



**Sandprint- Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2020**

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

I would like to open by talking directly to students.

E-week has begun with a varied curriculum entitlement for all students and I hope you enjoy the different experience. We would normally have year 7 on various local activities, year 8 in France or Germany, year 9 on local activities and year 10 on work experience. Year 12 would be starting their UCAS process for life beyond school. A big thank you to Mr. Nicholls and the team of staff for putting this virtual programme together.

Weaved in with this diet are the one-to-one interviews for all of you with your tutors. Yesterday seemed to go very well and the feedback from you and the staff has been very positive. It has been great to see our lovely year 10s and 12s again and it does seem that you have benefitted greatly from the Virtual Learning Curriculum.

Yesterday afternoon the DfE made a surprise announcement that secondary schools can consider offering a face to face meeting with other year groups before the end of the year. This is extremely frustrating for us. If we had known the direction of travel last week it would have been possible to re-arrange e-week so that year 7, 8 and 9 could also have come in to meet their tutor. However, it is too late now to dismantle the delicate arrangements for virtual interviews so we will continue with these for the rest of the week. We will now re-evaluate the position and see how we can develop one of our other planned activities to include a physical meeting with year 7, 8 and 9 before the end of the year. A final decision on this will be made by the end of the week so I hope to be able to update you on this by Friday.

I hope you all have an enjoyable week and make the most of e-week activities.

Best wishes

Mr. Gray

**STUDENTS ON SITE FROM MONDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> JUNE (FROM MR NICHOLLS)**

It has been a really positive experience welcoming Year 10 and 12 students back on site for one to one catch up. As has been outlined in ongoing editions of the newsletter, the online curriculum will continue to be the main mode of delivery for the rest of the academic year. There are a small number of subjects who will be inviting a small number of Year 10 and 12 students in for a teaching session. Contact will be made directly with the families of the students involved with a full risk assessment completed ahead of each of these activities.

## MISS POTTER'S TALKING POINT: NEOLOGISMS

Every Tuesday we will now have a feature called "Miss Potter's Talking Point." The aim is to encourage more of us to talk about language and its uses. It will be something that you can talk about over the dinner table with family or talk about amongst friends. Thanks to Miss Potter for the new initiative and we hope you enjoy the topics!



We're currently living in 2020, the year when coronavirus took hold. The world has turned into a coronaverse, we spend our lives talking about 'new normals', we dodge covid-runners on our daily walks, sip quarantinis at the weekend, and are getting increasingly cross at covidiot. Who was it who said, life is a coronacoaster?

It's safe to say things have changed rapidly recently. We've changed daily routines and old habits as we've had to spend more time inside. Another huge change has been the changes to our language - how we interact, what we're saying and where we're saying it! We might once have chatted in the queue at the checkout or hung out with friends at the park, but now we're separated, we're talking over garden fences like 'the good old days'.

One of the UK's most famous linguists, David Crystal, spoke recently at the Hay Festival and remarked that as humans we love creating new words, and the current corona period has been a perfect example of this. A new created word is, technically, called a neologism (nee-oh-low-jism). It will come as no surprise that lots of big events help bring new words and phrases into use - "selfie" being a good example. Crystal and many other linguists believe that humans find creating new words really enjoyable. Language play stimulates the same part of our brain as gambling, drugs and eating bad food. It's why we secretly love a pun. Linguists have also found that word play helps us form a sense of community, bringing us together particularly in times of crisis.

There are hundreds of new words (neologisms) which have been created relating to life in lockdown. The linguist Tony Thorne has compiled a list of more than hundred, but how many new words related to #coronaspeak can you think of?



## SPONSOR A CHAIR FOR THE GAMBIA THROUGH PARENT PAY



**Sponsor a chair for the Gambia**



During certain and uncertain times our school always has chairs available for us to use in every room. However in our link school in Fasilim they do not have enough chairs to use their school hall when they want, they have to either move chairs from other parts of the school or hire them in. We want to change that!

For only £5 you can help to change this by sponsoring a chair which will be given to the school in the Gambia. If you are interested in sponsoring a chair, you can donate to this worthy cause via parentpay.

**SPONSOR A CHAIR!** FOR THE TRADITIONAL SCHOOL HALL AT OUR GAMBIA PARTNER SCHOOL.



**ONLY £5 PER CHAIR**  
PAY EASILY THROUGH PARENT PAY

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Ilirian B in Year 10 got in contact with us to share his experience of the film industry during lockdown. He would be a great person to speak to if you are interested in a career in acting and it's fantastic to hear about our students using their time to be creative. Well done as well Illirian on becoming the winner of age 12-16 year old boy's category in an international monologue competition from Lumino Films.



