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Dear Parents,

We are really looking forward to welcoming back more of our boys to College next week. Dr Hughes has sent letters outlining the following timetable for the week:

Day	Year Groups
Monday 22 June	Years 9 and 12
Tuesday 23 June	Years 9 and 12
Wednesday 24 June	Years 10 and 12
Thursday 25 June	Years 8 and 10
Friday 26 June	Years 7 and 10

Each year group will be under separate arrangements as detailed by Dr Hughes; however, we will be providing as much face to face teaching as is possible, depending on staff availability. We will still be operating within strict Government of Jersey and CYPES safety guidelines, re-emphasising the physical distancing requirements for pupils and staff and the importance of maintaining frequent hand-cleaning and good respiratory hygiene practices. Unfortunately, we will still not be able to provide a catering service and will require our students to bring a packed lunch and refreshments. We will not be expecting students to come to school in their usual school uniform but please refer to the letters that you have received from Dr Hughes for specific clothing information.

At the invitation of the Honorary Consul for France, I was honoured to attend the 80th Anniversary of General de Gaulle's famous Appel du 18 Juin. The Appel was read at noon by our very own Joshua Lawrenson (Year 12) by the De Gaulle memorial at the top of the Albert Pier. Owing to Covid-19 restrictions, a small invited audience was in attendance. I warmly congratulate Joshua on his passionate reading of this very famous speech which was allegedly composed during De Gaulle's stop over in Jersey during his historic flight in Winston Churchill's personal aeroplane from Bordeaux to London.

You may have noticed that our flags were flown at half mast on Tuesday to commemorate the life of Martin Bithell, whose private funeral took place earlier this week. Martin joined the College in 1976 and retired after an amazing 31 years of service. He mainly taught History but also took Geography and helped in the English department. He was a tutor in Sartorius House and during his time he also managed to run the school

Library. He coached the 1st team hockey squad and introduced golf as an official sport in College, with matches against Elizabeth College. After his retirement, Martin did some part-time work in the College as our Archivist. When Martin retired, The Victorian asked him what his plans were and he replied “Just a longer summer holiday than usual”. Our sincere condolences to Martin’s family.

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

Curriculum Review survey

Over the last year, members of staff have been examining a variety of areas of the academic life of the school as part of a wide ranging review. One area in particular that has been examined is the make up of the academic curriculum. Staff have already completed their own survey on this, and next week all parents and students will have the opportunity to complete their own survey and give their views. Your support in continuing to help us deliver the best for your son is much appreciated.

Years 7 & 8 College Diploma

Boys in Year 7 & 8 have continued to work hard towards their College Diplomas and by the end of today they will have received an email detailing the work that has so far been received. With their return to school next week, boys will receive their Core Work for the week in English, Maths and French in person and not online. Boys will be given details of their online discussion next week, with a view to starting them in the week beginning 29th June. The daily class reader is continuing with Biggles Flies East, every day on Teams at 1.10pm, and boys will receive their new work for next week on Monday, as well as an updated example timetable for them to follow if they so wish.

PRIZE GIVING 2020

Our Prize Giving ceremony this year was scheduled to take place on 7 July but unfortunately, the current situation has meant that we have had to postpone until the beginning of September. We have rescheduled the ceremony for Monday 14 September in the hope that we will have the chance to recognise and celebrate the achievements of our Prize Winners in person and before our Year 13 students look to embark on the next stage of their lives, either at university or in the workplace.

REDVERS – uniform procedures for September 2020 term

Please be advised that due to safety obligations, Redvers has devised an appointment system for the purchase of uniform. Parents will need to make an appointment by telephoning Redvers on 731707. Appointments will take place between 20th July and 29th August, however a request for an alternative date can be made if you are unable to attend on these dates. Appointments should take no longer than 45 minutes and should only be attended by the student and one parent/carer.

