



DAME ALLAN'S SCHOOLS
building the future

Weekly Update

Friday 1 May 2020

Key information

We have been made aware of some issues around access to live lessons, particularly in cases where home WiFi is provided by Sky Broadband. If you have experienced these issues, please do get in touch with us at

IT@dameallans.co.uk

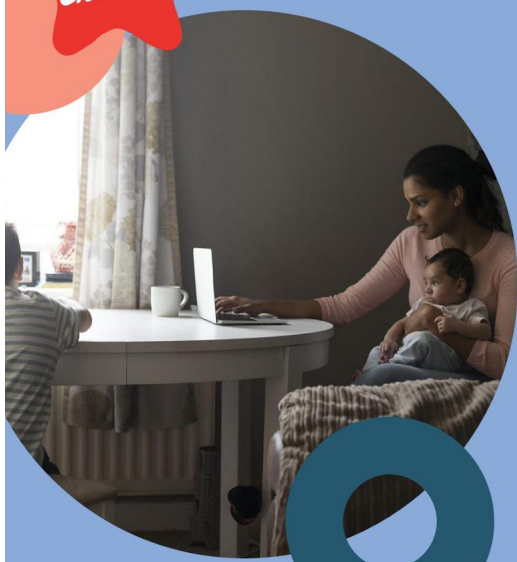

Strive! at the Senior School

If you find your child is finishing their work quickly, once they have fully completed the set tasks and any provided extension work, they can take a look at our 'Strive' lists for their subject/year group.

The lists can be found on the private pupil-only Strive site: [Lower School](#) - [Middle School](#) - [Sixth Form](#)

Support during Lockdown

It can be difficult to juggle supporting your child's learning, managing behaviour, coping with anxiety and isolation and, for many, working from home. Newcastle City Council recommends this fantastic website which offers advice and resources, as well as 24 hour support: [Support for Parents from Action For Children](#)



Have a question about parenting?

Action for Children is offering free online parenting support for families with children aged 0-19. You can ask us for help on all sorts of things – from how to keep your children entertained at home, to how to handle difficult behaviour, to how to manage stress and anxiety at this challenging time.

Head to parents.actionforchildren.org.uk to read our advice and useful resources, or talk directly to a parenting coach via our confidential 1-1 live chat.

Whatever you need, Action for Children are here to listen and support you.

SPORT

It looks like our Juniors are having lots of fun with the sports challenges set by Miss Dobbin in her 'Dobbin Dailies' videos!

Here are Hugh (Year 3) and Cora (Year 1) on their daily walk doing the Egg and Spoon challenge as demonstrated by Miss Dobbin.



Over the Easter holidays, Rory (Year 6) took on the Burpee challenge - excellent use of fancy dress by all concerned!



ART

Mr Watson was extremely impressed with this clay statue of 'Medusa' which Ella (Year 5) made after studying myths and legends. Fantastic job, Ella!



FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Congratulations to Jessica (Year 7) who won Mrs Crawley's Easter Bake Off with this fantastic Easter egg cake. [Follow this link](#) to see all of the competition entries. Well done to all of the entrants - we're sure you'll agree, everything looked delicious and they clearly made judging very difficult for Mrs Crawley!



MATHEMATICS

Huge congratulations to the students who entered the Newcastle University 2020 Maths Challenges and won prizes or certificates in recognition for their efforts. There were 1437 entries this year and the standard for prize-winning entries was very high. In total, 47 prizes and 44 certificates were awarded across both the Junior and Senior challenges.

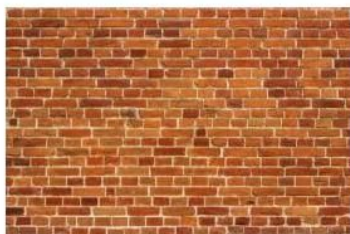
Senior Maths Challenge Prize winner
Amy H (Year 10), Denny (Year 9)
Senior Maths Challenge Certificate winner
Amy F (Year 10), Anna (Year 10)
Junior Maths Challenge Prize winner
Sophie (Year 8), Zoe (Year 8)
Junior Maths Challenge Certificate winner
Enya (Year 8)



ENGLISH

Our thanks to Mrs Morgan in the Senior Schools' English department for keeping us entertained with her imaginative game of Dingbats. Can you guess the author in question?

