

SBE School

PARENT NEWSLETTER

Home Learning

22 January 2021



WELCOME

Having read through the articles contained within this newsletter I believe they typify our school community perfectly. Containing a wide variety of information, support, personal development opportunities, guidance and celebration they exemplify both the culture of our school and the role it plays in the local community. Our aim during this challenging time is to do what we do best...to support both you and your child(ren) in ensuring that students can be the best that they can be.

I hope you find this newsletter both informative and useful.

Paul Davis - Assistant Headteacher

WELLBEING SUPPORT

At Shenley Brook End School, our wellbeing team believes that positive emotional wellbeing and mental health is crucial in enabling students to feel happy and fulfilled within themselves. This enables them to thrive and flourish during their time with us here at school whilst transitioning into adulthood. Students who possess positive mental health and wellbeing are better able to cope with the normal stresses of life, allowing them to make a positive contribution amongst friends, family and the wider community.

Our wellbeing team consists of a Therapeutic Lead, a Designated Safeguarding Lead and two Wellbeing Mentors. We provide emotional and mental health support in areas such as anxiety, stress, anger, raising self-esteem, self-confidence, low mood and difficult life events such as bereavement. Our therapist can also provide a series of counselling sessions for students where there is a need for more specialised mental health and wellbeing support. Where we feel that a student requires support beyond what we can offer, we will always encourage a referral to external support agencies, such as CAMHS.

The current school closure has again caused significant disruption to our daily lives and this has prompted our team to further raise the awareness and importance of positive mental health and wellbeing for our students. On Wednesday 13 January we saw the circulation of the first edition of our 'Wellbeing Weekly' newsletter for students. Each issue will be based around a different topic and this week's focus is 'gratitude'. A copy of the newsletter, along with a short video, will be shared by form tutors during tutor time each Wednesday. Please look out for the useful information on mental health and wellbeing we plan to share with you over the coming weeks.

If you feel your child would benefit from support, please contact us at wellbeing@sbeschool.org.uk

"Every day is a new beginning. Take a deep breath and start again" – Anon.

The Wellbeing Team

CONTACTING US

- General enquiries - enquiries@sbeschool.org.uk (please use this rather than the school phone switchboard).
- Student absence (small school or unable to participate in online live lessons) - attendance@sbeschool.org.uk or call 01908 524897.
- Go4Schools log in details reset - data@sbeschool.org.uk
- Our dedicated anti bullying community email - anti-bc@sbeschool.org.uk



ENGAGEMENT IN LIVE LESSONS

We have begun our weekly calls home to parents for students who are not engaging in live lessons on a regular basis and to also undertake our wellbeing checks. The feedback we had has been overwhelmingly positive and well received. When we can't make contact, we endeavour to leave an answerphone message or email. Please remember that many staff are calling from a personal mobile therefore the number calling may read as 'unknown'.

There are a number of similarities that have emerged in conversations with parents in what makes a successful Remote Learner. I'd like to share them with you:

- **Waking up in good time is the way forward.** Not rushed and falling out of bed to join tutor time at the last minute.
- **Maintaining a Monday to Friday routine is essential.** Same times for getting up/breaks/lunchtime/ exercise and bedtime.
- **Being ready in advance – i.e., at least 5 -10 minutes early to join registration/lesson and having writing equipment and paper to hand.**
- **Using the User Guides to get the most from Microsoft Teams.** Many parents said how helpful the user guides have been.
- **After the lesson – making sure that the key learning is reinforced,** such as using BBC Bitesize or Oak Academy to support and build upon the Live lesson.
- **Having a set time each day for a break and lunch.** Not just maintaining school routines but making sure children had some down time by coming off all devices for this period of time.
- **Each day, spending some time using MyMaths to challenge themselves** when there is no other additional work available.
- **Working towards earning their first Bronze certificate in Superb Remote Learning.** Feeling their efforts are acknowledged at home and school.
- **Looking after their own Wellbeing.** Fresh air and regular exercise are important, even if it's a daily walk to break up the day. A balance of work, exercise and family time is key.
- **Don't presume that your child(ren) has done the work;** get them to share their work with you.
- **Don't allow children to retreat into their own rooms all day and night.**

Overwhelming, the most important message was that children should establish a routine, based around their school day, e.g., being ready to learn and engaging in learning remotely between 9 – 3pm, and learning independently outside of these times. If they are doing this, then they will be a successful learner during Lockdown.

There is a Supporting home learning routines checklist accompanying this newsletter should you find it useful.