YEAR 11 & 13 BOOK RETURNS 2020 - REMINDER

We are asking all Year 11 and 13 students to book a 15 minute slot to return their subject books. There will be a temporary station in the Howard Davis Theatre, managed by [Mr Wooldridge](#), running from 15 to 26 June. Information on how to book has already been sent to Year 11 and 13 parents, however the online booking system can be [accessed here](#).

MUSIC – Mr Murton, Director of Music

Victoria College Orchestral Challenge

Best wishes to all the boys in year 7 next week as they will be taking their final assessments. We have visiting examiners joining me to assess each boy. The progress and diligence of many of our boys has been exemplary, particularly through lockdown, when they have continued their instrumental lessons online.



Well done for getting through this far and thanks to parents and staff for your support.



CCF UPDATE – Message, Mr Fidrmuc, Staff School Instructor

Weekly Quiz – Final Round - Current Military Affairs

On Friday last week, 25 cadets took part in the final CCF quiz. Well done to all!

Inter-Section - This Week

RAF
Army
Navy

Individual Results - This Week (highlights)

1st Oliver W (& Top Yr12)
2nd Tom M
3rd Charlie B
4th Rob M (& Top Yr11)
7th Alex LQ (& Top Yr10)
8th Sarah C (& Top Yr9)

Champion Cadet League Table - Final

Standings (highlights)

1st Oliver W (& Top Yr12)
2nd Charlie B
3rd Rob M (& Top Yr11)
7th Keziah R (& Top Yr9)
8th Connor W (& Top Yr10)

College Shooting Club

This week has seen the restart of the College Shooting Club thanks to the support of our volunteer coaches. Although we have had to restrict numbers and operate a pre-booking system, we have managed to get 19 students on the range over four afternoons and they have shot over 1,000 rounds between them. Due to restrictions with the space available, we will be running a similar format next week.

CO-CURRICULAR ONLINE CLUBS – Mr Akers, Senior Teacher: Co-Curricular

This week's launch of the online co-curricular clubs has gone well with staff and students accessing a range of activities. We will still be offering these opportunities for boys over the coming weeks, so it is not too late to get your son involved. Activities on offer include:

Monday	Dingbats cryptic quiz
Tuesday	Christian union
Tuesday	Computer design club
Wednesday	Socrates debate
Thursday	Bingo
Friday	Chess club

If you or your son would like to be added to the Microsoft "Teams" group to allow him to access all/any of these groups please email Mr Akers k.akers@vcj.sch.je with your son's name and the words 'co-curricular 1300 club' in the subject of the email.

CHALLENGE : 'Celebrate Local' Home Cooking Competition Reminder

The challenge is to cook for at least two people, using at least three locally sourced ingredients/items.

Entries will be judged and a winner announced in each year group, as well as an overall student winner. There is also a 'friends and families' category for OVs, parents and friends of the school – so get cooking!

To enter the competition, you will need to provide :

- Ingredients list with information as to where you sourced your local ingredients
- Step-by-step recipe with photos, including any processes used and safety considerations
- Photos of your final dish



Complete the relevant 'House' PDF, to enable us to compile a VCJ cookbook once the competition is complete, and send to Mr Gorman for judging (w.gorman@vcj.sch.je). Closing date is **12pm, Tuesday 23rd June**.

Forms can be downloaded here [Braithwaite](#) / [Bruce](#) / [Diarmid](#) / [Dunlop](#) / [Sartorius](#)

There will be bonus marks for engaging with the school Twitter (@VictoriaCollege) or Instagram (@VictoriaCollegeJersey) or Facebook (Victoria College, Jersey) accounts, as well as the accounts belonging to your local suppliers so we can all celebrate local. <https://hedgeveg.ie/> and [Homefields](#).

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

We are aware that the current COVID-19 pandemic continues to cause 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.

EXTERNAL RESOURCES

Royal Opera House – 7:30pm Saturday 20 June – 'Live from Covent Garden' concert. The performance will be a celebration of both ballet and opera and can be viewed from home stream.roh.org.uk/

The Prince's Trust, Founder and President, HRH The Prince of Wales not only recognises the enormous long-term impact coronavirus will have on young people, but also the extremely challenging recovery process. With job prospects impacted as well as young people's mental health, self-esteem and quality of life, The Prince's Trust is asking for everyone to pull together to truly be there for them. Their futures depend on it. His message can be [viewed here](#).

