

Issue 22

Covid-19 Newsletter

Good afternoon,

As much as I have enjoyed the production and work that these weekly newsletters have included, I will be very happy if this is the 22nd and final 'Covid-19 Newsletter'! Lockdowns have been a challenge for many of us, for many different reasons and I think that we are all looking forward to returning to some semblance of 'normality' over the forthcoming weeks and months.

Please check the schedule for return that I have sent out and note the time and day that your child is due to return to school.

Other than that, we will resume with the same times as in the Autumn Term with a 3pm finish for Y7-9 & 3.30 for Y10&11.

Face coverings are an absolute essential, ideally more than one because students will now be wearing them all day long.

Thank you for all of your support over this lockdown and the positive feedback that many of you have given to our staff for their hard work.



Science Remote learning

The lockdowns over the course of this year have presented huge challenges for all concerned, however, the resilience demonstrated by both staff and students has enabled us to adapt and surmount these challenges. Staff and students have had to get to grips with using various packages in order to cover the content normally delivered in class.

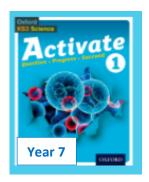
Our students have been actively participating; consistently showing their commitment and their love for learning. This has been evidenced in their engagement in live lessons and their submission of completed work via MS Teams or Show My Homework.

We adopted a 'blended learning' approach, incorporating narrated PowerPoint presentations and live lessons alongside various internet based platforms such as Kerboodle, GCSEpod, BBC bitesize, Oak National Academy and videos available on YouTube.

Hopefully, this experience has taught us all to be better 'self-regulated learners,' whereby we better understand what we need to know and how to go about finding it out. Students will be continually guided by teachers to facilitate the development of this important lifelong strategy.

Outline of the resources available to our students

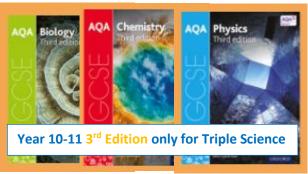




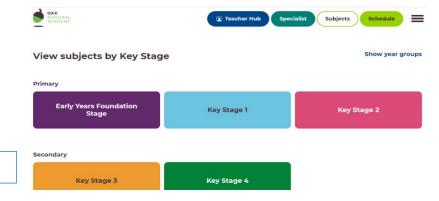


All students have their own unique login and can access digital versions of the class textbook and other resources, such as lesson presentations and worksheets.









https://www.thenational.academy



There are multiple options for Key Stage 4 Combined Science. Please choose:





Genes, DNA and Chromosomes

You've scored a perfect Oak! Time to branch out to your next challenge.

100%
You got 5 out of 5 correct.

You can share the results with your teacher on the final page of this lesson.

Jeremiah Year 11

Oak National Academy is a 'virtual school'. It was initiated in response to the lockdown and has developed massively over the course of the year. This resource is not only particularly good for Science but all subjects.

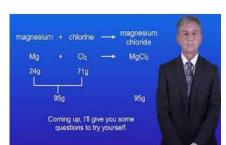
Videos of lessons taught by subject specialists, PowerPoints of questions and self-marking quizzes providing instant feedback are all provided.

This resource (along with others) will empower students to become 'self-regulated' independent learners.





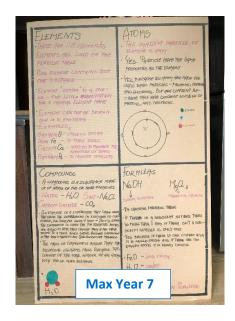


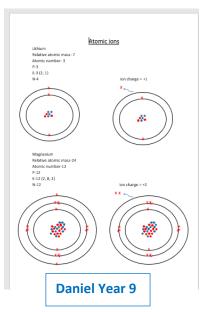


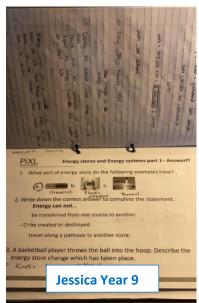
Other useful resources:-

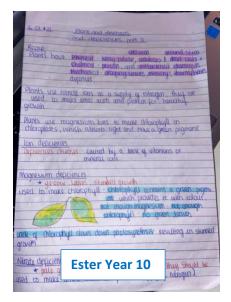
- https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize
- https://www.gcsepod.com
- Free Science Lessons on YouTube

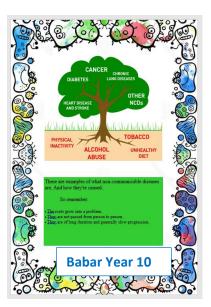
Some examples of excellent work submitted by our students:-



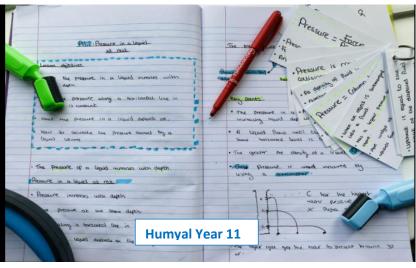


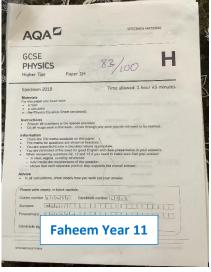












Managing children's fears around returning to school after coronavirus 'lockdown'

How can I tell if my child is anxious about returning to school?

Did your child have anxiety before the school closure?

There are some young people who will feel very anxious when school starts. These tend to be young people who experienced signs of anxiety prior to the coronavirus outbreak.

For these young people, they might seem fine at the minute. This is likely because they are in their family home environment where they are not exposed to the things that used to cause them anxiety. Unfortunately, when a young person is not exposed to or avoids situations like this, their anxiety can grow and it can feel a lot worse when they are exposed once again.

