

Open Academy Update 26th June 2020
For parents and students – please do discuss the contents with your child!

Dear Parents it is newsletter time again already!

Today I thanked you all on radio Norfolk for your fantastic efforts trying to get your children to engage with the Online Virtual Academy. I know there are still the odd issues but with over 90 of our laptops already distributed and an extra 38 from the government gone out this week, we are doing all we can to remove technical barriers to learning and we can see the uptake rising all the time. So, if your child is in the swing – great - well done. If they have been a little slow to engage, now is the time!

Thinking about the next phase of our re-opening plan, I am pleased to report that the vast majority of both year 12 and year 10 have now been in for their 1:1 meetings and Monday will see the next step in the plan – Step 3 - 1 day per week for year 10 and 12 in social bubbles of up to 14 students.

To aid smooth operation I am reinforcing here what all the year 10 students have been told in assembly today...

- If you are scheduled to be in the Academy for an 8:45 start, you need to arrive at 8:35 for your temperature to be taken and hand-washing.
- If you are scheduled to be in the Academy for a 9am start, you need to arrive at 8:50 for your temperature to be taken and hand-washing.
- You **MUST** enter the Academy as soon as you arrive - you should not be waiting for your friends to arrive due to social distancing measures.
- Bring what you need - the canteen will not be open so you should bring food and drink required for the day with you to school.
- Please note that the rules regarding fizzy drinks are still in place i.e. they are not allowed in the building.
- We will be providing you with bottled water but feel free to bring your own. **However, please be aware that the water fountains will not be active so you should bring enough to last you the day.**
- By the same token, please bring all necessary stationary with you.
- We will be providing you with a laptop in order that you can complete work. At present, we cannot allow personal laptops into the building but we will let you know if this changes.
- The laptop will have been disinfected before your use.
- Social distancing measures must be adhered to - anyone not observing social distancing will be sent home.

Please note that the days for year 10 and 12 from now on will consist of some teaching and some supervised study. Students are expected to remain in school for the whole day

As well as clarifying the above, Miss Matthews shared the news that she would be moving on for the next academic year. She has been a fantastic addition to our team and we will miss her enormously.

This obviously means that there will be a few changes in the pastoral teams which we will share with you over the coming weeks. For now, I will just share that Mrs Pearsall and Mrs Middleton, who have huge experience supporting year 11 students will be taking over the reigns of year 10 shortly.

Mrs Lamb will be using her pastoral experience to support a brand-new head of year for the new year 7 as the other teams move up with their year groups – Mr Wilkinson will share greater detail in the next few weeks. For now on with our usual updates.....just before we get on however, you will find a document attached from the local authority setting out the procedures and standards that we have signed up to for our step 3 phased return. Please do have a look as I would like to re-assure you that the standards defined in this agreement are the minimum we are expecting in the Academy.

Contents

1. **Open Student wins prestigious award**
2. **Year 7 News**
3. **Year 8 News**
4. **Year 9 News**
5. **Year 10 News**
6. **Year 11 News**
7. **Sixth Form News**
8. **Refugee Week**
9. **Library News and Activities**
10. **Careers Update**
11. **Curriculum & Timetable 2020/202**
12. **Mark's Chaplain's Reflection**

1. **Open Student wins prestigious award**

Huge congratulations must go to Reuben Harvey who has been awarded the

'Mike Baker scholar of the year!'

by the Villiers Park Norfolk scholars programme.

The Award recognises one Scholar in each year group who has excelled in all elements of the Programme, such as meeting the Gold Standard Criteria while going above and beyond with regards to high levels of attainment, attendance and participation during all events and activities, having an exemplary attitude, and demonstration of resilience.

As well as a certificate, Reuben was given a £50 Amazon voucher.

We are very proud of you Reuben!

2. **Year 7 News**

What a wonderful week of weather we've had and yet another week of excellent work produced by Year 7! We'd like to congratulate the following students:

- Reece Barber again for excellent engagement and work across multiple subjects
- Harisan Martin for going above and beyond in every Science lesson so far
- Ben Coe for his amazing Rounders/Cricket PowerPoint presentation
- Elsie Auger and Norah White for achieving the highest scores so far in a Music Key Signature Quiz
- Lucy Waterfield, Norah White and Keira Wyatt for fantastic work on Hamlet in Drama
- Suzy Langley for her contribution to the tutor project challenge

Well done to all of you!

