

26 June 2020



West Kirby Grammar School

Graham Road, West Kirby, Wirral CH48 5DP

T: 0151 632 3449 F: 0151 632 1224

Email: office@wkgs.net

www.wkgs.org

Dear Parents/ Carers,

As we rapidly approach the end of term, with just three weeks remaining, it is not quite how any of us hoped that the academic year would end, with our community scattered and working from home. However, we hope that you would agree that we have worked hard to keep everyone connected; I hope that students have found time to engage with some of the National School Sport Week challenges that Mrs Goodall has been posting each day this week.

This week also sees the launch of some new House events and we would encourage students to get involved. Mrs Stenhouse has asked me to share details of a House languages competition. Over the next two weeks, students in Years 7 and 8 are being tasked in their MFL lessons with undertaking linguistic and cultural challenges designed by the British Council. They can choose how many challenges to complete in each language, and will gain House Points for any challenge they complete and for which they submit evidence. Their teachers will help to provide ideas along the way and encourage students to work independently to broaden their knowledge of the countries where our MFL subjects are spoken. All details are available in MFL and Pastoral Google Classrooms.

Back by popular demand from students, Mr Douthwaite is setting up another House Computing challenge, which is available to all students. This is based on code breaking, and the first task will be set today. Information is available in the Pastoral Classroom and students can join with the code **inw5d7d**

Along with our increasing numbers of key worker students, this week saw the return of our first focus Year 12 students. It has been a real pleasure to have some of our Sixth Form back in school and they have made some great progress with their online learning. All Year 12 students should now have received an email inviting them into school before the end of term for a session to tackle the issues that students may be concerned about before we begin the summer break including UCAS, EPQ and study skills. If parents/ carers have not received this email, please contact the school so that we can share the required information.

Next week sees the beginning of the sessions in school for Year 10 students. All parents/carers who indicated that their child would be attending school will now have received details indicating the day on which students should attend, and the arrangements for this day. We are really looking forward to seeing students in school again.

To our key worker students, I just wanted to say how proud we are of you. You have worked diligently throughout this period and we know that school does not feel quite the way it should, with all of the health and safety precautions we have in place. From next week, if these students would prefer to attend in PE kit they are free to do so, particularly as the weather is very warm. They may then feel a little more free to get some fresh air and exercise at break and lunchtimes. If students wish to bring in some entertainment for these sessions outside, they can of course do so. Certainly blazers are not expected if not.

Year 7 have had a Wellbeing Week this week and for most this has allowed students to get on top of their 'to do lists' and to feel more in control. Our 'Form Meets' have also been successfully started in Years 7-9 and Heads of Year and Tutors have said how much they have enjoyed catching up with students. More of these are planned in the remaining weeks.

A reminder of the key dates remaining this term:

Week beginning 29 June:

Year 8 Wellbeing Week. No additional work will be set for **Year 8.**

Tuesday 30 June is Wellbeing Day for the whole school as this is where it falls on the rotation.

Week beginning 6 July:

Year 9 Wellbeing Week. No additional work will be set for **Year 9** except on the Impact Day.

Wednesday 8 July is Wellbeing Day for the whole school as this is where it falls on the rotation.

Thursday 9 July will be an **Impact Day** for all Year 7-10 students. Further information will be shared as we approach this date, but the day will focus on PSHE topics that students must complete as part of their wider education.

Week beginning 13 July:

Thursday 16 July is Wellbeing Day for the whole school as this is where it falls on the rotation.

We appreciate that some students benefit from the structure and challenge of a normal day and that for some they wish to continue with this on wellbeing days and weeks. There are a vast array of activities on the Pastoral Google Classroom that cover topics to enrich the academic curriculum, but the two key websites below contain further academic activities if any students wish to access them:

BBC Bitesize: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

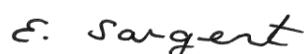
Oak National Academy, an online classroom and resource hub: <https://www.thenational.academy/>

A reminder once again that if students are struggling they can email wellbeing@wkg.s.net for advice. This email can also be used by parents/carers to contact us.

Finally, as more students return to school we have been contacted by Merseytravel to support them in raising awareness about the mandatory requirement for face coverings on public transport. All students should be wearing a face covering on their bus journeys to and from school in line with the Government Guidance.

Wishing our whole community a peaceful weekend, and we hope to see you soon.

Kind regards,



Elaine Sargent
Headteacher