Volunteering : Volunteer.Je offers opportunities for people aged 14 to 18 with organisations that demonstrate compliance with the highest levels of governance and safeguarding.

And finally, I am very pleased to share with you some feedback from our newly appointed Prefect team about how they have demonstrated resilience and resourcefulness during lockdown. These are, of course, two of our four school values which will be further highlighted by other members of the team in the weeks to come.

May I wish you all an enjoyable weekend.

With kind regards,

Alun Watkins
Headmaster



Resourcefulness



Patrick 12 Sartorius

During the lockdown period there wasn't really much to do as we were stuck inside, so I mainly spent my free time learning how to drive. As it wasn't possible to have formal lessons with an instructor, I mainly practiced in car parks and down near La Colette with my dad and had to learn what to do as I went along.

However, as the roads were pretty well empty due to everyone being cooped up inside, I was able to get a lot of practice early on without having to worry about other cars, which helped me improve.

My driving pretty well improved in line with lockdown being slowly lifted, which has helped me as the number of cars on the road has increased in line with my experience.

I think this is a good example of resourcefulness as I was able to make the most of a bad situation and learn a new skill, as well as saving a fortune in lesson fees.

Aidan 12 Bruce

Resourcefulness is an ability we have all been forced to develop over the past few months, during these unusual times. Whether it be relating to academic work or physical exercise, we've all had to overcome new obstacles by trying different methods when completing these activities we previously took for granted.

Although not as exciting as the school sport that I had been enjoying pre-coronavirus, running became a part of mine and many others' routine as a way to get out. I challenged myself against friends as a way to maintain the competitive side.

We all had to acclimatise to the online teaching from the school and, admittedly, using so many new platforms like Zoom, Teams, Outlook and SharePoint proved to be challenging at first. However, personally at least, I've managed to organise my accounts on these apps to a point where it's (almost!) as fluent as being at school in person, a stage I would have assumed to be impossible around mid-March when this all started!





Resilience



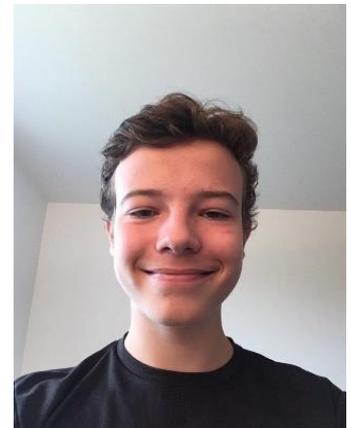
Robert 12 Sartorius

"It is extremely important that everyone is resilient in their lives, and even though some people may not want to go out of their way to be resilient, you will find that you are resilient in some way. Especially in these strange times, we have all had to adapt to these new circumstances of working at home and in a way, this has demonstrated our resilience. My resilience comes with another one of the school's morals, aspiration. I aspire to go to university and study sports psychology. Throughout lockdown, I have shown resilience by working that bit extra when I am able to, to make sure I can reach my target grades in my upcoming exams."

Joshua 12 Braithwaite

"Over the course of the last couple of months in lockdown, I have used our newfound time to try to improve on my running speed, especially over 5 kilometres. This has consisted of a variety of different training methods, including long runs, intervals, sprint and hill sessions.

Despite not being able to officially record my 5k time at a race, I am already seeing some promising progress and improvement in both the duration and quality of my training. This is particularly pleasing for me since this process is requiring plenty of resilience, as a few years ago I suffered from a lengthy knee injury and only recently I had my appendix removed.



These physical setbacks have inevitably hampered my progress and have been obstacles that I have had to overcome. While I am certainly not the fastest of runners (my brother who is two years below me consistently leaves me in the dust), it is a great thing to do, both for your body and mind and so I couldn't recommend it enough."