*"Lockdown meant that the acting world and film industry shut down overnight; but both industries are full of imaginative individuals and soon people were finding other ways to create content online, from the comfort and safety of home. Unfortunately, the premiere of a short film about knife crime called "Trauma", that I was involved in, had to be cancelled but it has been used by both Thames Valley Police and schools in Oxfordshire to help spread the message. We have also made a film "Lockdown" with a focus on the importance of mental health; all filmed from home. Plus I've filmed a lockdown comedy, "School's Out" and a web-series, Isolation The Series, involving actors from all around the world, including Matt Lucas.*

*Another short film I was involved in, My Time, by Giulia Gandini, has also now had its online release, following a very successful year on the film festival circuit; it was also long listed for the Oscars 2020. It was released to coincide with Menstrual Hygiene Day, as it tells the story of a 12 year old girl and her first period at school. You can watch the film here: <https://www.vimeo.com/287867720>. I am truly appreciative of all the amazing opportunities I have had, and the support I'm given. There are lots of other exciting projects in the pipeline including an upcoming TV series "MoonFish" and a vampire movie "End of Night." I can't wait to get back on a film set soon!"*

## INFORMATION FOR PARENTS ON TIK TOK



During the early stages of lockdown, the world saw a huge increase in the social media app TikTok. Already popular it jumped straight to the number 1 spot on the download charts and stayed there for some time. The most popular activity amongst children and young people has always been YouTube, but it looks like TikTok is now quickly catching up.

There's a new report from Qustodio using data from 60,000 families with children 4-14. It highlights a variety of statistics, for example that average the average time spent per day on social media apps has increased dramatically by around 100% with TikTok being the main driver.

As is often the case, knowledge is key to understanding the habits of young people and the benefits and risks these can pose. The full Qustodio report is a very interesting and easily digestible read. It can be accessed here - [https://qweb.cdn.prismic.io/qweb/f5057b93-3d28-4fd2-be2e-d040b897f82d\\_ADR\\_en\\_Qustodio+2020+report.pdf](https://qweb.cdn.prismic.io/qweb/f5057b93-3d28-4fd2-be2e-d040b897f82d_ADR_en_Qustodio+2020+report.pdf)

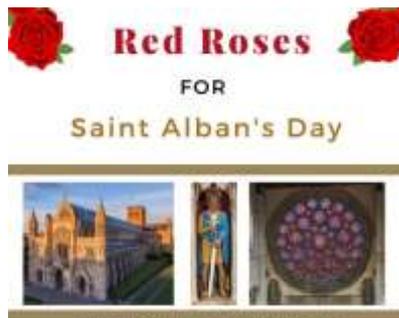
## ONLINE SPORTING CHALLENGES

A realistic goal can give a real sense of purpose and focus during these unusual times so why not set yourself a target to achieve this month? The challenge can be as big or as small as you like, sporting or non-sporting, and as an incentive Race the Distance have created a series of medals you can purchase to reward yourself once complete. They have lots of different challenges including “Embrace What Makes You Different” or “Bee Your Own Hero.” There is something for everyone to keep motivated. Do let us know of any challenges that you have set yourself at [Melissa.holian@sandringham.herts.sch.uk](mailto:Melissa.holian@sandringham.herts.sch.uk)



<https://ng4budj81lcp8h51-19724903.shopifypreview.com/collections/all-current-challenges>

## RAINBOW TRAIL IDEAS: ROSES FOR ST ALBAN



In collaboration with St Albans Cathedral and as part of the Alban Weekend celebrations, St Albans Rainbow Trail community FB group are holding a 'Red Roses for St Alban's Day' trail this week to celebrate Britain's first Saint and our city's namesake, Saint Alban. This latest initiative begins today until Monday 22nd June. For more information, including a video tutorial to create a Red Rose and the story about Saint Alban, please go their FB page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/810803489428718/>

## LETTERS OF KINDNESS

Here are some more heart-warming extracts from letters written by Sandringham students to key workers.

*“Dear NHS Workers. Saving people’s lives is the most amazing act of kindness that I can think of and for that, I am very grateful. For me, my Mum, Dad, Grandma, and I’m sure that I speak for the entire nation when I say a great big “THANK YOU!”*

*“To our amazing Police Officers. I am writing to let you know how valued you are. While we stay at home repeatedly washing our hands, you are on alert and ready for action, whether it's responding to emergency calls, patrolling neighbourhoods or breaking up large groups of people. By putting yourselves at risk every day, you make us feel safe and give the community strength.”*



**ADVICE FOR KEEPING SAFE WHEN ATTENDING SCHOOL**

**COVID-19**

# Dos



Normal dress code applies.



Wash your hands regularly for 20 seconds including:

- on arrival
- after toilet breaks
- after going outside
- before/after eating
- before leaving for the day.



Use sanitiser on a regular basis - these can be found throughout the school.



Adhere to the 2 metre rule with staff and students.



Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue if you sneeze or cough, then dispose of it as soon as possible.



Bring your own sanitiser and face mask to school if you wish to do so.



Bring your own equipment to school.



Bring in snacks and a water bottle.

# Don'ts



Don't come to school if you are unwell.



Don't touch your eyes, nose, and mouth, especially if you haven't washed your hands.



Don't put yourself in danger. Follow the guidelines and if you have been advised to self-isolate **MAKE SURE YOU DO!**



Don't share any equipment with anyone else.



Don't forget to raise any concerns. We want to hear from you if you have any questions at all.

