

Weekly Bulletin for Families

Message from the Head of School

After only three weeks back in school it seems strange to already be reflecting and preparing for the holidays. Alongside our focus on supporting our community to return safely to in-school learning, it has been exciting to see the diversity of activities students have participated in.

After so many weeks in lockdown, students' enthusiasm for the physical, social and teamwork on hand in PE lessons has been no surprise. One of the highlights of the last three weeks has been the introduction of Kin Ball, as featured on our Twitter and in this week's pictures below. Kin Ball is a recently invented game from Quebec, Canada, and is played by nearly four million people around the world. The objectives of the game are such that a great deal of teamwork and physical fitness are involved.



Mrs P Parker
Head of School



Teamwork has also been at the centre of some exciting extra-curricular work in the Modern Foreign Language department.

A group of Year 9 students have been working particularly well as a team this week, using their creative skills to prepare their French pop video entry for the national competition run by the Institut Français. Developing initial lyrics in their French lesson, they have been writing and performing their own song on the trials of lockdown, celebrating the key values of 'solidarité' and 'générosité' and looking forward to our future 'liberté' from the easing of Covid restrictions. With the rehearsals and recording now complete, it only remains for our talented film editor to work his magic.

Mrs Kelly MFL Department

This week's Enrichment sessions focused on leadership, first exploring the attributes of internationally renowned leaders both present day and historic, then moving onto activities which gave students the opportunity to use their own leadership skills in a range of teamwork challenges. Examples from the sessions can be seen in this week's pictures.

Leadership



As a group, narrow the list down to 6 attributes that your group feel are the most important for a leader to be a success.



Leadership

The tasks you take part in this afternoon will help to develop skills in leadership such as:

Communication
Organisation
Decision making
Problem solving etc.

Please engage fully and constructively with your team/group.

You might find you are a better leader than you thought!



Find a solution to...

- In small groups, take a topic that is important to your group
- Assign roles for each member of your group
- Why is this an issue for you?
- What you are to present:
 - What is this issue you are discussing?
 - How can you resolve it?
 - Why would this work?
 - What are the barriers to its success?



From communications shared last week, Parent/ carers will be aware of the 'Respectful Behaviours' Personal Social Health Education sessions run across the school on Friday 26 and Monday 29 March which focused on the features of positive, respectful relationships as well as recognising concerning behaviours and how to access support. This final Bulletin of the term also includes details of how to access safeguarding support whilst schools are shut during the holiday period.

STEM activities continued apace last week with events for Years 8, 9 and 10, starting on Monday with a virtual visit by audiologist Alice Hurst, who spoke to Year 9 about her work with the NHS. Students were intrigued to find out about how easy it can be to damage your hearing and were able to ask questions about career development and salary structure.

On Thursday, Year 8 attended a virtual show of Science demonstrations carried out by Peter Wright from Wonderstruck, which complemented students' learning from the Waves unit studied earlier in the year and was themed around Sound. Students saw how scientists can convert sound waves into a laser pattern that can be used to test the safety of materials in machines or vehicles that vibrate and find out how to make ear-piercing noises that can shatter wine glasses. Peter returned to us on Friday to give a tutorial on making loudspeakers, after which students made their own working loudspeaker in their Science lesson and tested these by actually managing to play music through them from the radio.

Also on Thursday, Year 10 students were visited via Teams by Niall Tutt from the engineering firm Jacobs. He spoke about the journey from school to the world of work and gave an insight into the varied STEM pathways out there. He emphasised how practical skills and experience can be as important as grades and how other subjects, such as Art, English and Design can all be relevant to a STEM career. Students who want to find out more about the Jacobs work experience program can go to: <https://www.jacobs.com/newsroom/news/inspiring-next-generation-jacobs-virtual-work-experience-program-hit>.

We are grateful to all our virtual visitors last week and would like to congratulate the students for their focus and participation.

Mr T Budden Lead Practitioner Science

A reminder that further home test kits will be sent home with students this week, to enable students to continue with home testing during the holiday and prior to our return to school on Tuesday 20 April.

