



Headmaster's Update

Friday 10 July 2020

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Dear Parents,

This is a very short introduction to the newsletter today and I would ask our parents to see an attached letter from me outlining our plans for the start of the Autumn term in September and our response to your feedback about our Home Learning provision.

PARENTAL SURVEY REVIEW REMINDER - Message from Mr Crossley, Assistant Head Academic

As part of our plan to continually improve the curriculum at Victoria College, many staff have been reflecting on and researching other examples of curriculum models at a range of UK schools. The views of our parents are important, so if you haven't already done so, could you please take the time in [completing this survey](#). Thank you - it is very much appreciated. This survey will remain open until the end of the academic year, with responses collated and considered over the next few months.

COUNTER BULLYING AMBASSADORS & PEER MENTORS PHASE TWO– Message from Mrs Watkins

We were delighted to welcome Year 11 back every afternoon this week to complete phase two of their training in preparation to support Key Stage 3 this coming September. I was delighted that 68 boys from all Houses attended this two hour workshop which focused on safeguarding and role play, led by our new Head of Drama, Adam Warburton.

If your son missed phase one of the training, the catch-up session will be this Monday in The Great Hall starting at 2:00pm.

If you have any concerns about your son, please do contact your son's Housemaster or myself s.watkins@vcj.sch.je.

CATERING & BISTRO VICTORIA – Message from Mrs Ferguson, Bursar

During the last few months, we have been working with CYPES to review the catering contract for Bistro Victoria. The contract with Capsicum and Jersey Potteries will come to an end this month and a new provider will be in place in the Autumn term. We will advise of the new catering provision once the tender process has concluded. The current Bistro cards will not be valid after this month. If you have a balance outstanding on your son's Bistro card, please **contact** admin@vcj.sch.je to let them know the name on the card and the amount outstanding. We will pass this information to Capsicum so that they can organise a refund.

The boys have been sent a review survey. If your son has not completed this, please could you encourage him to do this. The survey closes on Sunday 12 July. <https://emmalouiseveitch.typeform.com/to/mYO8msZN>

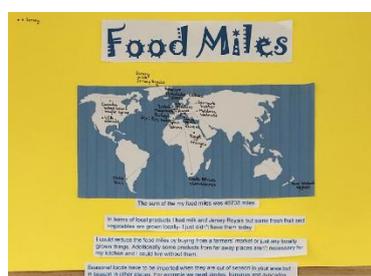
LOCKER REMINDER – Message from Mrs Ritchie

Could you please remind your son to empty his locker before the end of term, as they will be cleaned over the Summer. Anything left in the lockers will be disposed of.

YEAR 7 & 8 DIPLOMA

Geography Diploma Challenge – Message from Mrs Palfreyman

This week in Geography, Years 7&8 have been investigating Food Miles and the distance products have travelled to reach their plates. William Turpin, Year 8, produced this excellent map and summary of his investigation using proportional arrows to show distances. Mrs Blackmore would also like to commend Jacob R on his exceptionally produced and presented Weather forecast, complete with sun glasses and school uniform!



Art – Message from Mr



Crossley

A shout out to some excellent final submissions for the Art Task. Olliver B took on the study of birds and learnt how to colour and handle icing. A task that took some time but was certainly worth it as it was apparently rather yummy! And a well done to Oliver H for his excellent version of an elephant!

DRAMA DEPARTMENT – Message from Miss Hill

I'd really like to congratulate the first half of my Year 10 GCSE students who were able to perform their second piece of practical coursework this week: Monologues! Mr Warburton and I were delighted by the standard of work which was showcased. The boys performed monologues from a variety of novels and plays including Lord of The Flies and The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui. Even during these challenging times, the show must go on! Well done!

CCF UPDATE – SHOOTING CLUB - Message, RSM Fidrmuc, Staff School Instructor

Fullbore - Haines Shield

This week we have competed in Fullbore Shooting against Elizabeth College (Guernsey) for the Haines Shield. This is normally competed at Bisley but given the CV-19 situation we have made an exception this year. We are delighted to confirm we beat a relatively junior Elizabeth College team and have retained the Haines Shield for the third consecutive year. Well done to the team, captained by George Y.

Smallbore - Tostevin Bowl

On Wednesday we had the final smallbore competition of the year and the reinstated Tostevin Bowl was up for grabs between a team of four juniors from St Lawrence and four of our College Shooting Team. The St Lawrence team were certainly the strongest but the College team put up a good fight to the end, but ultimately finished 9 pts behind. Well done to all involved.

RETURN OF BOOKS – Message Mr Wooldridge

A thank you message to students and parents for the return of the textbooks. Across all disciplines issued through the library, we have seen 97% of books returned and thank you to Mrs Smith for helping to see an unprecedentedly high textbook return this year.

EX HEAD BOY SCHOOL VISIT – Message from Mrs Job

We were delighted to welcome James Dempsey back to school this week, who spent time offering brilliant advice and talking to students about his experience at Oxford. James has just completed his PPE course at Oxford University and he is currently waiting for results for his final exams.



