



Newsletter - HL Issue 17, 12 February 2021

Intro

As we come to the end of the final week of half term this newsletter remains packed with articles, which is fantastic to see.

We wish both students and parents a well-deserved break over half term. So many have worked so hard to ensure a really successful start to 2021, which in such challenging circumstances is no mean feat. Take care of yourselves and your family.

I hope you find this newsletter both informative and useful.

Niftylift's Nifty 4 Schools initiative

Please see the accompanying Niftylift STEAM Competition poster for details of the first stage of their programme which asks students to create a poster representing STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Maths). Please encourage your child(ren) to participate.

The deadline for entries is the 26 February. Good luck.

Mrs Harris – Employability and Pathways Lead

InvestIN – Invitation for Parents

As part of their 'Success Beyond School' series InvestIN are offering live online seminars for parents. Key dates are as follows:

- Wednesday 24 February - The Skills Surgery
- Wednesday 3 March – The Power of Networks

Should you be interested, sign up here - [Parent Event Series - InvestIN Education](#)

Student Laptops

We're extremely proud to be able to say that we've loaned out in excess of 115 laptops to students in order to support them with their remote learning.

We still have a number of students on a waiting list to borrow devices so if any families, or companies, have any unwanted devices we would be able to put them to extremely good use.

Thank you, any support you can offer would be greatly appreciated.

Geographical Cake?

An open competition to see if anyone else would like to bake an amazing geographical cake, just like these two fantastic examples from Year 8 students. World biscuits by Oli Cox and Durdle Door by Izzy Rance.

Email your photos to

Mrs Showunmi – Team Leader for Geography





Speakers for Schools - Construction

Speakers for Schools are hosting a free insight day into construction on 17 March 2021. They are working closely with a company called Fusion, who are targeting this event to students in Northampton and Buckinghamshire.

Further details can be accessed here: [an insight day being run by Fusion](#)

Mrs Harris – Employability and Pathways Lead

Labour Market Information (LMI)

South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP) provides LMI information, which details supply and demand trends for our local labour market.

Taking some time to watch the LMI videos (there's one for parents and one for students) will help to support upcoming career pathway decisions, e.g., GCSE or A Level selection.

The videos can be found in the Career Pathways and Employability section of our website - [Shenley Brook End School - Labour Market Information \(sbeschool.org.uk\)](https://shenleybrookendschool.org.uk)

Mrs Harris – Employability and Pathways Lead

World Book Day Author and Illustrator Academy

This year's World Book Day is fast approaching. This year we will not be letting lockdown get in the way of our celebrations on Thursday 4 March. But it is never too early to get into the spirit of World Book Day. Students can already get involved by heading to the World Book Day website to see what's on offer.

This year, students will be able to access a whole range of masterclasses led by published authors and illustrators, with lots of exciting challenges and activities to make reading even more fun and interactive. Why not encourage them to go on a wild adventure with Katherine Rundell, or hear Joseph Coelho and Fiona Lumbers share ideas on what can be on your World Book Day to-do list? Get all sorts of ideas about interactive storytelling from Tom Fletcher, and learn more about writing non-fiction with Jess French.

<https://www.worldbookday.com/online-masterclasses/>

Shakespeare in Lockdown

With theatres currently closed, access to live performances of plays is sadly limited. However, there are ways of bringing the theatre into your living room!

Macbeth - Year 8 students are currently enjoying reading and exploring Shakespeare's 'Macbeth' in their English live lessons and independent learning. They can enrich their knowledge of the play by watching the Shakespeare's Globe performance online. This performance has been made available exclusively to schools until July 2021. Click on the link below and use the password **MACBETHWATCH21** to access the performance:

<https://www.shakespearesglobe.com/watch/macbeth-2020-youtube-premiere-2021/>

Romeo and Juliet - 'Romeo and Juliet' is a set GCSE text. Year 10 and 11 students can enrich their understanding of one of Shakespeare's most well-known romantic tragedies by watching the 2019 performance from Shakespeare's Globe (available until 31 March). To access the performance, click on the link below:

[Romeo and Juliet 2019 | Shakespeare's Globe \(playingshakespeare.org\)](https://www.playingshakespeare.org/romeo-and-juliet-2019/)

Alternatively, the RSC 2018 production of 'Romeo and Juliet' was broadcast on BBC2 on Tuesday 9 February and will be available afterwards on BBC iPlayer for 60 days.

World Book Day Book Cover Challenge!

To celebrate World Book Day 2021, we are challenging staff and students to recreate the front covers of their favourite books.