In wishing our students and families a restful, healthy and happy Easter break we also highlight the importance of returning to school for the Trinity term Ready, Respectful and Safe.

Expectations of students' presentation in terms of uniform and equipment will be high, and with the warmer weather arriving students will no longer be wearing their hoodies in school, other than as part of their PE kit. To support parent/ carers in ensuring students have correct uniform we have included the link to the uniform section of our website [here](#). Tutors and subject teachers will also be looking for students to be engaging with school life with excellent attitudes to their learning, embodying our 6Cs. With our routines and expectations securely in place, we will best ensure a successful and rewarding Trinity term for each and every one of our students.

With thanks to our students, staff, families and wider community for your ongoing support and an immensely positive re-opening of our school. We look forward to returning for the start of the Trinity term on Tuesday 20 April.

Mrs P Parker, Head of School

Safeguarding support whilst school is closed:

As we approach our Easter break from school, we wish to share with you useful contact numbers for students and their families during a period of school closure should you need any additional support or information:

Crisis - 0337261800

Child Line – 0800 1111

Child Line – www.childline.org.uk

Children' Society - www.childrenssociety.org.uk

Customer First - 0808 800 4005

Food Bank - www.trusselltrust.org

Kooth - www.kooth.com

Mind - www.mind.org.uk

Samaritans – 116 123

NHS website - www.england.nhs.uk

NSPCC website - www.nspcc.org.uk

Place 2be website - www.place2be.org.uk

Young Minds website - www.youngminds.org.uk

Uniform

With the Easter holiday coming up, now is an opportune time to ensure your child's pencil cases are fully stocked. We make the analogy of our time in school being like climbing a mountain and how one needs the right equipment to get to the top successfully. Can I ask that you support your child in their climb by prioritising and organising them with all the necessary equipment ready for their new term?

We have also noticed that many of our students have been busy growing during the last few months which has meant that a small number of them appear to have outgrown their uniform. As such we would like to take the opportunity to remind you that SET Ixworth School uniform regulation states that skirts should be knee length. Aubyn Davies is taking orders via their website and is operating via a postal delivery service.

To ensure our uniform and presentation standards remain high, please make sure your child has the correct SET Ixworth School PE kit. Further details can be found on our website. These items are available (as with all of our PE kit and uniform) from Aubyn Davies

From the start of the Trinity Term, students will no longer be permitted to wear their school hoodie in school/in lessons. The only exception is for PE lessons. Students can of course bring a suitable waterproof coat to school which should, please, be plain black or navy.

We appreciate that some families will be purchasing new shoes over the Easter break. Shoes should be flat and black leather. High heels, boots, sandals, canvas style plimsolls and trainers, including black trainers, are not permitted.

Uniform Guide

A white shirt or blouse with either short or long sleeves (not $\frac{3}{4}$ length)

Clip-on school tie (blouses must therefore have a top button to allow a tie to be worn at all times)

Charcoal grey / black trousers (non-flared, non-clingy and non-cropped)

Charcoal grey pleated skirt with green overcheck

Coats should be plain black or navy (no denim, leather or sportswear)

Black blazer with the School's logo on the breast pocket

Black socks (please note knee-high socks are not part of our uniform). Students may wear 70 or 80 denier plain black tights. No other style, colour or thicknesses of tights are acceptable.

Shoes should be flat and black leather.



High heels, boots, sandals, canvas style plimsolls and trainers, including black trainers, are not permitted.

Science workshop - making Loudspeakers. #challenge



Enrichment - Leadership



COVID-19 over Easter Break:

We need to remain vigilant and students and families must continue to play an important role in keeping the whole school community safe.

Home testing:

It is important that students continue testing twice a week, at home, throughout the Easter school holidays. Please also ensure a test is undertaken on Monday evening (19th April) or Tuesday morning (20th April) before students come back to school.

A reminder that home testing is only suitable for individuals without symptoms and home tests kits must never be used to determine if an individual with symptoms has COVID-19. Instead you must book a PCR test, you can book a test by visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

Reporting your test result:

A reminder that once you have completed the test and received a result you must report the result (negative, positive or void) via the NHS Test & Trace digital platform and to the school.