Unfortunately, we had less success with the assembly competition which ran last week with no-one submitting an entry to win a £5 Amazon voucher! Taking this into account, rather than posting assemblies for students to watch on Mondays, I will be hosting an on-line social gathering on Teams where anyone from Year 7 can join in to play games and connect with friends who might be in other classes. This will happen every Monday at 3pm (students will receive the invite via email) and I would encourage anyone who is feeling a little lonely at this time to come and join in! There will be no pressure to speak over comms and there will lots of games and activities to help break the ice, so I look forward to seeing you there!

Finally, our time capsule is due to be buried before the end of the summer term, with a lot of items being provided by our student council. If you would like to include a letter or photo in the time capsule, please send me your documents via email so that I can print them off for you. It will be buried in a secret location on the school grounds and will be opened when all of you are in Year 11 – how exciting!

Don't forget to wear your sun cream whilst you enjoy the weather this weekend! Miss Lines, Miss Moss and Mrs Edwards

3. Year 8 News

Hope we are all enjoying the sunshine this week, taking advantage of it and getting out where possible. Keep encouraging year 8's to keep attending online lessons and completing as much work as possible.

We are still getting lots of praise for work completed from many year 8 students, see the list of year 8's below.

Please have a look at this fantastic PE PowerPoint from Harry Robinson – it's even better with sound on. Well done Harry – the effects are great.

And this wonderful watercolour painting from Torri Ashton.



Congratulations to the following students:

Drama (Ms Taylor)

Georgina Barnes for some brilliant work in drama.

English (Ms Clayton)

Jayden Muzembe & Georgina Barnes for their creative writing.

Josh Wilsea and Jayden for their analytical writing in English.

English (Ms Roberts)

Lucy Birkett for this week's work focusing on BLM
English (Mr Dilley)

Tommy Taylor (much bigger commitment to his work and showing some real progress!),
William Orr, Dalia Rosca, Samuel Yellop had an excellent week in English last week - very
high quality work and/or commitment!

Science (Miss Matthews)

Harry Robinson for his amazing powerpoint (above)

William Orr for continued fantastic effort in all Science lessons.

Spanish (Mrs McEvoy)

Harry Robinson and James Hoye – great work.

Maths (Miss Marsham)

Issac Newrick

Music

James Hoye for his rap lyrics

Massage from Positive Pathways

- Congratulations on to everyone for maintaining a positive attitude throughout lockdown, we think you deserve an opportunity to be rewarded for your efforts throughout the Positive futures Protect Program.
- Therefore, complete all five quizzes below for your chance to win prizes whilst demonstrating the knowledge of the social issues that teenagers face in society today. If you have already completed some of the quizzes, don't worry, your score is already recorded.
- All quizzes are just 10 multiply choice questions. If you need to see the presentation again just ask and we will send you the link.

Positive Futures Protect Program Online quizzes

Teambuilding and alcohol: <https://www.onlinetrainerpro.com/take/BFF36B9D>
Knife crime: <https://www.onlinetrainerpro.com/take/6A2BE13B>
Exploitation: <https://www.onlinetrainerpro.com/take/A67597D5>
Radicalisation: <https://www.onlinetrainerpro.com/take/0D07E416>
Drugs Awareness: <https://www.onlinetrainerpro.com/take/2DE387CA>

Sean Lambert - Head of Y8

4. Year 9 News

Hello Year 9,

Another great week for our Year 9s and we have lots of 'shout outs' to give this week. I would like to encourage more students to go to the Live Support Sessions being offered, as these are really invaluable for them at the moment. They will be emailed an invitation to these sessions and they will also appear in their Teams Calendar, which is where they can join the session.

Shout Outs:

- Mackenzie Culley for her language analysis and letter writing task in English
- Freya and Maddy Tilney for excellent engagement with the home fitness challenges in PE
- Kaloyan Aleksiev, Tia Lawson and Cormac O'Brien for hard work all week in maths.
- Katie Lambert-Sharp and Chloe Smith for attendance at the Drama live session

- Leah Walker, Gabe Morgan and Mya Hewitt for stand out Drama work over the last two weeks!
- Kieran Baxter, Adam Edmonson and Leah Walker and great participation in Spanish Live Sessions
- Amelie Treacey for superb contributions in this week's English lesson
- Annie Tipple for her language analysis in English
- Scarlett Taylor for her amazing Powerpoint outlining the rules of rounders in PE.
- Ema Vaskyte for her accurate and detailed work on Samba music

Stay safe,
Mrs Clayton

5. Year 10 News

Hello!

