18 May 2020

Dear Year 7 students, parents & carers

I hope this message finds you all safe and well. We have now entered our seventh week of remote learning and our ninth week of lockdown.

Firstly, I'd like to **thank all of you who completed the survey on Remote Learning that I sent out last week.**We have received many responses and we are presently looking through them and deciding what steps we can take to improve your experience of remote learning. **So far about half of year 7 have not responded to the survey** *(I suspect many of you have completed the survey but forgot to press the 'submit' button at the bottom).***Please can you go back and check that you pressed submit so we can have as much information as possible.**Your opinions are very important to us and we want to hear from all of you. I will attach the link to the survey below.

Link to the survey:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=B_HLllWrskmw7Ov9Af8xPM8l6UuTa19Chhi6Rq7y0eZUOVpLMFZHM0NURUxVOUVKNUtVVjNMRUE5Ry4u>

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| [Fill | Year 7 Remote Learning Survey](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=B_HLllWrskmw7Ov9Af8xPM8l6UuTa19Chhi6Rq7y0eZUOVpLMFZHM0NURUxVOUVKNUtVVjNMRUE5Ry4u)  We are doing a survey to gather feedback on our program of remote learning. Please complete all the questions in the survey by Saturday 16th May. The survey will only take about 5 minutes to complete. forms.office.com |

Once again, **I'd like to thank all of you who are continuing to learn from home.** Your teachers are giving me regular feedback as to how impressed they are with **hard work and positivity** shown by year 7. It can be difficult to keep up your motivation levels when you don't see your teacher every week and you don't receive feedback as often as you would like. The fact so many of you are keeping up with your work is exceedingly impressive. As teachers we are trying to ensure that we keep in touch with everyone in Year 7 and give you personal feedback on your work, but this may not always be possible. **Do get in touch if you have any queries about your work (or anything else).**

Just a reminder you should be spending **no more than three hours completing school work each day** and approximately **one hour on each subject.** Don't worry if you don't complete every single piece of work every week, just let your subject teacher know that you didn't have time to finish it.

**I suggest that you make a timetable that you can stick to with breaks and time for other activities.**

**It may help if you follow these very simple steps:**

**Step 1** - Monday log on and write down each subject and the work that has been set for you.

**Step 2** - Set a timetable, two subjects a day.

**Step 3** - Once you have completed the task submit the work straight away and tick/cross off your list.

**Step 4** - Relax!

**Here is an example of a simple timetable you may wish you use.**You can of course change the times and the subjects you do each day:

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| **Day** | **10:00- 11:00 am** | **11:30 am- 12:30 am** | **1:30 pm** | **1:45- 2:45 pm** |
| Monday | English | DT | Rest & Relax | Art |
| Tuesday | Maths | Humanities | Rest & Relax | Food |
| Wednesday | Computing | Languages | R&R/Tutor Time | Drama |
| Thursday | Science | Music | Rest & Relax | Catch up time |
| Friday | Humanities | PE | R&R/Tutor Time | Catch up time |

**Remember** - most of the work can be completed on paper and a photo be submitted. If you do need to use a device then do this work straight away so that it is completed and others can use the device.

If you have subject specific questions or need any help with your assignments, please **continue to use the Team chat (Posts) to ask your teacher for help**. If you have any general school issues or you are having problems with Teams or anything else please contact us at [info@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk](mailto:info@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk)  We want you to feel supported and we will do whatever we can to help you at this difficult time.

**Congratulations to all of you who took part in the Kahoot! challenge.** I see a number of you retook the quiz a number of times until your got 100% right! I will make another one for you to tackle soon. Do try to remember to log into your I Tutor Time on Wednesday and Friday at 13:30 to catch up with your tutor and your form. I will pose another challenge for you to have a go at before your next tutor time on Wednesday.  **Please encourage any of your friends who forgot about it to join in this week as it is very important that everyone stays connected.** 

Just a reminder, **you should all be reading and completing your quizzes for Accelerated Reader.** While some of you have used this time away from school as a great excuse to really dive into the books you love, others have sadly neglected their reading. Do try to make time each day to read a book or magazine (or something not on a screen!). Not only is it relaxing and fun, it will also help with your wellbeing and you might even learn something along the way.

**Please try to ensure that you not only look after yourselves at this time but you also look after each other**. Every week we are setting you tasks to do that I'm sure are taking up a lot of your time, but don't forget to make time for yourself as well. Don't spend all your time working, you need to take regular breaks, exercise and have fun too. 

Once again, I hope you are all well and are following the latest government guidance. I remain hopeful that we will see you again before we are due to break up for the summer holidays, but school will only remain open when it is safe to do so.

Until then stay safe, stay at home, and keep learning!  
  
Take care

Mr Morrow

Student Progress Leader Year 7