

Yateley School Parents' Bulletin

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Learning Together – Empowered for Life

Dear Parent / Carer,

It won't have escaped your attention that despite some positive indicators in the national picture for COVID, there have been a number of cases in the local vicinity recently and it has started to really affect the local schools quite badly. As you will have gathered from the letter on Thursday, we have had another incidence in school, which fortunately, we were able to isolate and contain. I am of course concerned that with the best will in the world and highly impactful measures in school, we will remain vulnerable until the vaccine has been widely distributed. I am indebted to parents for your patience and your understanding, especially if we have to take measures that we hate to do as a school, namely sending children home to self-isolate. We will only do this if we have no choice and Public Health England are very clear and directive on the matter. With only two weeks to go until the Christmas holidays, let's work together to try and avoid or at least reduce the risk of anyone having to isolate over the break. Please err on the side of caution and don't expose others to risk if you feel that your child may have been infected. People are considered infectious by PHE from two days before the appearance of symptoms, so clearly the fewer people they've had contact with the better. If you think there's a risk, trust your judgment and keep them away from others until they've had a test. Face coverings, good hand hygiene and social distancing does make a difference in school, so please remind your child of the importance of this and not to drop our guard at this late stage. Our main school office staff have become quite expert on the advice front, so do give us a call if you are concerned or have a question.

Thank you to all of the parents who joined us for the Year 9 online parents' evening on Thursday. These online appointments have certainly paid off and are seemingly very well received by both parents and staff. It poses a challenge of time of course, but the ability to join in from home is clearly a massive bonus and something we're very likely to continue. Occasionally connection problems occur, so it is wise to check connectivity and the ability to run video conferencing in advance. One parent captured it beautifully in an email which I was delighted to receive this morning. 'I just wanted to say thank you so much to all of my son's teachers and everyone involved in putting the online parents' evening together. It was really great to put a face to the names I haven't had a chance to meet and just a huge thanks for everything that the school is doing to keep things running smoothly during these unusual times as it really cannot be easy.'



If a bit of seasonal motivation to get active takes your fancy, have a go at the **PE Department's Advent Calendar** activity challenge. The PE team with a fair bit of help from their friends have 24 varied activities to get us moving and maybe a tad fitter – some are more challenging and serious than others. Have a look on their Twitter page for the daily updates @yateleyschoolPE. The one on Christmas Eve will be worth waiting for...just saying.

Next Friday, 11th December, is our **Charity Mufti Day**. We would love to see as many festive jumpers, tinsel adornments etc, but these extra pieces aren't compulsory! Donations of at least £1 are requested, cash payment on the day please. The money raised will be donated to Step-By-Step, a local charity that supports 16–24-year-olds in our area (see last week's Parent Bulletin for more information about their vital work in our community). If you would like to donate more, please send extra cash on the day or use the Charity option in ScoPay.

Yateley School Parents' Bulletin



We are absolutely delighted with the success of our Year 13s in their UCAS applications. Over 99% of the applications have already received offers and the remaining students have sent their applications in the last couple of days. We are pleased to hear how confident and successful our students have been in interviews.

Applications for the Sixth Form close today and we have had 280 applications. However, don't panic, you can still apply: [Yateley Sixth Form College, Hampshire :: Application Form](#) If you need any further details of our course offer the virtual Open Evening is still live and contains a huge amount of detail: [Yateley School Sixth Form Open Evening Experience – Learning Together Empowered For Life](#)

Yours sincerely

Paul German
Headteacher

Stakeholder Surveys – Parents/Carers Reminder

Thank you to all of you that have completed the surveys already, just a reminder below and the surveys close this Sunday.



It is so important to Yateley School to gather the views and opinions of all our stakeholders (Parents, Students and Staff) on numerous school areas, how we operate and how we support young people and the community.

We have decided to create two central stakeholder surveys for all three groups of people which we would issue on a yearly basis. The surveys would cover all aspects of school life (lessons, Ready Respectful Safe, uniform, equipment, mental health and wellbeing, safeguarding, etc). We would then analyse the results which would feed into the schools further development. Survey 1 is a focus on Mental Health and Well-Being while survey 2 is a focus on Yateley School Life.

We have already conducted these surveys with all students in Year 7 to 11, and now we would like parents/carers to take part. We would really appreciate all parents/carers to put aside some time over the weekend and complete the two Google Form surveys.

Deadline for completion is Sunday 6th December. Because of the content they do have a large amount of questions so you will need around 45 minutes to complete both surveys. The surveys are anonymous. Many thanks for your time and your valued opinions.

- Survey 1 (Mental Health and Well-Being) – [CLICK HERE](#)
- Survey 2 (Yateley School Life) – [CLICK HERE](#)

Yateley School Parents' Bulletin

Theme of the Week (Week Beginning 7th December 2020)

Theme = Volunteering, Word of the Week = Benevolent



THEME: Why is it important to “volunteer”? Can you think of 4 examples of ways in which different people “volunteer” to help their community? If there were no volunteers in the UK, at all, which aspect of our society do you think would suffer the most?