Kicking off another week with our Year 10 superstars for this week, who are as follows:

- Layla Parfitt and Samuel Leverett for taking part in all live lessons in Maths.
- Lottie Sanderson, Lola Thompson, Amelie Orr, William Read, Harrison Foster, Dominic Kubiesa, Lucy Moscrop, Jess Roll and Samuel Leverett for consistent attendance at live support lessons in Art.
- Dominic Kubiesa for excellent work submitted in Art.
- Alfie Sorrento, Lilia Colledge, Amelie Orr, Calvin Smith and Samuel Leverett for their participation in live support lessons in RS.
- Hugo Hole-Jones for fantastic work produced in Maths.
- Lottie Sanderson for completing all sections of her Duke of Edinburgh award – just the expedition to go!
- Lottie Sanderson for her textual transformation of 'My Last Duchess' in English.
- Daisy Holman for her great short story in English.

Well done and congratulations to you all! Keep up the incredible efforts and engagement.

It has been great to see so many students in the Academy over the course of this week for their 1:1 academic meetings. These have been a valuable insight for both us as staff and we are hopeful that students also took a lot from these meetings. Next week will see the start of the teaching within the Academy and your child/ward should be aware of the day they are required in the Academy.

Work experience:

Our careers partners NEACO and New Anglia Hub have developed an exciting programme for schools called 'Explore Your Future: My Work Experience Week' which will be available to Norfolk students during what would have been WEX week (6-10 July). This is a programme which students can do all, some or none of depending on their interests which will go live on Monday 6th July at 10am.

The aim is to help year 10 students explore different careers. As part of the week, students will investigate different industries, sectors and careers. There will be opportunities for them to ask questions in live Q&As and they will take part in quizzes to help them reflect on their skills and interests. The week is flexible so your child/ward can attend everything live or can dip in and out of the recorded sessions and downloadable resources. The skills and experience gained may also be used in other awards such as the Duke of Edinburgh and Youth Stemm Awards.

Please note: this is not to take the place of school work and should be viewed as an extra opportunity to go alongside the work that they are being set on Microsoft Teams.

Some sad news to bring you this week. You may already be aware, as students were told during their assembly this afternoon that, unfortunately, at the end of this academic year, both myself and Mrs Lamb will no longer be working with this year group moving into Year 11. I will be leaving Open Academy and Mrs Lamb has been assigned to work with the incoming Year 7s. However, I am delighted to let you know that Mrs Pearsall and Mrs Middleton will be the new Head and Assistant Head of Year 11. Over the remaining few weeks of this academic year, Mrs Pearsall and Mrs Middleton will become more involved in your child/ward's education as we begin the handover process. Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to say that it has been a pleasure to work alongside you over the last year and we wish you and your child/ward the very best.

We will continue to be the main points of contact until July 24th so please do not hesitate to get in touch. As always, if you have any questions or queries, you are more than welcome to contact either of us at emma.matthews@open-academy.org.uk or debbie.lamb@open-academy.org.uk.

Many thanks,

Miss E Matthews (Head of Year 10) and Mrs D Lamb (Assistant Head of Year 10)

6. Year 11 News

Well we should be getting ready for Prom tonight and all staff are genuinely upset at not being able to celebrate with students and give them a good send off at Sprowston Manor. As I said in the assembly we are working on having something at school and Mrs Appleby is working on the risk assessment and ironing out the details so please keep an eye on emails.

I hope that students enjoyed the Leavers Assembly. It has been mine and Mrs Middleton's privilege to be the pastoral team for yr 11 this year. They have made us so proud and we have so many positive and happy memories of them in school. They have genuinely been a fantastic group and we will miss them. We wish them all the best for results day and beyond and hope that they will keep in touch.

At the moment we do not know what the guidelines will be for results day but as soon as we can confirm anything we will let you know. Until then take care.

7. Sixth Form News

Wowser – what a scorcher of a week! Well done to all of you that have continued to attend live lessons and hand all of your work in on time. It has not gone unnoticed and will make a huge difference to you once we are back next academic year.