1) To report your result via the NHS Test & Trace digital platform please visit www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result or by calling 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day, 7am to 11pm.

2) In addition, all positive results should be reported to the school immediately via <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/f3cbf08219cb4385ac5ac44fbfd066e1> We will then be in touch to provide further guidance and to undertake a process of contact tracing.

Reporting COVID cases over Easter

- In order to support NHS track and trace it is important that you continue to report any cases to school up to and including Friday 2nd April. This is because Wednesday 31st March would be within the 48hr infectious period that occurs prior to the onset of symptoms (or a positive test result).
- Therefore, if you or your child displays any symptoms of coronavirus on either 1st or 2nd April, please can you immediately organise a test via a testing centre and then report the result to <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/f3cbf08219cb4385ac5ac44fbfd066e1>.

Testing for parents, households and bubbles twice a week

The test kits supplied by school should only be used by students. However, regular rapid testing is now also available for parents, their households and support or childcare bubbles. The government is encouraging all families to participate in twice weekly testing to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

Parents and other adults in the household can access tests by:

- Ordering tests online www.gov.uk/order-school-household-tests;
- Attending a test site to get tested (where you will be able to see how to take the test); or pick up tests to do at home.

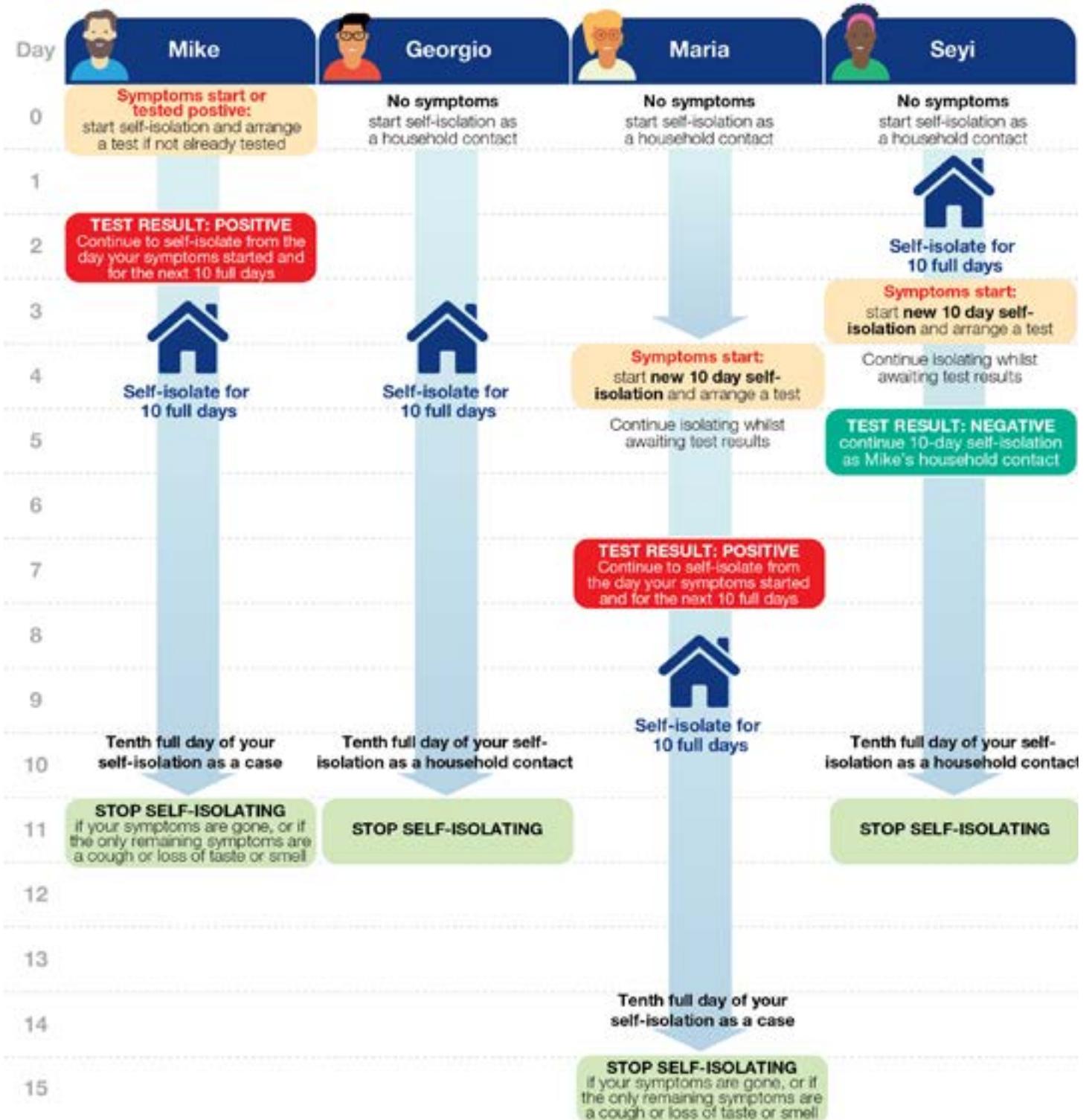
To find out more on school household testing visit: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>.