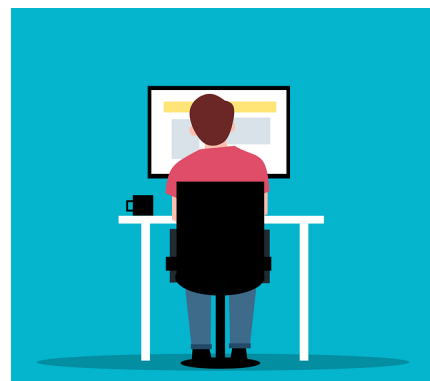
Mr Healy – Deputy Headteacher

WORKING ONLINE

Screen time will increase dramatically during lockdown as students look to connect with friends and family but do you know who your son or daughter is messaging on social media during the day or evening? With the increasing use of ICT at home it can be tempting for some to engage in inappropriate chats and conversations with other students. If students experience any online bullying, they should of course speak to you and highlight this. If you feel that we could support in any way please feel that you can contact us in the following ways:

- **Form Tutor;**
- **Year Leader;**
- **Our dedicated anti bullying community email on:**
anti-bc@sbeschool.org.uk

For further information about online bullying, please go to the [NSPCC](#) or [UThingUKnow](#).



ACCESSING HOME LEARNING ON GAMING DEVICES

If you don't have a laptop, you can access remote learning through an X-Box or Playstation.

We understand that some parents have trialled using an Xbox and/or PlayStation to access lessons but have struggled to get this to work.

Whilst I've not trialled it myself, hopefully this [VIDEO](#) will help.

*Mr West
Year Leader for Year 11*



1. Plug in a keyboard and mouse (if you have them) into the USB port
2. Go to My Games and Apps
3. Find and open Microsoft Edge
4. Type in www.office.com as you would to access Office 365
5. Login and you can access Teams, Office 365, Outlook and OneDrive



1. Press the PS4 Logo on the controller
2. Go to the library and find the internet browser (www)
3. Open the browser
4. Type in www.office.com as you would to access Office 365
5. Login and you can access Teams, Office 365, Outlook and OneDrive

SMALL SCHOOL - KEY WORKER PROVISION

Our small school provision is into its third week and supports those parents who are critical workers. Students are following the live lesson timetable, mirroring what the students are learning from home. If you have any questions at all about the small school then please get in contact with Mr Southwell ssouthwell@sbeschool.org.uk. Please look out for the most up to date guidance on Critical workers, as we are doing our very best to provide a space for students in this challenging time.

Mr Southwell - Assistant Headteacher



SUPERB REMOTE LEARNING

In the first week of the scheme, nearly 4000 SRL points were awarded! This is fantastic news, well done to everyone who has received them! Looking at the running totals it will not be very long before we have the first recipients of the SRL Bronze Award.

We want all our students to strive to receive an award so please encourage your child to actively engage with their remote learning. Students can earn two SRLs per lesson - the first for great participation in the lesson (verbal input using the mic or written chat contributions) and the second for completing lesson tasks or homework well and on time. Form tutors can also award SRLs for contributions during morning registration.

SRL points add up quickly so please encourage your child to make sure that their teachers see that they are getting stuck in and the Awards will come!

Mr Whitbread –

Director of Extended Learning



MUSIC SUCCESS

Congratulations to the students who took vocal or instrument exams last term either face to face with an examiner or on the new exam board online platforms.

-  **Jamila Clare - Grade 6 vocals - Distinction**
-  **Darius Cristea - Grade 3 piano - Pass**
-  **William Culley - Grade 8 clarinet - Merit**
-  **Frieda Swanepoel - Grade 2 keyboard - Pass**
-  **Jonathan Francis - Grade 3 trumpet - Pass**

Well done to you all.

Mrs Smith – Music Team Leader



STUDENT ABSENCE YEAR 7-11

During this period of national lockdown, attendance is still being monitored for all students including assemblies, form time, and online lessons.

If your child is absent from either the small school or unable to participate in online live lessons, please ensure you ring the absence line 01908 524897, which is still being monitored, or e-mail attendance@sbeschool.org.uk with the student's name, form and brief reason for the absence.

Despite several attempts to query unknown reasons for student absences between September and December by letter, email and text we have made the decision that all outstanding absence queries will be classified on our records as unauthorised. I welcome you to contact me and clarify the reason for absence. If you are unsure, please access your child's attendance register through Go4Schools.

If you require your Go4Schools log in details to be reset, please contact our data team on data@sbeschool.org.uk

If you have any queries regarding attendance, please do not hesitate to contact me using the details above.