Guess the author...



MUSIC

"If music be the food of love, play on..."

Before the current crisis in which we find ourselves, our music department was in the process of launching the Dame Allan's Community Choir. It was to be a celebration of the entire DAS family culminating in a performance at the Spring Concert in April.

However, in times like these, it is more important than ever to celebrate our togetherness so the music department has now launched the Dame Allan's Virtual Choir. Through the wonders of technology, we can all record ourselves singing 'Over the Rainbow / What a Wonderful World' in social isolation and these videos will be merged to create one harmonious track.

[Here is Mr Smith, our Director of Music, to explain a little more.](#)

We encourage anybody who is part of the Dame Allan's community to get involved - pupils, parents and guardians, staff, alumni; all are welcome!

Interested? Just email NA.Smith@dameallans.co.uk



Dame Allan's Schools



@DameAllans

A message from our Chaplain

Where is hope?

This week we've seen lockdown restrictions starting to be relaxed in some nations – hope for our return to some sense of freedom and normality. But as I write this morning (Friday 1st), there are some news stories about possible second waves beginning to appear in those European countries that thought they might be past the worst. Whatever our faith, we are called to be a people of hope, yet even for those of faith, there are many times when our hopes are tested.

As the Christian community recently marked Lent, members of the Islamic community find themselves now in the month of Ramadan. Both times of deep reflection and prayer in which hope and certainty might be tested and faith deepened. My Muslim friends talk of the great challenge of keeping the fast when normal life continues. For those members of our school community, who by the end of Ramadan would normally be in the midst of the exam season, it will be an extra challenge to keep focussed and full of hope when the pangs of hunger bite, for whilst many exams might not take place, work will still need to be completed and deadlines met – the shared Iftar will be all the more joyous when the time is passed; something to hope for when the work is done.

In the Fenham community, we see a great deal of hope in challenging circumstances; from hope generated by our school communities that are doing their best to nurture the future to the hope seen in small acts of love like the donations to our foodbanks and care homes. But this hope can often feel tainted by the other side of the story, the story of loss of all sorts of things, and of course the tragic loss of friends and family, if not in our personal community, then from within the wider community.

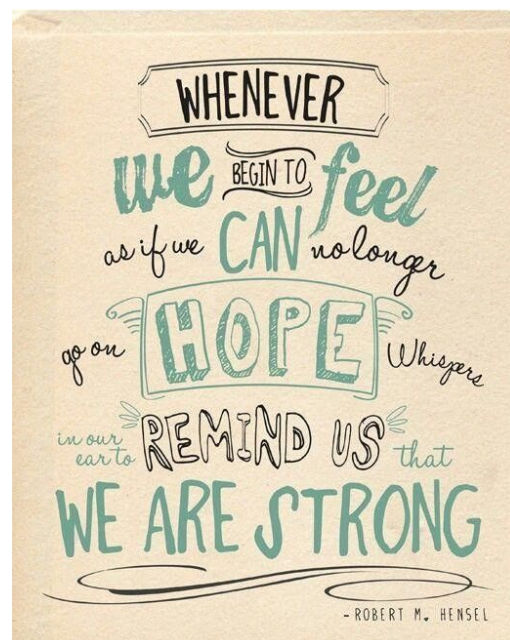
Christian hope is founded in that great Easter resurrection promise. This week, the Archbishop of Canterbury shared a short message with schools in which he spoke a little more about where he finds hope in the darkest of times. If you would like to watch the video, please [click here](#).

As this week ends, and we look towards the next, I encourage you to find time to reflect and remember the moments of hope in the week that has passed and in the challenging moments. As you reflect, here's a modern paraphrase of the [Beatitudes for a Global Pandemic](#).