Stay at home and self-isolate.

Please see [detailed guidance online](#).

Mike's household: In this example, Mike lives with Georgio, Maria and Seyi. Mike is the first case of COVID-19 in this household. He and everyone in the household begin self-isolating from the day Mike's symptoms start (or if he had no symptoms, from the date of his positive test).



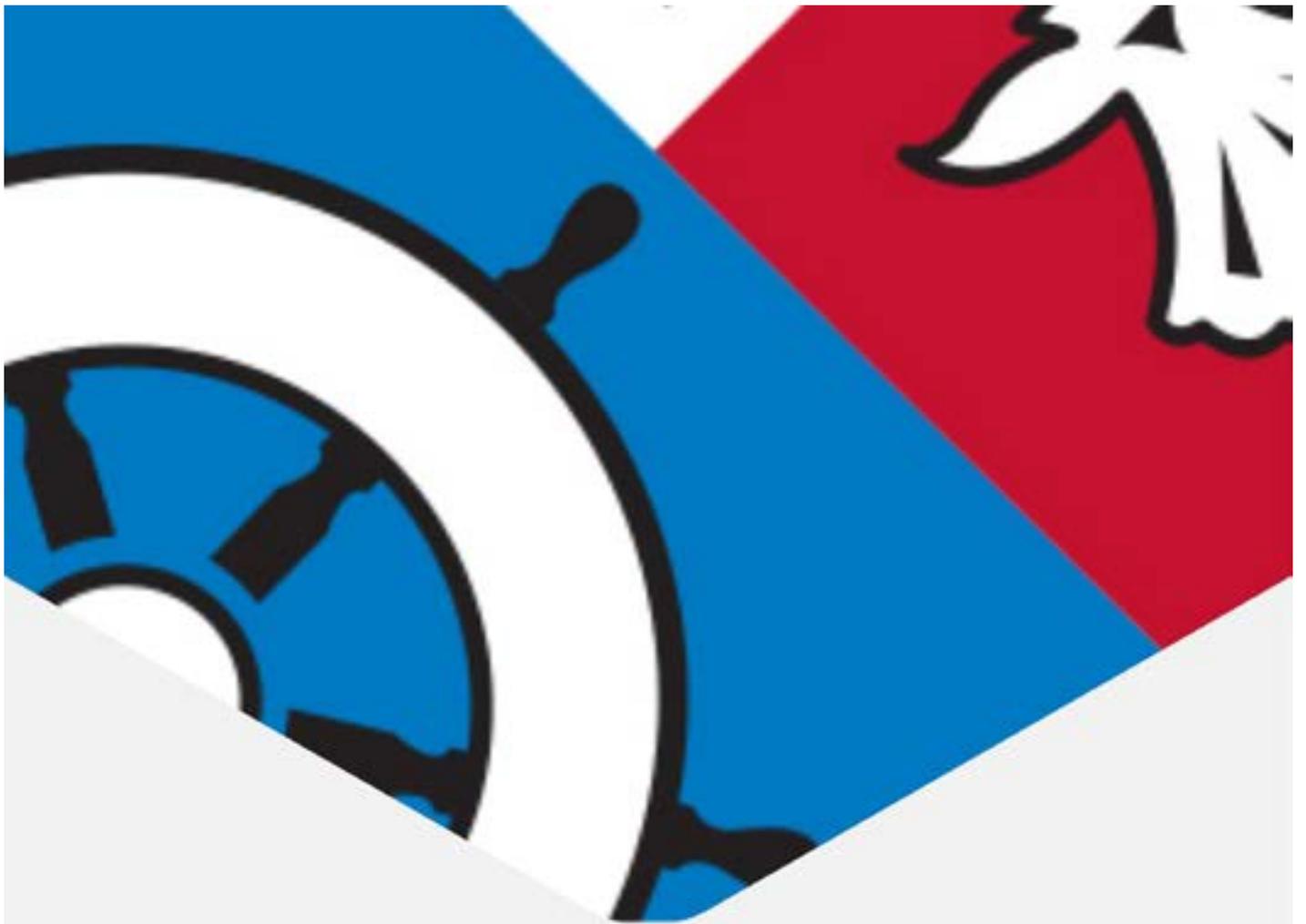
Self-isolate for 10 full days.