If you have any queries other than attendance, please email enquiries@sbeschool.org.uk.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all well and stay safe.

Mrs C Cunningham - Attendance Administrator

FREE SCHOOL MEALS (FSMs)

If your child/children are eligible for Free School Meals and you have not received information from the school please contact:

finance@sbeschool.org.uk

Mr McCluskey - Deputy Headteacher



unifrog

Unifrog is a career pathways and employability platform that students use from Year 7 through to Year 13 to support their development and decision making.

Unifrog are running two series of free skills and enterprise webinars this month for students. With leading employers, including Facebook and PWC, the webinars focus on boosting students' motivation and helping them to develop the skills they'll need to succeed in the future. Please note that parental oversight would be required for those students in Year 7 – Year 11 that wish to attend.

Sign up - 

Mrs Harris – Pathways and Employability Lead

THE NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP SHOW

The National Apprenticeship Show will be virtual this year and will take place on the 10 February 11.00am-6.00pm. There will be a live chat facility during the event so that students can speak directly to employers. There is a flyer accompanying this newsletter should you require further information.

The event would be of benefit for both Year 11 and Sixth Form students. Please note that parental oversight would be required for Year 11 students that wish to attend.



Mrs Harris – Pathways and Employability Lead

#SBE_Qualities #DoYouBuildPositiveRelationships?

Here at Shenley, we believe in instilling positive values and qualities in all our students. Each half term we dedicate time towards this during form time and by setting challenges. During the first half term our focus was on kindness, last half term it was respect and this half term it is about building positive relationships.

There could not be a better time than this for us to focus on relationships when many of us feel so disconnected from our community. Building positive relationships with people is so important for our own sense of wellbeing. We are sociable creatures and connecting with others will help us to feel better about life and ourselves in general. Two of the most important ingredients of success are knowing how to get along with people and knowing how to be kind to yourself.

During form time this week your child will be asked to participate in our 'building positive relationships bingo'. This is something you could try at home as a family. Perhaps the first person to get a full house could choose the film for movie night or decide what pudding will be bought at the shops this week. Instructions on how to play 'building positive relationships bingo' accompany this newsletter.

Share your achievements on twitter
@sbeschool #SBE_Qualities #DoYouBuildPositiveRelationships?

Positive Relationship Bingo

#SBE_Qualities #DoYouBuildPositiveRelationships

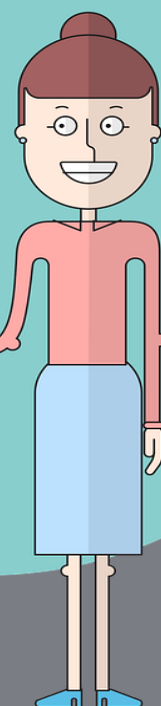
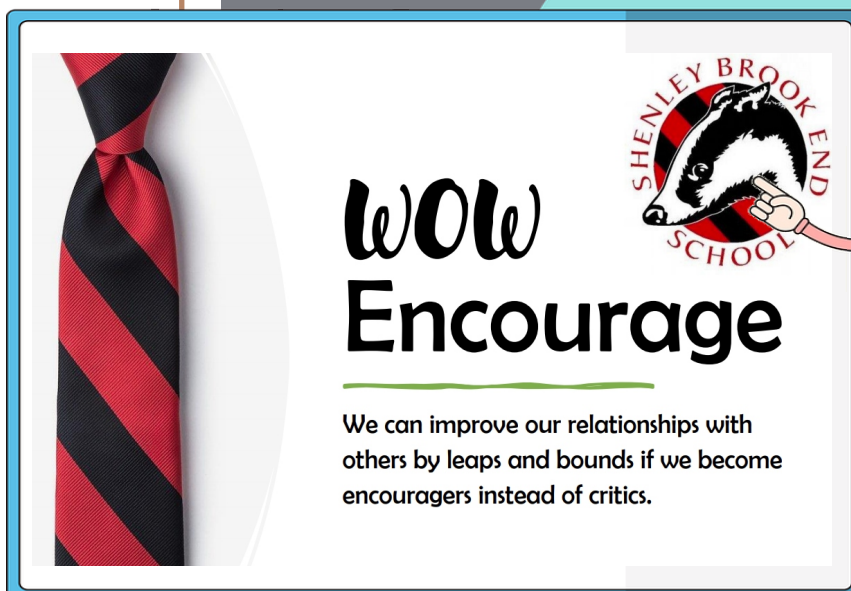
INTERESTED IN TRAINING TO TEACH?

Sharnbrook Academy Federation (SAF) Initial Teacher Training (ITT) will be hosting virtual Train to Teach information events for primary and secondary teacher training courses.

