



Royal
Russell

Headmaster's Weekly Newsletter

7 May 2020

Dear Parents and Friends,

At the end of our seventh week of lockdown and in recognition of VE Day we have a Bank Holiday weekend to look forward to! It looks like the UK will enjoy some lovely weather this weekend so, whatever your plans, do try to encourage some time away from screens and get out for as much fresh air and sunshine as you are allowed.

The History Department have prepared some great resources for VE Day which can be found on their Firefly page [here](#).

With VE Day in mind, the oak tree planted in Lime Tree Quad in 2007 in memory of Flying Officer Gerald Hood has just come into full leaf and is looking mature and majestic. This tree commemorates an Old Russellian who flew in a Lancaster bomber in the Second World War and sadly lost his life after being shot down in Belgium. The full story can be found [here](#) and is certainly worth investigating further if you have a moment.



Flying Officer Gerald Hood's Memorial Tree

Assemblies this week are being delivered by the Heads of Year and these are also available on Firefly:

[Year 7 assembly](#)

[Year 8 assembly](#)

[Year 9 assembly](#)

[Year 10 assembly](#)

[Year 11 assembly](#)

[Year 12 assembly](#)

[Year 13 assembly](#)

Year 11 & Year 13

Congratulations to Year 11 and Year 13 students for the completion of their GCSE and A Level course today. There has been some great work completed by our Heads of Academic Departments to prepare the Centre Assessed Grade submissions for those entered for public examinations this summer and our formal teaching programme for A Level and GCSE courses now moves to a new elective programme for Year 11 and Year 13 students from Monday 11 May. Information has already been circulated to students and parents with details of these elective programmes which aim to prepare students for the successful transition to the next stage of their education journey.

Year 12 and Year 10

Congratulations also to Year 12 students who have completed a week of remote internal examinations. Feedback on these assessments will help to guide Year 12 pupils in the next stage of preparation for university and the world of work.

Year 10 Pupils begin their 'study leave' on Monday 11 in preparation for their examination week starting on Monday 18 May.

There have been a number of staff changes within our day and boarding houses for September 2020 and the following staff have been appointed to new pastoral roles:

Mr Bueno	Latessa Wing Housemaster
Ms Conde	Hollenden House Housemistress
Mr Porter	Cambridge House Deputy Housemaster
Ms Sava	Hollenden House Deputy Housemistress
Ms Ballie-Whyte	Hollenden Resident Tutor
Mr Chapman	Madden House Deputy Housemaster
Mr Janowski	Oxford House Deputy Housemaster
Ms El-Asmar	Oxford Resident Tutor

Ms Wheeler-Quinnell and Ms Worsfold will become joint Assistant Heads: Upper School, leading Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 through the next academic year.

Return to School Plans

We have been actively considering the options for the safe return to on site teaching in the second half of term and now await UK Government updates, which are expected on Sunday 10 May.

I will not make any firm decisions on how we might proceed with a return to on site teaching without careful consideration, discussion and communication with all involved.

I will send an update to parents next week when we will, hopefully, have greater clarity.

I hope you are all remaining safe and well,

With my very best wishes,



C J Hutchinson
Headmaster



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