This is a **HOUSE COMPETITION** – a winner will be chosen from each house to win mega **HOUSE POINTS!**

The overall winner will be awarded a special prize of a Big Bundle of Books!

To recreate their book covers, students can...

- Use the environment around them.
- Use props, toys or household items.
- Use themselves and members of their household (with permission of all participants).
- Use their own artwork and/or design software.

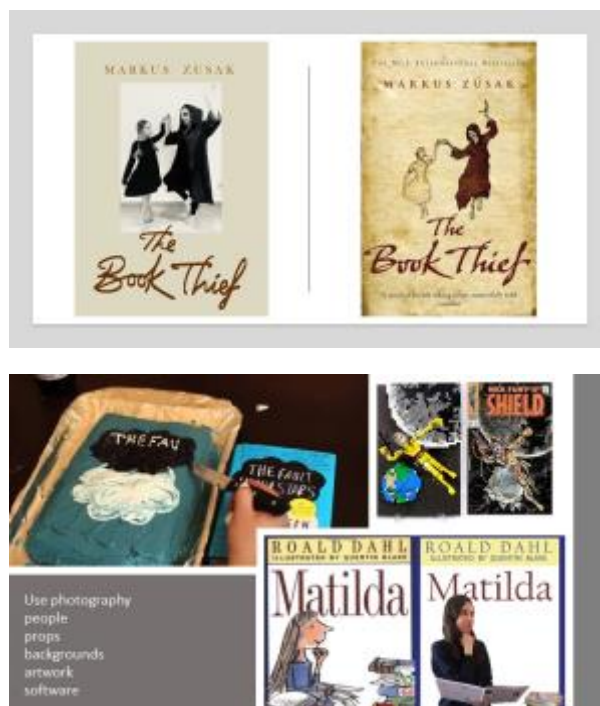
Recreations **MUST NOT** include images or text clipped or pasted from the original book cover.

Students must submit a copy of the original book cover along with your recreation.

The competition deadline is **Monday 1 March @ 9.00am**. Entries should be emailed to - EHazell@sbeschool.org.uk

Winners will be announced in form time on World Book Day.

Mrs Hazell – Director for English



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
- The Wellbeing Team - wellbeing@sbeschool.org.uk

Trudie – This was also in the newsletter last week.

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

Trudie – This was also in the newsletter last week.

Small School – Key worker provision

Our small school provision is into its sixth 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

Trudie – This was also in the newsletter last week, although I've changed 'fifth week' to 'sixth week'.

Superb Remote Learning (SRL)

What a fantastic week we had for SRL last week. We awarded Bronze Level Certificates to 130 students on Friday - nearly 100 more than the previous week, a huge well done to all the recipients!

The summary shows that Year 7 responded very well to the challenge set by Year 8. Miss Arkinson and Ms Element are quietly (or maybe **not so** quietly) really pleased:

Year	Bronze
7	51
8	28
9	18
10	21
11	12

The house competition is hotting up too, with only 10 SRL points separating the top two!

House	Total
Birch	3327
Chestnut	3337
Elm	2796
Hawthorn	3050
Sycamore	2844

We will be holding a Prize Draw today (Friday 12 February) for all those who have received certificates since the scheme started, which will include **the first Silver Level Awards** and at least 150 new Bronze Level Awards. I hope Mr Holmwood has a big hat to draw the names from.

The SRL scheme keeps running until we return to school, so please do continue to encourage your child(ren) to strive for their SRL points and go on to achieve Bronze, Silver or even Gold Level.

Mr Whitbread – Director of Extended Learning

PE – Tips for Success

Tip 1: Find something you enjoy

Tip 2: Have a workout buddy (in lockdown you can compare your times or calories burnt using social media)

Tip 3: It doesn't have to last a long time (30 minutes is enough!)

Tip 4: Get out the house (Furzton Lake or How Park Woods are an excellent resource)

Tip 5: Use PE lessons (is there anything you can take/learn from live PE lessons?)

Tip 6: Have a family competition

Tip 7: Some clubs can still run virtually- Zoom classes (check out the website for your local leisure centre)

Tip 8: Use some fitness apps (examples include Strava, Nike run app)

Tip 9: You don't need to beat a PB each time

Tip 10: Stay hydrated and get enough sleep

Mr Glover – PE Teacher

As you can see below the year 13s have been creating nutritionally balanced breakfasts as part of their lessons with Miss Green.

National Apprenticeship Week

Just in case you are not sure what an Apprenticeship is – a modern day apprenticeship is very different from when my own dad became a “fitter” down the pit in the 1960’s (A “fitter” was the Wigan slang for an engineer in case you were wondering)!