- The secondary events will be held on Monday 8th February 2021 and Monday 19th April 2021 at 10.00am and 6.00pm.
- The primary events will be held on Tuesday 9th February 2021 and Thursday 22nd April 2021 at 10.00am and 6.00pm.

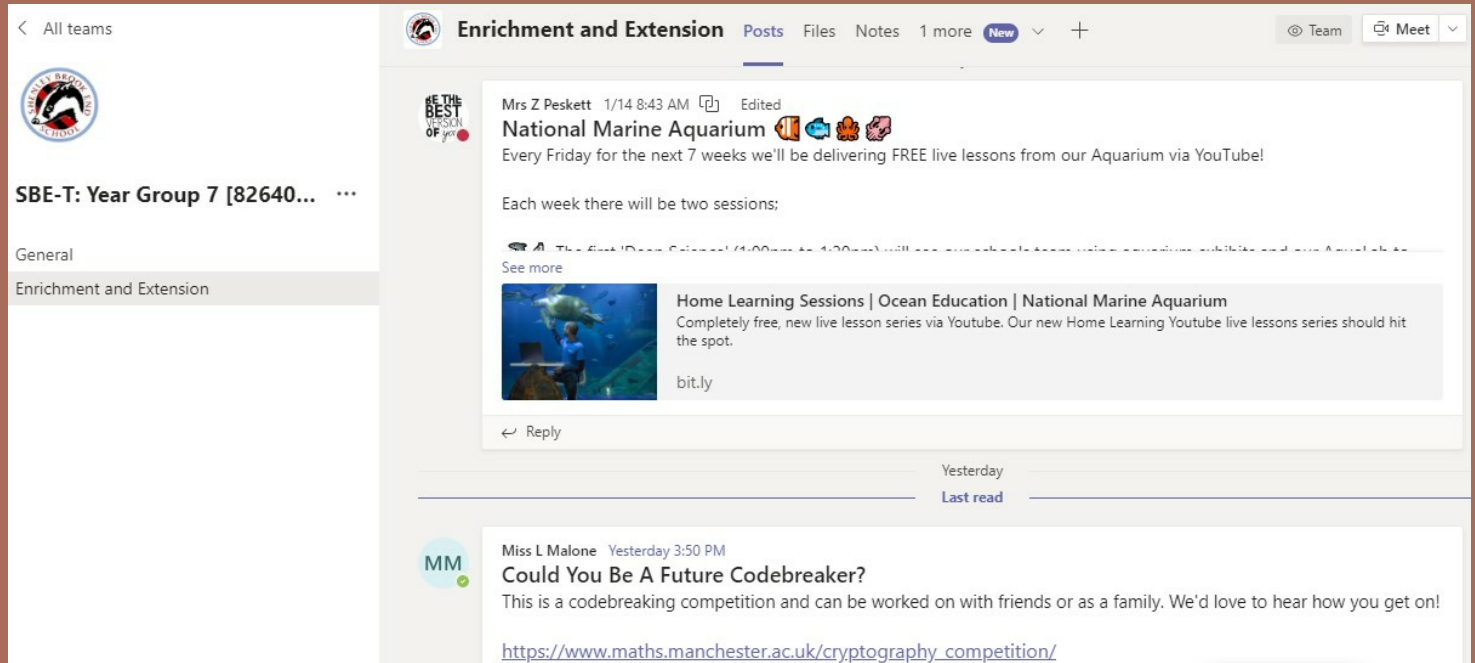
There are two flyers accompanying this newsletter should you be interested and require more information.

Mrs Lovell - Lead Teacher- Assistant Staff Development



ENRICHMENT AND EXTENSION

To further supplement our remote learning provision, we have created an Enrichment and Extension Microsoft Teams channel within each year group team. There's an example of the Year 7 channel below. We will be posting resources to this channel that both you and students can access as something a bit different, whether it be online webinars, how to make sessions, free downloads or something else. Sometimes it is nice to learn something new - just because.



Please encourage your child(ren) to explore the posts which will be updated regularly and stretch and challenge them whilst they explore.

Mrs Peskett – Assistant Headteacher

FINALLY

Thank you for all the kind words of praise and encouragement that we've received over recent weeks. They are very much appreciated and really help to raise morale during this challenging time. Thank you also for the support you are giving your child(ren), enabling them to engage fully in their remote learning. It really will ensure that students are in the best possible position when we return to school.

Please do get in touch if you would like any further support or advice.

Paul Davis – Assistant Headteacher

