



Friday 22 May 2020

# Headmaster's Update

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Dear Parents

I have sent a separate email to you this afternoon containing details of today's Press Release issued by the Education Minister regarding school closures. It also contains information in relation to the Remote Learning surveys completed by parents and their sons last week. Once again, the newsletter is packed with great stories of achievement, endeavour, challenge and creativity with our Student Business Challenge team, the Gardening Gang, taking centre stage. At last night's virtual Awards Ceremony, John, Will and Oliver were awarded the major prize. Many congratulations to them and all our teams who entered this excellent competition - you have done us proud.

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).

I am very grateful to all the parents and boys who completed our surveys and I would encourage you to read the feedback as we continue to find ways to improve our Remote Learning provision.

## **END OF TERM MESSAGES**

Having reached the end of this half of term, Mr Watkins and Dr Hughes have taken the opportunity to leave messages of thanks to the boys plus Mr Picot shares a #kindness message with them and tips on mental well-being on [Channel Victoria](#).

## **CHANNEL ISLANDS STUDENT BUSINESS CHALLENGE – Overall Jersey Winner**

Huge congratulations to our students 'The Gardening Gang' who were named the Overall Jersey winner at last night's virtual awards ceremony. #aspire

A very well done to all those who took part, supported and sponsored this year's Student Business Challenge.



## HOME LEARNING AWARDS

Mr Batchford would like to award a £10 Amazon voucher to two boys in Year 10 who have shown an outstanding commitment to home learning for GCSE DT. Keep up the excellent work gentlemen!

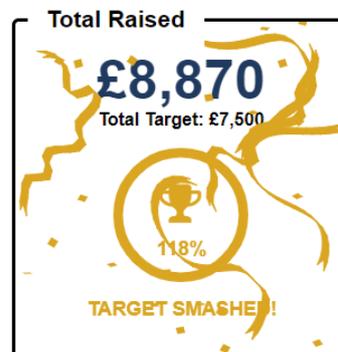
**Diesel B** : Nominated by Mr Akers

**Charlie H**: Nominated by Mr Batchford

## #CHALLENGE 75 – Victoria College community challenge success

We have been absolutely blown away with the time, effort, sweat and probably tears that our community has put into #Challenge75. We would like to express our thanks to everyone who took part, supported us and donated so generously to our campaign for [Jersey Hospice Care](#) and [Age Concern Jersey](#).

We would like to personally thank those boys who took it upon themselves to Challenge75, so please email [c.rowland@vcj.sch.je](mailto:c.rowland@vcj.sch.je) if you haven't already done so, so that we can thank you accordingly.



The Challenge75 fundraising page will still be taking donations until OV Laurie Corbel has had the opportunity to complete his challenge, which won't be until lockdown restrictions are loosened again. Thank you again, everyone. <https://my.race-nation.co.uk/sponsorship/entry/315245>



## DRAMA #Challenge75

We haven't quite reached our 75 entries – please help us to complete our #Challenge75. It's easy - just record a line on video of your favourite film and email it to [r.hill@vcj.sch.je](mailto:r.hill@vcj.sch.je) or [a.warburton@vcj.sch.je](mailto:a.warburton@vcj.sch.je). Good Luck!

## O'HARE & MOORE – successfully complete the gruelling 75km run challenge

A round of applause to Mr O'Hare and Head Boy, Sam, who completed this huge challenge in 9 hours and 10 minutes. Tackling their challenge through the night, in order to comply with lockdown regulations, they kicked off at 6pm last Friday finishing in the early hours of Saturday morning. What an amazing achievement and this is confirmed by the volume of donation messages dedicated to you both.



Mr O'Hare said: "The support from kids and teachers coming down to watch was amazing. We both had to fight inner demons to get through several walls whilst completing. Never been pushed so physically but couldn't be prouder of Sam for completing the run with me."

## LUMLEY & HUGHES – Challenge done and dusted!

Thank you to our Deputy Heads who passed the virtual finish line, having cycled an incredible 75 miles last weekend. There were personal good luck messages left for them on the donation page, thank you to all that supported them by donating or joining them on the virtual cycling platform Zwift.



