

BARNWELL SCHOOL PARENTAL UPDATE WEEK 8

15/5/2020

Dear Parents/Carers

As many of you will be aware last Sunday, the government set out their recovery plan, part of this was to begin a phased approach to re-open school to some year groups. For secondary schools this means providing 'face to face' contact for students in Years 10 and 12. Since Sunday more guidance has been published including advice on preparations that we need to undertake to ensure that we are ready to re-open possibly by 1st June. At this point in time it is still unclear what form this 'face to face' teacher contact will take, but we are keen for our teachers to be able to supplement the online learning that will continue and also to provide pastoral support for our students in these years. We have therefore begun to sketch out what this provision may look like and over the next week we will be working with governors, staff and the local authority to develop a suitable provision. There are still many questions over schools opening and you may be aware that the government is having meetings with the teaching unions today to discuss the science behind the decision. The government have also made it clear that the 1st June is the earliest schools will re-open, but it could be later if it is deemed not to be the right time. As soon as we have confirmation, we will be letting parents and students in Years 10 and 12 know our plans. In the meantime, we would like to thank all students, parents and staff for the ongoing resilience being demonstrated in these challenging times.

Please remember that as a community, we are always here to support you and your child(ren) and we are only an email or phone call away.

SCHOOLWORK UPDATE

As we move into the second half of the summer term and potentially return to some face-to-face contact for some students, it would be reasonable to presume that for years 7 to 9 that they are highly unlikely to return until September. We are therefore keen to ensure we move from a recap and revision delivery plan to one that provides new learning opportunities for students. This will include starting to move Year 9 students on to their option subjects. Teachers are working hard to plan effective remote learning lessons and activities that will support this new learning and a suitable pace and appropriate challenge. More information about the new learning and student option choices will follow in the next week.

Please be reassured that as a family, you can only do your best in these circumstances, every child is different, and every household has differing pressures.

As ever, if you or your child(ren) feel they have completed all of their work, please contact teachers directly or guide them to the excellent online education resources that are there to support students and schools. These are in place to supplement schoolwork and provide additional support materials.

BBC Daily lessons can be accessed via this link: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

Oak National Academy lessons can be accessed via this link: <https://www.thenational.academy/>

Wellbeing and balance remain critical during this lockdown phase. If you or your child(ren) are struggling, please do not hesitate to contact their head of year/college.

KEY WORKER AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN SCHOOL PROVISION

The school will remain open next through to the end of the summer term for vulnerable children and key worker children only. Please support the government lockdown measures by keeping your child at home wherever possible and encouraging stringent social distancing. If your situation at home has changed and you require your child to attend the in-school provision, please email communication@barnwell.herts.sch.uk

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YEAR 8 OPTIONS PROCESS

Parents/Carers of Year 8 students will have received information about guided learning choices for some subjects beginning in September. The deadline for option forms is Friday 22nd May. If you did not receive the communication or require advice and guidance, please contact either Mr Patching (m.patching@barnwell.herts.sch.uk) or Mrs Collier (k.collier@barnwell.herts.sch.uk).

FACE MASK START-UP AND DONATION

The British Mask Company <https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/BritishMaskCo> and <https://instagram.com/britishmaskcompany> - a new start-up business, created by one of our families, are kindly donating 25% of their profits to Barnwell School, having donated 25% of the first months profits to the NHS

In a communication to the school, Mrs O'Brien said:

"We all felt very strongly that the correct PPE should go to the frontline and not out into the public domain if they do not need it. We created "British Mask Company" and have begun selling the masks on the selling platform Etsy and Instagram. We have made 100's of masks out of recycled fabric and oddments that we already had at home. We went live 9-10 days ago, the response has been amazing and we have sold over 150 masks. 25% of the profits we will be donating this month to the NHS and thereafter to local charities schools etc.

The reason I wanted to set up this cottage industry is to involve our son and daughter in the costing and organising of a business and understanding the business stages. We also wanted it to be a "Green" company and minimal carbon footprint along with supporting teenagers in work and earning money.

We would like to offer the second month of profits to Barnwell School as we believe you have been doing a fantastic job in helping Barnwell families in need.