You need to self-isolate from the day the first person in your household started symptoms and for the next 10 full days. If they did not have symptoms, self-isolate from the day of their test and for the next 10 full days.

To self-isolate means:

Do not go to work, school, or public areas and do not use public transport or taxis. Only leave your home to get to your test if you need to, observe strict social distancing advice and return immediately afterwards.





Creative Arts

SHOWCASE

A virtual celebration of the arts at the
Seckford Education Trust

Open to all art forms

Deadline for submissions is Fri 2nd April 2021

Dates For Your Diary

Year 7

Monday 10 - Friday 14 May: KS3 examinations

Thursday 24 June: Progress Checkpoint 4 - reports sent home

Year 8

Thursday 29 April: Progress Evening

Monday 10 - Friday 14 May: KS3 examinations

Thursday 24 June: Progress Checkpoint 4 - reports sent home

Year 9

Monday 10 - Friday 14 May: KS3 examinations

Monday 21 June: Year 9/10 "Is University for You?" Evening

Thursday 24 June: Progress Checkpoint 4 - reports sent home

Year 10

Thursday 22 April: Progress Evening

Tuesday 4 May - Friday 14 May: Mock Examinations

Monday 21 June: Year 9/10 "Is University for You?" Evening

Thursday 24 June: Progress Checkpoint 4 - reports sent home

Parents' and Carers' Open Forum

Tuesday 4 May: 9.30 – 10.30am

Friday 25 June: 9.30 – 10.30am

Other Events

Friday 25 June: Friends' of Ixworth Fun Run (5.30 - 8.00pm)

Year 6 Into 7 Transition

Wednesday 16 June: Transition Evening/ Meet the Tutor (5.00 - 7.00pm)

Tuesday 29 - Wednesday 30 June: Transition Days

Virtual Routes into STEM – for students in Years 9-10



Virtual Routes into STEM is a course provided by the Engineering Development Trust (EDT) and is an exciting opportunity for students to explore the various routes they can take towards their STEM career. It is designed to give them an insight into pathways following GCSEs including study routes via College and

University and direct Apprenticeship routes through industry. The course gives a fantastic insight into what life is like in a variety of different STEM settings and gives students the ability to virtually tour multiple colleges, universities and employers.

The course is open to all students in Years 9 & 10 and is suitable for all academic abilities. All that is required is a genuine interest in STEM subjects and inquisitiveness about what the future can hold. The course is held online and runs from 21st May to 6th June. It includes a diverse range of live interactive sessions that will be held over the half term week.

For more information please contact Mr Budden, Lead Practitioner for Science, at tbudden@seckfordeducation.org.uk