As you are all aware, Year 12 will be returning to the academy next week for just one day per week. I have tried to timetable you all so that you have at least one lesson with a subject teacher on your day. This lesson will likely take place in the futures areas and spill out area outside of the Y13 sixth form area, however your teacher may decide to teach you in a classroom if one is available on the day. The remaining time in will be spent in the 6th form futures area, and the spill out area outside of the Y13 sixth form area. **This time will be used as supervised private study and as such you need to continue with your virtual learning and work set via TEAMS** and teachers will be available to do some one-to-ones during this time.

A few things to remember when you are in:

- Please dress appropriately in smart clothing
- Please bring with you any books or folders for the day – don't forget pens and pencils etc.
- Please remember to bring lunch and drinks with you as you will not be permitted to leave the academy during the day.
- On the rota Fa North is the futures area, Fa South is the spill out area.

Below I have outlined the bubbles that you will be in each day. If you see the rota below, you will see that you should have at least one of your subject teachers available that day – that will be the lesson that you will attend. Not all of your teachers will be available. If you take English A-level for example, I may have put you in with another English teacher eg Miss Roberts.

Mon – Cerys, Sam, Abbie, Cissie, (4)

Tue – Emily, Ellie, Matt, Elliot, Leona, Reuben, Mia (7)

Thu – Tyler, Lewis (2)

Fri – Kayleigh, Josh, Ruby, Carlton, Leah, Amelia, Marni, Keelie (8)

1	Start date 29th June					
2	Period/Staff	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
3	Year/ Group	12.1	12.2	WHOLE DAY FOR CLEANING	12.3	12.4
4						
5		Fa North	Fa South		Fa North	Fa south
6	08:45 - 10:15	SMU	NST		KST	KLI LWI
7						
8	Break 10:15-10:30					
9	10:15 -11:45	ERO	RBR RPE		RPH	MKN
10						
11	Break 11:45 - 12:00					
12	12:00 - 1:15	ABD	AED		SLA	KGR
13						
14	LUNCH 1:15 - 1:45					
15	1:45 - 3:00	EMA BWH	IFI		BLU KMU	SMC
16						

I think that you will get a lot out of your time in the academy before the summer! Please contact me if you have any other questions.

8. Refugee Week

Refugee Week is a time to celebrate the contribution refugees make to the UK. Below you can find a few ways to get involved.

Amnesty International UK is one of the leading partners in the Families Together coalition and we continue to call on the Government to allow refugees living in the UK to reunite with their close family.

Do this



How would you welcome a newcomer into your community? Do you know about the rich heritage and diversity of people who call the UK 'home'? If you're looking after young children during lockdown, here are three fun activities that will grow their awareness of refugees.

[Find out more](#)

Watch this



This beautiful poem, 'Trees of Home' by Sita Brahmachari and illustrated by Axel Scheffler, speaks to the heartbreak of family separation. After lockdown, most of us can reunite with our families, but many refugee families will still be apart due to unfair UK rules.

[Watch here](#)

Read this



Welcome Presents provides a monthly cross-cultural event celebrating food, film and friendship with the aim to facilitate an environment and community in which attendees benefit from a regular place they can go where the reception is humane, welcoming, positive and safe. It brings refugees and asylum seekers, trekkies and Star Wars fans – together.

[Read more](#)

The address below should also work to take you to the activities
https://www.amnesty.org.uk/blogs/classroom-community/refugee-week-home-bitesize-activities-7-11-year-olds?utm_campaign=MEMA2541_UPT_REFU_families-together_RefugeeWeek2&utm_content=13494&utm_source=amnestyuk&utm_medium=email

9. Library News and Activities

Please see the library news and updates for this week below.

Open Academy Reads... a new spooky story.
For the next few weeks, we will be sharing a reading of a short story for you to listen to at home. Our first story is a spooky classic about murder, mystery and strange sounds that may, or may not, be real... Listen along to The Tell Tale Heart by Edgar Allen Poe here: Open Academy Reads The Tell Tale Heart by Edgar Allen Poe..m4a

If you missed our previous book, you can also listen to our full read-a-long of The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett here: Secret Garden Read-a-Long

Click and Collect... The library is open!
We are pleased to share that we are now offering a click and collect service for library books. Students will be able to request books online and collect them from the school reception. More information about our safety procedures and instructions on how to request books are attached to this email (Library Click and Collect.) Students will be sent more information shortly regarding access to the Library catalogue, but are welcome to use the online request form in the meantime.