What is an apprenticeship? An apprenticeship is a genuine job and under all circumstances an apprentice will be employed from day one. Apprenticeships combine practical training in a job with study.

An apprentice will:

- work alongside experienced staff
- gain job-specific skills
- earn a wage and get holiday pay
- be given time for study related to their role (the equivalent of one day a week)

What levels are there? All apprenticeships include elements of on the job and off the job training, leading to industry recognised standards or qualifications. Some apprenticeships also require an assessment at the end of the programme to assess the apprentice’s ability and competence in their job role.

The levels range from Intermediate (Level 2) through to Degree apprenticeships (Level 7) equivalent to a Masters Degree.

An apprenticeship is a genuine job and under all circumstances an apprentice will be employed from day one.

We have National Apprenticeship week from the 8 to the 12 of February 2021. There are lots of events and lots of vacancies. With the sixth this past week I have e-mailed all sixth form students this information and have posted it on the 6F Students and Staff teams also. I have also delivered an assembly on this on Wednesday 10 February.

In the summer term, when we prepare students for the UCAS process, I will launch Apprenticeships in more detail, and I have an apprentice coming in school (or virtual) on Wednesday 9 June to talk to year 12 students about modern day apprenticeships.

These are a few of the examples of events that have happened this past week:

The UCAS show <https://www.ucas.com/understanding-apprenticeships/discover-apprenticeships>

Examples of Apprenticeships – sign up for some? <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/workpays-32362741439>

HSBC Apprenticeships - <https://www.hsbc.com/careers/students-and-graduates/student-opportunities/uk-apprenticeship>

A virtual Apprenticeships event - <https://www.hopinto.co.uk/apprenticeships-work-earn-learn/>

Mr Greenhalgh - Director of Sixth Form

No Screen Day

No screen day last week was a big hit with many families who were thankful of the time and space away from computer screens. We heard of the vast array of activities taking place, ranging from painting, family walks in the countryside, DIY activities, as well as plenty of cooking, such as making pizzas from scratch (don't they look delicious in the accompanying photos).



Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing consent

We are continuing to collect Track and Trace registration information and LFD testing consent.

If you are yet to complete both of the following forms please complete the registration form and the consent form via the link to Microsoft Forms below.

- Consent Form - **One per student. Please complete for all students as there is option to give/not give consent at the end of the form.** You can withdraw this consent at any time. Note that students over 16 need to complete this themselves.

Consent Form

- Registration Form – **One per student. Please complete for all students, even if you do not currently give consent for LFD testing.**

Student Registration Form

If you are able to support our school by volunteering to help with LFD testing (administration, guiding students to swab, organising students...etc.) then please email enquiries@sbeschool.org.uk stating:

- Your name
- Mobile number and email details
- Days and times you are available each week

Student Wellbeing Support

The third issue of 'Wellbeing Weekly' and accompanying video went out to students this week. With Valentine's Day on Sunday, we started thinking about how we can show people we care, which resulted in our topic of the week being 'Acts of Kindness'.

When we are kind to other people it releases feel-good hormones within our body. These hormones help stabilize mood, connect us with others and improve our overall feeling of wellbeing and happiness. There is a similar release of hormones in the person who has received the act of kindness and they, in turn, are more likely to go on and be kind to someone else. It has even been proven that witnessing an act of kindness releases feel good hormones.

This week we have set the students a challenge of doing something kind each day. We understand that the teen mind can think along the lines of 'I'm going to do something nice for this person and put them in a good mood, before asking them for something'. As a parent it is easy to be waiting for the follow up of, 'can I have...'. However, this week, it would be great if you could try and push that thought aside and take what they are doing on face value.

This week we have set the students a challenge of doing something kind each day.

It's nearly half term and we know some students are keen to have a break from the work, whereas others are worried about not having much to do, due to the lockdown. We have come up with a few ideas that can help occupy their mind and get them out and about in the fresh air;

Munzee - a global scavenger hunt game where you track down and scan hidden QR codes. It's free to download and you can get more information by visiting www.playmunzee.com

Self-guided walks – Milton Keynes has been awarded 3rd place for The Ramblers Britain's Best Walking Neighbourhood. If you want to try out one (or more) of the self-guided walks, details can be found on www.theparkstrust.com

86 Things for bored teenagers to do when they're stuck at home – www.actuallymummy.co.uk have lots of fun ideas to keep the whole family busy!

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

"How beautiful a day can be when kindness touches it." – George Elliston

The Wellbeing Team

Finally

I hope you enjoy a restful break over half term.

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

Paul Davis – Assistant Headteacher