000! Thank you to everyone for your amazing and ongoing support for [Jersey Hospice Care](#) and [Age Concern Jersey](#)! If you haven't already posted or shared your achievements, please tell us what you've been up to; email [c.rowland@vcj.sch.je](mailto:c.rowland@vcj.sch.je).

### **O'HARE & MOORE**

This evening, Mr O'Hare and Sam M are attempting the huge challenge of running 75km (187.5 laps of FB Fields). We wish them every success and a safe evening. My thanks also to the teachers on a rota to assist with timings, safety and refreshments! Good luck.



### **LUMLEY & HUGHES**

On Saturday morning, our Deputy Heads are taking to the saddle to cycle 75 miles from the comfort of their own homes. If you use the virtual cycling platform Zwift, you can ride with the Deputies for some, or all of their challenge. You'll need to follow 'Gareth Hughes' on Zwift and you will then get an invitation through the platform to join the event at 9am on Saturday morning. All riders are welcome! Their message can [be viewed here](#).

Please join us in wishing them all the best of luck, and of course, donating where possible: <https://my.race-nation.co.uk/sponsorship/entry/315245>

There is still time to complete your own challenge, so why not have a go. 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>.

### **#Challenge75 – handmade masks for sale from the Caldeira family**

Initially making cloth facemasks for essential workers and vulnerable people, the family turned this into their #Challenge75. Their garden chalet has been turned into a no-contact honesty mask shop: mum is busy on the sewing machine, the boys have been on the production line, carrying out daily stock takes and checking accounts and dad... he's been fixing the sewing machine! Initially wishing to sell 75 masks, this very quickly increased to 75 masks per sibling, and to date they have sold 262 masks and have raised £1,310 for the Challenge. They have more to sell, so please contact mum (Tina Caldeira) through her [Facebook page](#) to obtain directions to the mask chalet. Thank you so much, Caldeiras!



## DRAMA #Challenge75

For those yet to embark on your **#Challenge75**, Mr Warburton and Miss Hill are calling upon you to join their Drama challenge. They need 75 students and teachers to each perform a line on video from their favourite film.

If you are up for the challenge, record yourself and email your entry to either: [a.warburton@vcj.sch.je](mailto:a.warburton@vcj.sch.je) or [r.hill@vcj.sch.je](mailto:r.hill@vcj.sch.je). Good Luck! You can [Donate here](#).



## #Challenge75 – OV Laurie C challenge postponed



We are very excited that Laurie (OV – Bruce) is taking part in the Challenge75 fundraising initiative. He is planning to run the Knight Shield course 75 times. However, even Laurie will struggle to complete this event within the current 6 hour outdoor allowance, set by the Government of Jersey. He is keen to attempt the challenge in one go, rather than split it across two days. The option to run it in one go through the midnight hour was considered, but the College felt the nature of the course (those that have run it will definitely remember) meant it was too risky to attempt in the dark. As a result, Laurie has agreed to postpone the run from today until the restrictions on outdoor exercise are relaxed. Laurie would like to thank everyone for their donations so far and we will keep you all informed of the new date.

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

We are delighted to announce that we have now raised £4,172 and are edging closer to our £5,000 goal. Thank you to Caring Cooks and Brightly who have shared our social media coverage. It has been an enjoyable challenge for all of us and a special mention to [Saltgate](#), and everyone who has supported us. If you are able to do so, you can [donate here](#).



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



The band kicked off their events at Les Houmets last week which was greatly appreciated by the home residents and locals who listened from gardens along the village. It was live streamed, but Les Houmets have a snippet on their Facebook page which you can [view here](#). The boys visited Pinewood in St Saviour on Liberation Day and today, they have received a lovely email of thanks from Les Charrieres. Thank you to Columba, Ben, Ben, Charlie, Jordan and Xavier, and to Scott who has been arranging all these visits. You are all a credit to our school.



An additional mention to Jordan, who has been involved with the making and distributing of masks to those who need them around the island. Well done!

## 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.

## 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.

## CO-CURRICULAR WEEKLY HOME LEARNING CHALLENGE

### Trick Shot Challenge – Mr Akers, Senior Teacher: Co-Curricular

Congratulations to all the boys who entered the challenge, your housemasters will be awarding house points to all of you for your efforts!

The Year group winners are:

Year Group	House	Name
7	Braithwaite	Ethan R
8	Bruce	Fin P
9	Sartorius	Sebastian P
10	Sartorius	Jonty B
11	Bruce	Callum G
12+13	Braithwaite	Josh B

A bar of Chocolate will be coming to them all soon. The overall winner is **Jonty B**, with a fantastic back flip long distance ball throw; he will receive a £5 Amazon voucher. Well done Jonty!

And to all of you who have won past events - do not panic- chocolate has been ordered and we are hoping to get them out to you ASAP.

### HOME LEARNING CLASSWORK PROCEDURE – Message from Dr Hughes, Deputy Headmaster

As a reminder for the arrangements for Home Learning, our online learning platform – ShowMyHomework – is the primary method of delivery of work. The single post per subject per week will provide the guidance for the week ahead, including the work tasks set, resources and information on any lessons being delivered 'live'.

Informative links can be found on the Victoria College website. At the bottom of the home page, please click on the red banner which will direct you to the Covid-19 Update page. The most relevant document for students is the Home Learning Guidelines sheet, which covers the information provided by school assemblies prior to school closure and subsequently referred to in school emails. This document covers logistics, expectations and log-in information for applications like Office 365 and Teams. Please do view this useful video on "[Channel Victoria](#)", it covers everything mentioned above and offers guided process tips and information.