With hope and continued prayer in this season,

James

chaplain@dameallans.co.uk

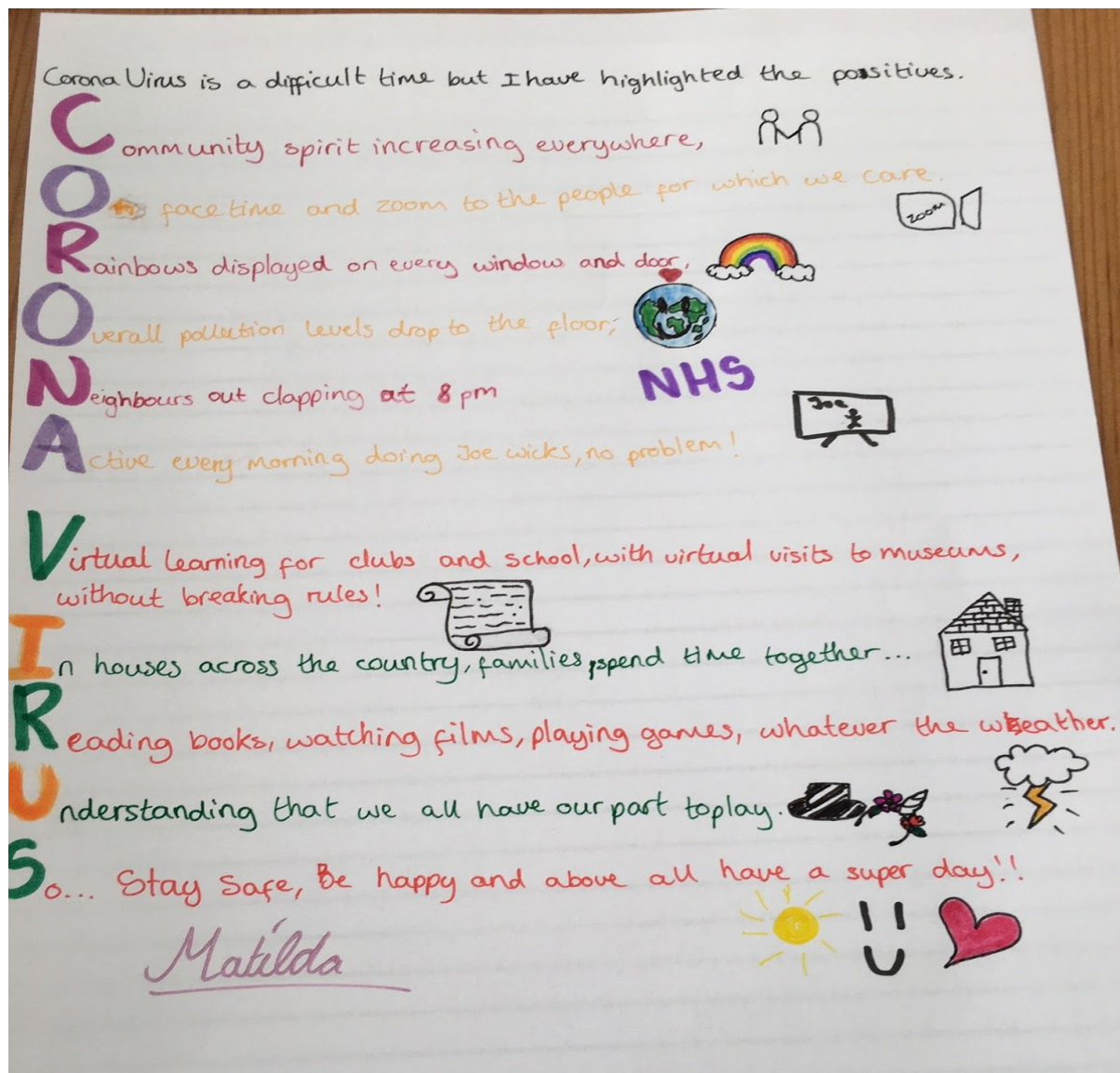


And finally...

Miss McLaughlin and her form class 7M are working on a time capsule project. We thought you'd like to read this lovely poem written by Matilda for inclusion in the time capsule.

We couldn't have put it better ourselves!

#StayHomeSaveLives



Get in touch!

If you have any stories or photos of your children getting creative with their remote learning or finding imaginative ways to pass the time during lockdown and social distancing, we'd love to see them.

Please email us at news@dameallans.co.uk