

# Yateley School Parents' Bulletin

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## Learning Together – Empowered for Life

Dear Parents,

Thanks to your support, a lot of teamwork and some well executed plans, we have made it successfully to the end of our third week of term and each successful day is another day of learning and certainly in the case of Year 11 and Year 13, one step closer to their GCSE and A' Level examinations in the summer. My staff have commented very favourably about the conduct and attitude of the students and although the new routines are certainly unusual, most have adapted really well. We are acutely conscious however, of the impact of not being able to have extracurricular and curriculum intervention activities (largely because of avoiding year groups mixing and because of the need to thoroughly clean all areas of the school) although it is our sincere aim to reintroduce a cautious element of this as soon as it is practical. It is a key reason for the school's popularity and success and now that the new routines are becoming the norm, we can look to extend our reach a little. Similarly, tutor time, which is a pivotal part of our personal development programme will be reintroduced when it is safe to do so.

**Wet weather.** A published plan for wet procedures had been readied for staff, but then had to be introduced with students rather earlier than planned after Thursday's sudden rain at lunchtime. We've been clear from the outset that outdoor gathering is safer and preferable, except in severe weather, in which case indoor mustering has to be the case. As with all of our planning – simplicity has been key and this is the case with the wet weather plans too. The arrangements have been explained by me in a video message to students which was shown on Friday afternoon. However, in summary, the arrangements are as follows:

Wet arrival to school – students will be told at the gate to go straight to the first lesson (period 1)

Wet break or lunchtime -

- Year 7 **D Block** - downstairs classrooms  
7DN (D11); 7DS (D13); 7NN (D15); 7NS (D14); 7PN (D17); 7PS (D19); 7WN (D18); 7WS (D12)
- Year 8 **A Block** - downstairs classrooms  
8DN (A11); 8DS (A15); 8NN (A12); 8NS (A13); 8PN (A17); 8PS (A18); 8WN (A19); 8WS (A14)
- Year 9 **Gym** – entry by external door
- Year 10 **Sports Hall** – entry by tennis courts
- Year 11 **Main Hall** – entry by refectory

Students will be supervised in each of these venues and food would be delivered at lunchtime. At the end of the break or lunch, dismissal would be controlled by senior staff and students would leave these venues at carefully staggered intervals.

**Masks/Face coverings.** Face coverings have already become the norm for all movement around school within lesson time, for example to go to the toilet. The mounting evidence from schools elsewhere is that although they cannot be the only risk mitigation strategy, face coverings form a useful additional defence and certainly help when making difficult contact tracing decisions. For that reason, we are stepping up the use of masks from Monday (28.9.20). I have been absolutely delighted to see for myself that practically every child possesses a face covering and has it readily available in school. From Monday, in addition to the current measures, students and staff will need to apply a face covering as they leave the outside muster point and at all points when moving to or from the classroom. They would

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be permitted to remove them at the teacher's discretion once they are within the classroom. The primary purpose of this, of course is to reduce the risk of cross contamination in indoor (particularly corridor) spaces. The simplest way to remember this, is that everyone – staff or students – when moving beyond the classroom will need to wear a mask.

While a huge amount of our time has been taken up with simply making sure the school operates efficiently, alongside this, we have also been preparing a microsite to host our **virtual Open Evening** from 1<sup>st</sup> October and onwards. Filming of departments has been taking place throughout the week and the various talks have been recorded to supplement the whole thing. Please help us to promote this to all interested families and especially to prospective parents of year 6 pupils. It will all be hosted on <https://www.yateleyschool.net/openevening/>. At the moment this is just a placeholder, but watch this space!

**Student Voice.** Head Girl Chloe and Deputy Head Boy Ryan have been hard at work preparing a means of launching our student voice in a virtual space. This will come out as a Google Form on Monday and we will send further details by School Comms. This will provide an excellent for students to sign up and get involved in the further development of the school.

Yours sincerely

Paul German  
**Headteacher**

## Updated Behaviour COVID Appendix Policy

We have made some updates to our Behaviour COVID Appendix to outline details when it comes to face masks and expectations at muster areas during both dry and wet weather conditions. This policy is in addition to our normal Behaviour Policy. Both can be found on our school website via the below links:

- Behaviour Policy – [CLICK HERE](#)
- Behaviour COVID Appendix Policy – [CLICK HERE](#)

## Winter Uniform – from Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October

Reminder to all parents that all students must be in winter uniform from Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October. Summer uniform (i.e. polo shirt) will not be allowed.

## Theme of the Week (Week Beginning 28<sup>th</sup> Sep 2020) - Theme = Heritage; Word = Legacy

Because we are currently not able to run our normal tutor time provision, we would like to share with parents our SMSC Theme of the Week so if you find time over the weekend with your son/daughter you might be able to go through with them.