To avoid any uncertainty of schedule of lessons and 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.](#)

If you, as a parent, are experiencing difficulty with accessing the Show My Homework platform, please do not hesitate to email [admin@vcj.sch.je](mailto:admin@vcj.sch.je). Please include your son's full name, year group and house to help us to solve the problem.

### ACADEMIC AND HOME LEARNING - Message from Mr Crossley, Assistant Head Academic

#### **Years 7&8 Assessment Week**

Please see separate attachments for the Year 7 & 8 Assessment Week timetables. If, for any reason your son is unable to complete one, some, or any of these, please do contact Patrick Crossley ([p.crossley@vcj.sch.je](mailto:p.crossley@vcj.sch.je)) as soon as possible, so that he can help. If your son wants to test his @vcj.sch.je account please ask him to complete the practice [Microsoft Form here](#). The timetables have also been posted on SMHW for the boys.

The links for these assessments will be posted on Show My Homework just before the specified start time on the specified day and will be available for 24 hours. A reminder that no work will be set next week.

As has been repeated in all messages from teachers to their students; good luck and do your best. How the boys perform in these will be a useful diagnostic tool for teachers as well as mark the end of the planned taught curriculum for Years 7 & 8.

### **Year 7 & 8 College Diploma**

Following on from the Year 7&8 Assessment Week, the first week after half term will provide the opportunity for our boys to receive feedback from their subject teachers, as well as prepare themselves to begin their College Diploma.

Every week, from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June, boys will receive academically stimulating and exciting tasks in each of their subjects that they can complete and submit as part of their College Diploma that has been designed to introduce boys to topics beyond their taught curriculum. Each task has been clearly structured and broken down, and there will be opportunities to check in with their teachers for guidance on completing these tasks should they wish. In addition, boys in Year 7 will continue to receive weekly Core work in Maths, English and French and boys in Year 8 will receive Maths and English with French and Spanish on rotation.

Boys will be able to work towards three different levels of their College Diploma, which we hope to present in a suitably celebratory manner when we can welcome them back to school. The three levels are:

- Bronze - Complete a piece of work in each subject area, all Core work plus attend discussion seminar
- Silver - Complete a piece of work in each subject area, and a second piece in another 8 subjects, Core work plus attend discussion seminar
- Gold - Complete two pieces of work in each subject, Core work plus attend discussion seminar

In next week's Newsletter, you will be given an exemplar timetable for your son to follow during the week, with an overview of the tasks being set coming in the week after half term. However, starting from after half term, every day, Mr Griffin and Mr Crossley will be reading a chapter of their favourite childhood books, "Smith of Wooten Major" by JRR Tolkien and "The Weirstone of Brisingamen" by Alan Garner for the boys to listen to live. This will continue throughout next term, with a series of exciting books to listen to.

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

### **Years 12&13**

Should Sixth Form boys wish to discuss anything, please do contact Alan Falle on ([a.falle@vcj.sch.je](mailto:a.falle@vcj.sch.je)).

### **CCF UPDATE – Message, Mr Fidrmuc, Staff School Instructor**

#### **Senior Cadet's Mission Statement**

On Monday our new Senior Cadet, Tom M, published his mission statement and goals for the CCF for 2020-21 to the cadets; please ask your sons to check their College email. It is based around five key principles: Communication, Inclusivity, Leadership, Opportunities and Drills and Skills. It is great that he has put this together and will certainly give some additional focus to all our cadets when we get back to College.

#### **UK Summer Camps and Courses Cancelled**

Earlier this week we were advised that all remaining CCF Camps and Courses in the UK have been cancelled. This includes our Army Summer Camp and Navy HQ Courses. Affected parents were contacted directly, but if there are any questions or queries please email [ccf@vcj.sch.je](mailto:ccf@vcj.sch.je).

#### **CCF Weekly Quiz - Round 2**

On Thursday we held our second virtual CCF Quiz via Zoom and Kahoot, and the topic was First Aid. We had 40 cadets taking part and clearly, they have a greater knowledge of First Aid than Military History, with much higher scores.

## Inter-Section (Round 2)

1<sup>st</sup> Army  
2<sup>nd</sup> RAF  
3<sup>rd</sup> Navy

## Individual Results (Round 2)

1<sup>st</sup> Charlie B (two weeks running & Top Yr12)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Oliver Wn (two weeks running!)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Todd W - Top Yr10  
5<sup>th</sup> & Top Yr11 Fred C  
6<sup>th</sup> & Top Yr9 Sam O

## CHANNEL ISLANDS STUDENT BUSINESS CHALLENGE – winner to be announced by virtual ceremony.



**AWARDS CEREMONY**  
**Thursday 21 May**  
**at 6.00 pm**

Virtual awards ceremony live streamed on  
[www.studentbusinesschallenge.com](http://www.studentbusinesschallenge.com)

The Channel Islands Student Business Challenge may have been cut short, however the teams involved have been working hard and are now completing their financial records prior to submission. They have all learnt a huge amount about teamwork, speaking in public and organisation of stock and finances. We look forward to celebrating the Victoria College and other school teams' successes at the Virtual ceremony on 21st of May, when the judges will be giving their feedback and announcing winners of the Jersey teams via livestream. You can watch the awards ceremony live at 6pm on 21 May [www.studentbusinesschallenge.com](http://www.studentbusinesschallenge.com).

We are promised some nice weather over the next few days so my very best wishes to all our families for an enjoyable weekend.

With kind regards,  
Alun Watkins  
Headmaster