Barnwell School would like to say a big thank you to the O'Brien family

WELLBEING, SAFEGUARDING AND SUPPORT

In these difficult times, mental health and wellbeing should be at the forefront of our minds. As previously stated, education is important but the mental and physical health of children and young people is the priority. We have included a new resource that may help to support parents and students during this current lockdown phase.

ThinkNinja - Building resilience and well being in children and young people

<https://www.healios.org.uk/services/thinkninja1>

STUDENT AND PARENT OPPORTUNITIES

Careers websites

KS3 - Coronavirus Key Worker Activity

https://mcusercontent.com/5edc7f4f08ea35cadfe6465b7/files/a97db8d1-762b-4744-84b0-0ad6a760ce9d/Key_Worker_KS3_Activity.pdf

KS4 - Coronavirus Key Worker Activity

https://mcusercontent.com/5edc7f4f08ea35cadfe6465b7/files/f86463bd-945b-43e0-969e-7c9dab8bff13/Key_Worker_KS4_Activity.pdf

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Exploring careers in the NHS

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles>

Free Tutoring opportunity

The Sutton Trust have created a FREE tutoring platform for all Pre-GCSE, GCSE and A level students. They have recruited 1000's of university students to support you with your studies. They are available to help you now! Sign up here: <https://coronavirustutoring.co.uk/>

Activities for families and young people

BBC 'Own It' - General fun and support

<https://www.bbc.com/ownit>

Coding/programming website - Design your own video game

<https://www.sidequest.org.uk/>

Family Lives Summer 2020 Online Parenting programme

Programme Title	Duration, Date & Time
Bringing up Confident ADHD Children	6 weeks Monday 18 May – 29 June 2020 1:00pm -3:00pm
Bringing up Confident ADHD Children	6 weeks Monday 18 May – 29 June 2020 7:00pm -9:00pm
Getting on with your Pre Teen/Teen	6 weeks Tuesdays 19 May – 30 June 25 1:00pm -3:00pm
Getting on with your Pre Teen/Teen	6 weeks Tuesdays 19 May – 30 June 25 7:00pm -9:00pm
Getting on with your Pre Teen/Teen	6 weeks Wednesday 20 May – 1 July 1:00pm -3:00pm
Getting on with your Pre Teen/Teen	6 weeks Wednesday 20 May – 1 July 7:00pm -9:00pm
Getting on with your Pre Teen/Teen	6 weeks Thursdays 21 May – 2 July 1:00pm -3:00pm
Getting on with your Pre Teen/Teen	6 weeks Thursdays 21 May – 2 July 7:00pm -9:00pm

Information on content available [here](#). Contact Louise on 01707 247032 for information or book a place via www.eventbrite.co.uk/family-lives

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Year 12 and 13 University preparations

The team at UCL have launched a **FREE** online course for students in Years 12 and 13 to assist you in your university preparations during this uncertain time. [UCL Study Prep](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/widening-participation/learners/year-12-and-13/ucl-study-prep) is free to everyone regardless of whether you have applied to university or not. The link to register is below:

<https://www.ucl.ac.uk/widening-participation/learners/year-12-and-13/ucl-study-prep>

Year 12 and 13 Webinar Wednesdays

Free live Webinar Wednesdays, which take place every week. Please sign up asap to the webinars which interest you, as places are very limited.

The webinars can also be watched live on [YouTube](#) for anyone unable to sign into Zoom on the day. Past webinars are available to view on YouTube at any time.

The next May sessions, presented by university and company experts ready to answer your questions are **Student Finance, Apprenticeships** and **Life at University**. [See full details here.](#)

Webinar Wednesdays will provide the opportunity for you to ask questions and find out the answers you need. Parents are also able to sign up. Details of the **Virtual** University fair will be forwarded very soon. This will take place on Wednesday 17th June from 12:00 to 18:00.

Stay safe and please do not hesitate to contact the school on communication@barnwell.herts.sch.uk if you require clarification or advice on any points linked to education or Barnwell School.

Regards

Mr T Fitzpatrick
Executive Headteacher

Mr M Roberts
Head of School