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/get-involved/take-part/volunteer>
- <https://www.ncvo.org.uk/>
- <https://volunteermatters.org.uk/>

How can young people volunteer when some activities are not open to them?

- <https://www.princes-trust.org.uk/help-for-young-people/who-else/volunteering>
- <https://www.byc.org.uk/>

WORD: See attached PowerPoint slide.

Assembly Videos



Because we currently can't safely have tutor time and therefore assemblies we wanted to find another way of getting whole year group messages to students. We have started recording and sending to students video assemblies during the school day and via their school e-mail accounts.

We wanted to share these with you which you can watch at home (you might need to get your child to log into the curriculum for them to work). Details are below (please don't judge us by the quality of the web cameras we have used for the videos!)

Week beginning 23.11.20

- Year 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 = 'What Went Well and Even Better If' from Mr German and Mr Keeble – [CLICK HERE](#)
- Year 9 = 'Superb Progression' from Mr Hill – [CLICK HERE](#)

Week beginning 30.11.20

- Year 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 = 'Resilience' by Mr Coggan - [CLICK HERE](#)
- Year 11 = 'Revision' by Mr Hill - [CLICK HERE](#)

Action For Happiness – Every act of kindness matters

2020 has been a really difficult year. One thing that can hold us together and help us get through is **kindness**. Kind actions lift our spirits, enhance relationships and benefit those around us. Kindness is a gift in both directions - let's share as much of it as we can.



Our **Do Good December** calendar is full of ideas to help you help

Yateley School Parents' Bulletin

others. It's the advent calendar we need in 2020! [CLICK HERE](#)

You can also use the app ([CLICK HERE](#)) to receive the daily calendar actions and join a supportive community putting these into practice.

10 Keys Groups: helping people stay connected online: During these unusual times, we've had to find creative ways of looking after ourselves and staying connected to others. Our volunteers are helping people get together online through local groups, using our monthly themes. Join a group near you (or create one) here: www.actionforhappiness.org/groups

Upcoming Event: We've got more fantastic events coming up. Do join us if you can!

- 9 Dec: [Jon Kabat-Zinn](#) - Reducing Stress

Let's do whatever we can to bring a bit more happiness to others around us this month. Every little act of kindness makes a difference.

Young Minds – Supporting Parents and Carers

If your child feels worried or anxious during the holidays, creating a worry box together might help them. Our conversation starters are then a good starting point to talk about these feelings and worries.



- How to make a worry box guide – [CLICK HERE](#)
- Download Conversation Starters – [CLICK HERE](#)

For all resources on supporting pupils, staff and parents through the covid-19 pandemic visit our resource page – [CLICK HERE](#)

Mr Rupert Keeble

MFL VOCABULARY COMPETITION

Well done to everyone who took part in week 3 of the vocab competition. Those on the podium change each week with 48 students completing the French Kahoot and 22 completing the German Kahoot.

The winners of the German competition in week 3 are:

1. Reyna Dimli (9PN)
2. Elliot Casselton (9NN)
3. Maddi Wiacek (9PN)

And French:

1. Jacob (please put your full name in the future!)
2. Cody Kingswood (9DW)
3. Justyna Poliwka (9PN)

Yateley School Parents' Bulletin

The winners will receive house points with Pankhurst gaining 5 points overall and 2 points for both Nightingale and Darwin.

With only 2 weeks left of the competition do you think you can become the overall Y9 vocab champion?

Miss O Grabowska

ANTI-BULLYING POSTER COMPETITION



Thank you to everyone who took part in this competition: Kian Davies 7NS, Millie Benton 7PS, Annalise Perry 7WN, Max Phillips 7PS, Abigail Brown 7PN, Gracie Henderson 8WS, Douglas Bardsley 8NS, Rebecca Lee 8NS and Phoebe Bateman 8NS. There were some great messages in these posters and the Anti-bullying Ambassadors had difficulty in picking just one winner. Congratulations goes to our winner, Phoebe Bateman.

Mrs J Balls



DO YOU SHOP AT THE CO-OP?

Vision for Youth (V4Y) is a Yateley, Frogmore and Darby Green based charity that supports young people with youth clubs that, in normal times, would be happening every evening of the week.

We have been on lockdown but are trying to get our groups up and running as safely as possible, as soon as possible. We are trying to raise funds and one way is via the Co-op. If you are a member of the Co-op you can choose V4Y as your local charity and as you shop a donation is made.

Please choose Vision4Youth.

For more information about the charity please visit our website www.vision4youth.org.uk or email us on office@vision4youth.org.uk

Maths Corner 11



Gary invests £1000 in a bank account which pays 4% compound interest per annum. Gary plans to leave the money in the account for 5 years. The Bank Clerk tells him that he will have £1200 in the account after 5 years. Explain why the Bank Clerk is wrong. How much money will Gary actually have?

1 house point to all parents/students who presents the correct answer to their maths teacher before next weeks Maths Corner is published.

Answer to Maths Corner 10 – Find the Goal

32 Goals