UNIVERSITY 2021/2022 ACADEMIC YEAR – Message from Mrs Job

For those planning to apply to university for the 2021/2022 academic year, students could give some thought over the summer holiday about the sorts of things that they might want to include in their personal statement – ideally returning to school with a completed first draft. To help parents guide their children on how to think about personal statements, some helpful tools can be accessed below:

[The Parents' Guide to Personal statements - 2021 edition](#)

[A mind map to guide through personal statement content](#)

[The Dos and Don'ts of writing a personal statement](#)



SPORT – Mr Smith, Director of Sport

A special mention to **Rathbones** for their continued support in providing the new kit for College's 1st XI Football players for next season. Thank you.

REDVERS REMINDER– uniform procedures for September 2020 term

Parents will need to make an appointment by telephoning Redvers on 731707 to purchase uniform, with appointments taking place between 20 July and 29 August. Appointments should take no longer than 45 minutes and should only be attended by the student and one parent/carer.

NEARLY NEW UNIFORM SHOP – stock request

Due to recent volume of sales, the Shop is sending out a plea for College uniform in good condition. They would be grateful for blazers, school ties, black jumpers, trousers, reversible games tops, house polo shirts, crested PE and games shorts, swimming trunks and caps and lab coats. They are also happy to receive sports equipment such as cricket bats, tennis rackets, hockey sticks, football boots and trainers. Should you have any items to donate, please leave them with the School Office marked 'Nearly New Uniform' before the end of term.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT – message from the Headmaster, Mr Watkins

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.

And finally, I am very pleased to share with you some messages from our newly appointed Head Boy and Deputy Head Boy. May I wish you all an enjoyable weekend.

With kind regards,

Alun Watkins
Headmaster



Welcome Messages

2020/2021

Ben Wiseman, Head Boy

It is a huge honour and a great privilege to have been appointed as Head Boy here at Victoria College. Like many other young students, I arrived here in Year 7 with aspirations to achieve a position as influential and significant as this, and it truly feels like a dream come true. As an avid history student, I still find it amazing to think that my name will be placed on a board inside of the Main Building, like the Head Prefect who preceded me many years ago upon the school's formation. The very walls of this college are living, breathing history, and I have now been included in such a magnificent display. I am incredibly grateful to the many teachers who have helped me become the person I am today, for without their belief in me I cannot picture myself anywhere near this position. I truly hope to fully embrace the college community in my final year here and fulfil my role to the maximum of my potential.



Firstly, I would like to introduce myself - who I am and what I believe in. I arrived at the college in Year 7 from Les Landes School in St Ouen. I am fiercely proud of my Parish and consider myself to be very active within the community, having been a member of the 1st Jersey (St Ouen) Sea Scout Group for the past 9 years. Some of you may have seen me before, taking part in things like the St Ouen remembrance ceremony or the Parish Fete. Alongside my co-curricular activities, I have also been a member of Sartorius house since my arrival at the school, another community I take a great pride in being part of. I have made an effort to be as involved as possible with the various house events that are put on every year, ranging from the charity meal, to the student council or to the Founders' Day Walk. I am passionate about empowering students into believing in themselves and having a strong student voice within the school, so would encourage everyone here to challenge themselves to enact positive change for the betterment of our environment and community. Please do come and speak to either myself or any member of the prefect team if you want to discuss any aspect of life here at Victoria College.

We have the benefit of a fantastic prefect team this year, all of whom have their own qualities and experience across a wide range of subjects and activities. It is our collective aim as the prefect body to become more recognisable within our community and highlight the positives of our school through various engagement projects and volunteer work. For this to work, we as the team will need to have everyone onside; there is no point in us existing as a remote entity that nobody recognises or associates themselves with. My focus now is finding ways of giving back to the community that helped me to reach this position, and my first short-term goal is to introduce myself to all of the younger students who are in the early stages of their time here at Victoria College.

Once again, I reiterate my thanks to everyone who has been so supportive and helpful in enabling me to achieve my aspirations. I look forward to the exciting journey that we as a school are embarking on in September and wish everyone a restful and safe summer holiday.

Sammy Cooil, Deputy Head Boy

Hello to you all, I am Sammy Cooil, your new Deputy Head Boy for the 2020/2021 academic year. I am privileged to have been appointed to this prestigious role and I cannot wait to work with such a fantastic and diverse prefect team in the coming year.

As for me personally, I hope to achieve significant interaction with the younger years, and I hope to be someone who everyone recognises around the school and a figure who is very approachable if anyone should have any queries or problems.

I hope to promote our wonderful College to the wider community with various engagements with the general public as we are extremely fortunate to attend Victoria College on a daily basis, however, we cannot forget that not everyone is lucky enough to come to Victoria College or enjoy the privileges we occasionally may take for granted, therefore, it is essential that we help those less fortunate than ourselves. I believe we have a very good year ahead of ourselves and I look forward to hopefully seeing all of your faces again, hopefully sooner rather than later.