**Theme Task:** Use the National Trust and English Heritage websites to research all the amazing Heritage of the UK.

- <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/>
- <https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/>

Discuss: What is "Heritage" .. in what way is it different to "History"

Discuss and agree the Top Three locations for a trip based on the following criteria



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- Most Fun
- Most Educational
- Most Amazing example of the UK's heritage

Word: Please see the attached PowerPoint

*Mr R.Keeble, Deputy Headteacher - Culture*

## NATIONAL CIPHER CHALLENGE

During lockdown the National Cipher Challenge added an extra edition to keep codebreakers busy. During that time a team from Yateley School independently organised themselves to take part, finishing joint third place.

=3 coder Yateley School

The thing is, due to them taking part independently, we do not know which students are in team "coder." In lieu of congratulating them personally, here is a public notice of "well done them!"

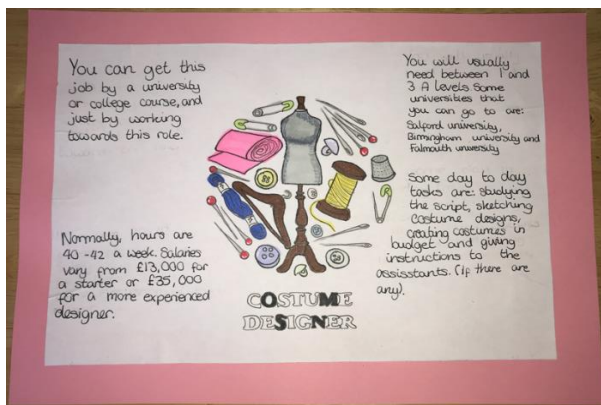
Many thanks,

*Mr T I Glendinning, Head of Secure Pathway Mathematics*

## DANCE

During lockdown, Dance students were set the task to research a career in Performing Arts and create an eye catching and informative poster for our students to learn from. These are now being displayed outside our dance studio!

*Helen Wearing, Head of Dance*



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Do you ever wonder who decides on what backdrop is used in a theatre, or what set location a film is shot in? It is the exciting role of a Set Designer

Set Designers need to have received formal education in the arts, you do not need to have a degree in set design, but it will help you. Most universities, colleges and drama schools offer arts-related HND or degree

## Set Designer



Dance Career - set designer

Taylor, COX

### SET DESIGNER

Are you interested in being a set designer?

Here is some information of how you can become a set designer

Skills and knowledge you'll need:

- knowledge of the fine arts
- design skills and knowledge
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- the ability to use your initiative
- the ability to work well with others
- the ability to come up with new ways of doing things
- the ability to accept criticism and work well under pressure
- excellent verbal communication skills
- to be able to carry out basic tasks on a computer or hand-held device

42-40 hours a week



To study this at College you will need:

4 or 5 GCSEs grades 9 to 4 (Grades A\* to C), or equivalent for level 3

To study this at University you will need:

1 or 2 A levels, or equivalent, for a higher national diploma

2 or 3 A levels or equivalent, for a degree

## ICT & Computing Department (Mrs Cobbold)

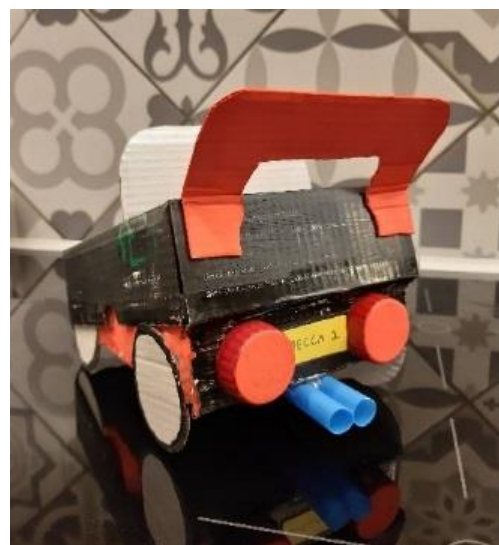
Over the lockdown period our year 7 and year 8 students completed a topic on using Computational Thinking skills to solve problems. As part of the topic the students competed to create a model of a structure using the skills they had learnt. The winners were:

### Year 7

**1<sup>st</sup> place:** James Haggas, the aircraft carrier even had a flight deck with aircraft on it.



**2<sup>nd</sup> place:** Rebecca Lee





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3<sup>rd</sup> place: Oliver De La Haye

## Year 8

1<sup>st</sup> place: Molly Jacob



2<sup>nd</sup> place: Reyna Dimli



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3<sup>rd</sup> place: Cooper Shambrook



We were very impressed at the effort and creative ability of our students so we were very thankful that Dr Case agreed to judge the models as we loved them all

*Mrs Cobbold*