29 June 2020

Dear students, parents and carers,

I hope you and your family are well and safe.

What a first week of British summer we’ve had! I hope you managed to enjoy some glorious weather with friends and family in the park or private gardens, it is so important for our mental wellbeing to spend time with people we love.

From this Saturday 4th July, pubs and restaurants will be able to open, along with places of worship, hairdressers and some other leisure facilities. We all need to try and maintain a 2-metre distance wherever possible, however the Government's new “1 metre plus” rule means that we can relax the distance between ourselves and others to 1 metre, if we're unable to maintain 2 metres. Please make sure you stay alert and safe though.

A reminder about the [EAST Summer School](https://www.queenelizabetholympicpark.co.uk/our-story/get-involved/education-and-young-people/east-education-summer-school) which is a completely free programme for 12 – 17 year olds who live in the local area and want to have fun and learn a new creative skill in the summer holidays. You can register [here](https://www.queenelizabetholympicpark.co.uk/our-story/get-involved/education-and-young-people/east-education-summer-school).

Welcome to week 10 of online learning.

Some of you will continue to**receive personalised emails**to congratulate you for completing all your learning assignments and for having made a fantastic effort to produce excellent work! Well done!

On top of that **ALL of you will be receiving personalised phone calls by your tutors**! Before the end of the school year, to complete the term in a positive way and to engender a sense of support ready for next term, Tutors will be making individual calls to their Tutors group students during the final three weeks of the summer term. **Please do not get anxious about those phone calls** as they are to check how students are, ask if they have any plans for the summer holiday, talk about September 2020 as a fresh term (in the hope that all is back to usual) and to ask them to **keep checking the school website as new information will be posted about the September start.**

**Well done again for engaging so brilliantly with Tutor Time! Remember to register at
1.30 p.m. on Wednesdays and Fridays!**

On top of your schoolwork, **you should all be reading and completing your quizzes for Accelerated Reader.** Please make sure you don’t neglect your reading. It is such a wonderful way to relax, escape and learn!

Please **continue to stay calm and to look after your mental well-being.**  Remember if you have any general school issues or you are having problems with Teams, please contact us at info@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk

Here is next week’s full [**VTALK Schedule**](https://www.speakersforschools.org/inspiration/vtalks/upcoming-vtalks/)**.** Please feel free to join and watch**! It’s free and really interesting.**