| Jersey Hospice Care |             | <b>#Challenge75</b>      |             |                     | Age Concern Jersey     |  |
|---------------------|-------------|--------------------------|-------------|---------------------|------------------------|--|
| Jersey Hospice Care |             | <b>#75MathsChallenge</b> |             |                     | CHALLENGE SEVENTY FIVE |  |
| Overall Position    | Name        | Year Group               | House       | Year Group Position | Score                  |  |
| 1st                 | Darius      | 11                       | Dunlop      | 1                   | 69                     |  |
| 2nd                 | Charles     | 10                       | Braithwaite | 1                   | 68                     |  |
| 3rd                 | Archie      | 11                       | Diarmid     | 2                   | 67                     |  |
| 4th                 | George      | 12                       | Diarmid     | 1                   | 65                     |  |
| 5th                 | Louis       | 9                        | Dunlop      | 1                   | 64                     |  |
| 6th                 | Calvin      | OV                       | Braithwaite | 1                   | 64                     |  |
| 7th                 | Butler Boys | 10&12                    | Sartorius   | 2                   | 64                     |  |
| 8th                 | Todd        | 10                       | Braithwaite | 3                   | 61                     |  |
| 9th                 | Matthew     | 11                       | Dunlop      | 3                   | 61                     |  |
| 10th                | Tom         | 9                        | Dunlop      | 2                   | 60                     |  |
| 11th                | Leon        | 11                       | Diarmid     | 4                   | 59                     |  |
| 12th                | Filip       | 7                        | Sartorius   | 1                   | 57                     |  |
| 13th                | Will        | 9                        | Sartorius   | 3                   | 54                     |  |
| 14th                | Russell     | 8                        | Dunlop      | 1                   | 49                     |  |
| 15th                | Louis       | 9                        | Diarmid     | 4                   | 46                     |  |
| 16th                | Jared       | 9                        | Bruce       | 5                   | 39                     |  |
| 17th                | Josh        | OV                       | Dunlop      | 2                   | 36                     |  |
| 18th                | Dan         | 7                        | Dunlop      | 2                   | 30                     |  |
| 19th                | Ollie       | 8                        | Dunlop      | 2                   | 27                     |  |

<https://my.race-nation.co.uk/sponsorship/entry/315245>

### #75MathsChallenge – Update from Mr McNally, Mathematics

Well done to all that took part and answers will be shared with those that entered. I've marked all entries uncharacteristically generously, forgiving forgotten constants of integration, units, etc.

Definitely a win for Dunlop on all counts, but an excellent effort from everybody.

### CHANNEL VICTORIA VIDEOS

This YouTube information channel serves to communicate with students and parents, to provide updates, advice, guides and news. You can [subscribe here](#) for regular updates.



### VICTORIA COLLEGE PREFECTS 2020/21

Back in April we announced the Prefects for the 2020/21 academic year. From their homes, the prefects have spoken about their time in quarantine and their messages can be viewed on ['Channel Victoria'](#).

We also have messages from some of the prefects on how they have been coping in isolation and these can be read in the Prefects' attachment. Thank you, boys, for your honesty and support.

|                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| <b>Braithwaite</b> | <b>Dunlop</b>    |
| Josh B             | Umar H           |
| Leo O              | Joshua S         |
| Jared T            | Aidan S          |
| <b>Bruce</b>       | Oliver W         |
| Aidan B            | <b>Sartorius</b> |
| Joshua L           | Patrick G        |
| <b>Diarmid</b>     | Robbie F         |
| Dylan K            | Ben W            |
| Sammy C            | Oliver C         |

### ENDING USE OF GOOGLE APPLICATIONS– Message from Dr Hughes, Deputy Headmaster

In response to pupil and parent feedback, we are seeking to reduce the number of different work channels currently in operation at Victoria College. We will be decommissioning our support for Google applications – Gmail, Google Drive and Google Classroom – from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020. Pupils will only have access to their \*\*\*\*\*@vcj.sch.je email addresses from this point. We will continue to use ShowMyHomework as the main portal for delivery of work, and we are increasingly using Microsoft Teams to help support the boys with interactive teaching and storage of work. Please ensure that all pupils move any files from Google Drive across to their OneDrive storage areas and also forward any important emails from their \*\*\*@victoriacollege.je accounts that they may wish to keep.

### MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK ASSEMBLY – Thanks to Mrs Falla for producing this assembly

This week has been Mental Health Awareness Week, a focus for our house assemblies. Students have been encouraged to take 30 minutes out for themselves every day, getting outside and/or exercising. We recognise that your son's well-being is incredibly important and this is a great way to remain positive.

We have also highlighted mental health with a special assembly which has gone out to students via [Channel Victoria on YouTube](#). Here staff have shared the ways in which they are getting outside and getting exercise to support their well-being, bringing us together as a community.

### **MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK – external resources**

[Mind Jersey](#) is an independent local charity that provides support to people living with mental illness. It offers services such as peer support, residential help, family and carer support, and another side of the charity, [Youthful Minds](#) focuses on young people.

[Jersey Recovery College](#) provides education and training opportunities for people experiencing mental health difficulties and the families, friends and professionals who support them.

[Jersey Liberate](#) is an equality and diversity charity in the Channel Islands. It is providing [free counselling support](#) to anyone who feels their mental health is being impacted by the changes to daily life imposed by the COVID-19 virus.

[Youth Enquiry Service](#) (YES Project) provides young people with free confidential, information, advice and counselling.

[Connect Me](#) brings together a wide range of information, from healthy living tips, to support with practical needs, such a food and finances, to support services tailored to adults, children young and people.