Digital Library- available throughout the summer.
Students are also able to continue to access a digital library of books via MyOn. This is a digital reading platform and offers a range of books suited to all reading abilities. To access the website please use the following log in details.

Go to myon.co.uk and enter your login information:

- a. School Name: Open Academy
(type the first few letters and select from the drop-down menu)
- b. Username: open085student
- c. Password: read

Click on the Sign In button, select a book, and start reading!

10. Careers Update

Following the cancellation of Work Experience week (6-10 July) a new 'virtual' programme has been put together by construction company Morgan Sindall. Feedback for this programme has been very good, so should be a great opportunity for both girls and boys interested in a career in the construction industry, a sector of the future. Please find attached a poster with further details of the programme and how to apply. Please contact Ms Davies if you are considering applying and she will register Open Academy with Morgan Sindall. The closing date has been extended to Monday 29th June.

National organisation 'Success at School Careers Advice' have created a downloadable guide to help parents and carers steer their children through the confusing world of career choices. Details can be found at https://mc.successatschool.org/parents-ebook?utm_source=Success+at+School+-+Newsletter+Signups&utm_campaign=76df37be4a-newsletter_signups_parents_guide_110620&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_65c6d67e71

-76df37be4a-212049179&goal=0_65c6d67e71-76df37be4a-212049179&mc_cid=76df37be4a&mc_eid=565d50a531

Another reminder for students in Years 10 and 12 to sign up to the careers platform Unifrog. Go to unifrog.org.uk, enter your Open Academy password and click 'forgotten password'. This will generate an email which will allow you access to the system. Begin by completing the Personality and Interests quizzes and see the range of careers and subjects which you may never have thought would suit you!

Year 10 students -please watch out for some special Distance Learning resources which will be posted to you via your Unifrog account next week!

11. Curriculum & Timetable 2020/2021

Mr Ward, Vice Principal, would like thank you for all the feedback he has received about both virtual schooling and our curriculum / options process. It has really helped us move forward. He would also like to share the following:

We are working with Microsoft to improve the email reporting system so if you are not yet receiving the TEAMS updates on a Sunday morning - please bear with us, we hope to have a solution soon.

We are considering trialling next year's timetable from July 13th so that we can iron out any niggles before the summer holiday.

No one can predict what schooling might look like by September. We are planning for the best which is everyone back in as normal but preparing for different scenarios of what might be. This will enable all students to have a fresh start on July 13th. There will be catch up work provided over the holidays for those who have struggled.

Our current plan for next year is that there will be extra HUB sessions between 3 and 4pm for all those pupils who have missed out on work. They will be compulsory and will start when everyone is back.

12. Mark's Chaplain's Reflection

Mark's YouTube channel is always here for catch up

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0bFD8fTH51nCxSHdJIYIJg>

This week's reflection is here

<https://youtu.be/u6yFMWjpPFE>

Keep Encouraging.

As lock down is easing, life is still not normal but we are starting to make the journey back to normality. There is more traffic on the roads, more shops are opening and, in some cases, we can almost forget for a minute what has happened during the last three months. Hard and fast rules that we have been keeping to are now being relaxed.

I want to challenge us today not to ease up or relax in one important and priceless area. That area is our encouragement for one another. I read this from the Bible in a book called Thessalonians and it says this

Encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing. This encourages us to keep encouraging like we have been doing.

The gift of encouragement is important in our lives. Encouragement is a gift in our household, our workplace our communities or wherever we find ourselves. We can come alongside others and be there for one another. We can listen, comfort, console and affirm.

We need to take time to remember the people who've been encouragers our lives. They're the ones who were there when you thought the sun would never shine or you'd never laugh or be happy again. They were the ones who listened to you; whereas others just talked. In light of this, let's ask ourselves, "When was the last time I encouraged someone?" It's not difficult, and the people you encourage are so blessed by it and their lives change.

The word encourage means to add courage to some one's life. When you encourage, you give others the ability to overcome the battles that they are facing. Its powerful and we need to continue to do it.

My prayer for us all this week is that we continue to have the strength and courage to encourage.

Have a wonderful week and remember you are all winners and you will win.

God bless you
Mark