**WEEK STARTING MONDAY 29 JUNE 2020**

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| **DATE**  | **SPEAKER**  | **INFO**  |
| **Mon 29th June** **2 p.m.** [**Add to calendar**](https://www.addevent.com/event/pq4926135)   | **Mark Maciver, Slider of Slidercuts**  | Barber Mark Maciver, better known as the ‘Slider’ of SliderCuts, shapes up a list of high-profile clients, including Stormzy, Tinie Tempah, Anthony Joshua and Marvin Humes. Having started out as an apprentice over 20 years ago, in June 2018 he launched his own barbershop on Hackney Road and has since worked with Facebook and Nike, while his razor-sharp styling sees booked by brands including Louis Vuitton and Burberry at London and Paris fashion weeks.   Mark is joining SFS to discuss his journey as a barber and entrepreneur and to encourage the next generation to consider hairdressing as a potential career. Be sure to tune in to put your questions to Mark!  |
| **Tues 30th June 10 a.m.** [**Add to calendar**](https://www.addevent.com/event/OZ4926138)   | **Cathy King, Literary Agent, 42 Management & Production**  | Find out about the world of writing for film, television and theatre and what it’s like to be a talent agent with SFS & Cathy King, Literary Agent at 42 Management and Production.  |
| **Tues 30th June 2 p.m.** [**Add to calendar**](https://www.addevent.com/event/ac4926139)   | **Simon Hodgkinson Group Chief Information Security Officer, BP Plc**  | Join us Simon Hodgkinson, Group Chief Information Security Officer with BP discusses all things cybersecurity. Learn about Simon's life lessons from a career in tech and gain insights into the opportunities and careers that exist in cybersecurity!  |
| **Wed 1st July** **11 a.m.** [**Add to calendar**](https://www.addevent.com/event/Fb4926165)  | **Celebrating Women in Engineering with Thames Water & UTC Reading** **Dina Gillespie, Area Operations Manager at Thames Water; Katherine Whatley, ICA Technician at Thames Water;** **Cheryl Atkinson, Thames Valley East Systems Operator, Control at Thames Water;** **Stephanie Mitchell is the Executive Director of Careers and Destinations at UTC Reading;** **Year 11 Engineering Student at UTC Reading, Elise Hammond**  | Celebrating women in engineering!  Engineering is a key part of the water industry - through engineering we can innovate and help shape our world. Women in engineering roles in Thames Water vary from on-site technicians to design engineers working on developing new projects.  Today we will meet three Thames Water colleagues along with UTC Reading’s Careers Lead and one of her engineering students to discuss how we can support a more diverse workforce, challenge stereotypes and provide greater opportunities for women and girls in engineering.   Please note, this event will be moderated and managed by Thames Water.  |
| **Thurs 2nd July** **10 a.m.**  [**Link to register here.**](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/a-thinkin-with-tortoise-editor-liz-moseley-tickets-109958934132)  | **A Tortoise Media Think in with Liz Moseley, Editor and Partner, Tortoise Media**  | Liz’s career teacher told her she should be a librarian. Sadly, she never made it. Instead, Liz is an award-winning marketer with 20 years’ experience at global media companies. She is now an editor and partner at Tortoise where she runs the ThinkIn programme. She’s also the ‘voice of Tortoise’ in all Tortoise’s member communications. She was Chief Marketing Officer for the Cannes Lions International Festival of Creativity (known as the ‘Oscars’ of the advertising industry) and spent three crazy years being sued by C-list celebrities as publisher of heat magazine. She’s also worked for The Times, The Telegraph and ELLE. Join us as she shares a bit about how she’s managed to blag it for this long, despite failing to get into University twice and repeatedly rebounding off the glass ceiling. By registering for the event, the student can choose to receive complimentary membership to Tortoise (worth £100)! **Attendance and Tortoise membership is for students aged 16+.**  |
| **Thurs 2nd July** **2 p.m.** [**Add to calendar**](https://www.addevent.com/event/DR4926166)   | **In collaboration with Penguin Talks: Marlon James, Author & Ekow Eshun, Journalist**  | Multi-award-winning author, Marlon James, joins British writer, journalist, broadcaster and curator, Ekow Eshun, to discuss what creativity means to them and how we can be more creative in our lives.  |
| **Fri 3rd July** **10 a.m.** [**Add to calendar**](https://www.addevent.com/event/cn4926168)   | **Andy Haldane, Chief Economist, Bank of England**  | We’re excited to welcome Andy Haldane, Chief Economist with the Bank of England to discuss the importance of economics in everyday life, current affairs and their link to economics and answer questions about his own career path and background!  |

**HOW TO JOIN THE VTALKS**

* Join 10 minutes before the VTALK to be ready
* You can join without needing an account – [**Watch how here**](https://vimeo.com/418436143)
* For full speaker descriptions visit the [**VTALK Schedule here**](https://www.speakersforschools.org/inspiration/vtalks/upcoming-vtalks/)

**VTALK LIBRARY & MORE**

* Watch pre-recorded VTalks from our library [here](https://www.speakersforschools.org/inspiration/vtalks/vtalks-video-library/)
* Please see our [**Schools Guide here.**](https://www.speakersforschools.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/School-Guide.pdf)
* Below my signature is more information on the SFS activity sheet
* The colour codes can be found under my email signature below

**Finally,**As the coronavirus pandemic risks increasing existing inequalities, it’s never been more important that **we all show up for each other and stand together in the name of equality and diversity.**

Around the world, the COVID-19 pandemic is having a disproportionate effect on LGBTI+ people, who are historically marginalised and discriminated against in their access to health care, employment, housing and basic services. There are still at least 68 countries across the globe where same-sex relationships are illegal.

Every year during the month of June, The LGBT+ community celebrates in a number of different ways. **Why was June chosen? Because it is when the Stonewall Riots took place in 1969.**

While the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has prevented this year’s London Pride parade from going ahead, it is **important to continue to support our LGBTI+ community** and ensure those of all identities are coming together in unity. Therefore, as many events have had to be cancelled, others have emigrated online.

Amnesty International, UK Black Pride, Gendered Intelligence, Stonewall and ParaPride are bringing Pride celebrations inside this year with *Pride Inside* – an online series of gigs, comedy shows, panel discussions, and arts-based events.

***Pride Inside* is taking place from Sunday 28 June – Sunday 5 July**, continuing the celebration after ‘Global Pride’ on Saturday 27th.  It is a chance for those who would have been taking part in Pride events - had they not been postponed due to COVID-19 - to come together and celebrate on a brand-new online platform.

The line-up will include an exciting array of LGBTI+ comedians, artists, DJs, musicians and activists! [Please click here](https://prideinlondon.org/event/pride-inside-3vaLnI78ZArYV6vGbhcPfn/) for more info:



Kind regards

Ms Desbenoit

Student Progress Leader Year 8 / Diversity Coordinator