### **CO-CURRICULAR WEEKLY HOME LEARNING CHALLENGE – Mr Akers, Senior Teacher: Co-Curricular**

This week's challenge for our boys was a photography task based on the context "forced perspective". The entries were submitted to Housemasters and will be published on the College's social media platforms. Well done and thank you to all those who took part.



Our overall winner is Magnus for his entry, so well done - a £5 Amazon voucher will be on its way to you. Our runners up will each be receiving a bar of chocolate!

Our Year group winners are:

| Year | House       | Name     |
|------|-------------|----------|
| 7    | Braithwaite | Eddie S  |
| 8    | Braithwaite | Sam R    |
| 9    | Braithwaite | Adam F   |
| 10   | Bruce       | Magnus M |

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

|                 |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | <b>Braithwaite</b> |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | <b>Bruce</b>       |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | <b>Dunlop</b>      |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> | <b>Diarmid</b>     |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> | <b>Sartorius</b>   |

Well done to all the boys.

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

#### **CCF Weekly Quiz - Round 3 - Map & Compass**

On Friday last week we had 37 cadets taking part in the third round of the CCF Weekly Quiz, testing their map and compass knowledge. It was a close competition, but this week Keziah R (Yr9) from JCG topped the board beating all others, including Charlie B, the winner of the previous two weeks. Well done to all, and this week is a more light-hearted quiz all about our team of Adult Volunteers.

**Inter-Section** - This Week (Top 8 individual scores used)

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

### **Individual Results - This Week**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Keziah R (**Top Yr9**)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> George D (**Top Yr11**)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Connor W (**Top Yr10**)
- 6<sup>th</sup> George Y (**Top Yr12**)

### **Champion Cadet League Table (after 3 rounds)**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Oliver Wn (Yr12)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Charlie B (Yr12)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> George D (Yr11)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Robert M (Yr11)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Keziah R (Yr9)

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

### **Year 7 and 8 Assessment Week**

It has been a busy week for Year 7 and 8 where nearly 2,500 individual assessments have been completed. Many thanks for all of your support with conducting these remotely and for you and your son's perseverance when some minor technical difficulties arose. The information received will continue to prove extremely helpful to your son's teachers as we adapt and plan our Curriculum moving forward. After half term, your son will receive feedback from all of his subject teachers, and a formal summary of his results will be emailed to you. If anyone has had any problems completing any of these assessments, please do contact [Patrick Crossley](#), who will be able to assist over the half term break.

### **Year 7 and 8 College Diploma - commencing Monday 8th June**

Please see attached more detailed information about the Year 7 & 8 College Diploma.

In addition, from Tuesday 2nd June, 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 Weirdestone of Brisingamen" by Alan Garner for the boys to listen to live through Teams at 1.10pm. Boys will be added to a Microsoft Team over half term. This will continue throughout next half of term, with a series of exciting books to listen to and read by members of our staff.

### **Year 9 Update**

All boys should now have had their timetables adjusted so that they are focusing on their chosen GCSE subjects. A reminder that the formal end of year examinations have been cancelled, although there will still be an end of year assessment in Maths and English, as well as more informal assessments on a subject by subject basis.

### **Year 10 Update**

A final decision on the end of year examinations for Year 10 will be made after the half term break.

### **Year 11 Update**

Year 11 boys should now have completed their pre-A level tasks for each of their chosen A Level subjects. These tasks have been sent to students via their @vcj.sch.je e-mail accounts and have been designed to prepare boys for the challenging transition into A Level studies. After half-term, Mr Falle, Head of Sixth Form, will send further learning opportunities for students to engage with.

### **Year 12 Update**

As per Mr Falle's latest letter, the focus for boys is now on their Pre-Public Examinations, which will take place between the 1st and 5th June, and we wish the boys the best of luck for these. We hope boys who have sat exams with JCG this week feel they have done well.

Mr Falle will write again in June to provide information regarding the next set of priorities for Year 12 students.

### Year 13 Update

As per the letters that Year 13 boys and parents received last week, the boys will continue to receive a weekly e-mail from Mr Falle to their @vcj.sch.je e-mail account. These e-mails will include a range of suggestions and opportunities to help them in preparing for life after Victoria College, whether that be in employment or higher education. We look forward to having an opportunity to formally say goodbye and to wish the boys well for the future.

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)).

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)).

### 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.

### EXTERNAL RESOURCES

- [Hay Festival](#) is online 18<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> May, here you'll find talks and free films for students
- [Oak National](#) are running a half term holiday camp, with a huge variety of activities on offer. There are sessions by the Scouts, debates organised by VotesForSchools, advice on how to get into university from PhD students and the Brilliant Club and cook along sessions from the Jamie Oliver Cookery school.
- The 'Shows Must Go On' will be screening the [Sound of Music](#) tonight and others every Friday.
- Finally, the National Theatre at home is screening free plays- this week it is [A Streetcar Named Desire](#)

It just remains for me to wish all of our families an enjoyable half-term.

With kind regards,  
Alun Watkins  
Headmaster