To help your child, consider contacting the school and asking for help.

Did your child not show any signs of anxiety prior to the coronavirus outbreak or lockdown?

If you do not think your child had any anxiety about school before, but may be experiencing it now, look for signs such as irritability if you mention school, avoidance of school work, avoidance of contacting their friends or physical symptoms of anxiety such as their heart racing or feeling sick when you mention school.

For these young people, access support either via the GP or through school.

How to talk to a young person about their returning to school worries

It can sometimes be difficult to speak to a young person about whether or not they are worried. Often, they will avoid talking about their anxieties, but if you can get them to speak to you, this is a really positive step.

Pick an appropriate time to talk to them about it. If they are in an emotional or upset state, it is probably not the best time. Often, a walk or a car journey can be good if your child is calm and is in a space where there are not too many distractions.

Explain to them that any worry they have is important. No worries are silly. If they have a worry, let them know that you want to be able to try and help.

Many young people experience high levels of anxiety, which cause them to struggle to get into school or stay in contact their friends, but it is possible for them to overcome this. So please do access support via your GP, the school or via a specialist service if it is needed.

Reading at LHEA



At LHEA we know that reading empowers our young people to be more confident and successful in all areas of their lives: This week, the importance of reading can be summed up in the words of the World Book Day team:

'Reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a child's future success – more than their family circumstances, their parent's educational background or their income.'

Here are some of the reading opportunities that we have provided for our students this week. We hope you will encourage them to read every day and maybe read, enjoy and discuss with them too.

Happy World Book Day!



This week's student newspaper's front page is all about the Prime Minister's plan for coming out of lockdown.

As well as all the global news, this week takes us out of this world with a report on the landing on Mars. There is also a 2-page spread linking to World Book Day (see below)

Of course, there are all the usual animal stories, from pancake tortoises to toads on the roads, but the rarest has to be the yellow penguin!

If any students haven't joined the hundreds at LHEA reading first News every week for free, sign up now!

- Download the First News app onto your device (search for First News in your browser)
- 2) Open, click on one of the papers and click on log-in
- Link to the school's account using the ID: WAUR7718

The Weekend Read

Every Saturday morning we choose an article from a newspaper and the link is sent to years 10 and 11 on Show my Homework.

Last week's article was an argument from The Guardian written by a human rights charity

Student comment:



founder who believes that young women who went to join Isis should be allowed to explain themselves in court. You can read the article here:

https://www.theguardian.com/commentis free/2021/feb/26/shamima-begumtrafficking-uk-citizenship-rights

I am unsure about whether I think she

should be given more chances etc. Half

of me thinks she deserves to be heard but the other half thinks she has been

This week's LHEA choice:

With so many opportunities available during World Book

Day, we've been spoilt for choice, so here are two fantastic websites to fill your reading time with this week:

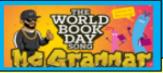
Oak National Academy Library
Good Thieves by Katherine
Rundell

Read it online or Listen to the writer read it herself at:

https://www.thenational.academy/library/ steal-a-moment-with-katherine-rundell ic websites to fill your reading time with Share the dedicated World Book Day Family Hub together. Here you can find audiobooks, the official World Book Day

wasting a lot of people's time.

song by Mc Grammar, win National Book Tokens and lots more!





Lynch Hill Library during Lockdown

Harry Potter Book Night Competition Update





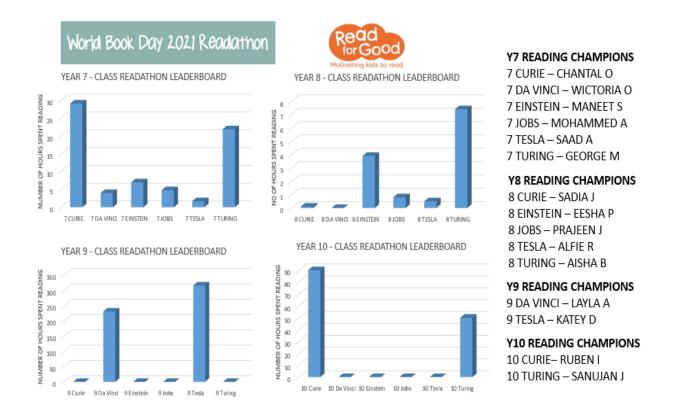
"Unsolved" Young Writers Competition Update

Well done to all who took part in this competition and congratulations to the following students whose SAGAS have been shortlisted. Gold, Silver and Bronze gift hampers will be awarded to the Top 3 Young Writers amongst these shortlisted entries!



Readathon Challenge Summary This Week - "The Race Is On"

Please encourage your children to read at least 20 mins each day. Reading increases vocabulary, stimulates brain and helps to lower stress. Well-done to our star readers!



E-Magazines, E-Comics and Online Newspapers

Parents may wish to download E-Magazines or E-Comics FREE of charge using RB Digital App from Slough Libraries. There are a range of topics from cookery to crafts, and from technology to travel. You can borrow high quality comics and graphic novels published by IDW and Marvel. Please follow this link for further information: https://www.slough.gov.uk/libraries/emagazines-ecomics-and-online-newspapers?documentId=322&categoryId=20173

Please ensure you have your Slough Library Membership Number to help you Register and Borrow Digital Books and Comics.

Let's Read Together – another chance to join the reading group for families inspired by Black History Month! There will be talking about Black authors, Black history, culture and more with Slough Caribbean Forum. To Book visit: https://www.slough.gov.uk/events/event/10/let-s-read-together-book-group-for-families

