

**Sixth Form Student Bulletin**  
**Week beginning Monday 23rd March 2020 (Week A)**

***Thank you all for being so wonderful!***

In what was certainly an incredibly difficult week for you all you behaved with amazing maturity, kindness and thoughtfulness to those around you. I and the rest of the 6<sup>th</sup> Form team could not have been more proud of you all- thank you.

***We will keep the bulletin*** going during the school closure so please send in messages, photos, tips on good programmes, good books, jokes etc etc

**Important message which will also be in SMHW from Mr Park**

Dear students,

Firstly, thank you all for the way you have conducted yourselves over the last few days, which have been very difficult for you. We have been so impressed with how you have handled this situation.

The government have started to give some information about how your A Level grades will be awarded – I have attached a link below to the most useful recent information from the Department for Education. The school will still need more detailed guidelines from Ofqual before we know more precisely what we will need to do, but it is clear that we will be given guidance on providing a teacher assessed grade using a variety of evidence of the work you have done including mock exam information, Non Examination Assessments and our knowledge of your performance on exam questions, unit tests etc. **For this reason, it is important that you continue to engage with any work that your teachers set you.** They may wish you to complete some more exam style questions to add to all of the other evidence to help them consider the overall grade they will submit for you.

It also seems clear that after the school have submitted grades Ofqual and the exam boards will do a national moderation of grades to ensure they match the distribution of grades in each subject from previous years. As we get more information we will keep you updated. Please do read the attached document and particularly note that they are expecting universities to be as flexible as possible.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-cancellation-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2020/coronavirus-covid-19-cancellation-of-gcses-as-and-a-levels-in-2020>

**Resit week**

This is still re-sit week so please check your timetable and complete the exams at the correct time. Then send them to staff either by post to school ( marked for the attention of Mrs Livings) or preferably on line.

## Completing set work

As you know on line lessons start tomorrow- you should know which staff are expecting you to check work at the start of the day and which are expecting you to be available in the normal teaching slot- if you are unclear check SMHW throughout the day.

### Key messages from the assembly on Thursday:

#### Setting of work

- ▶ Year 12s we need to get you through the year's work so it is essential you do all work set and check each day. Some staff want you available during normal lesson time so check with staff please.
- ▶ Year 13s for now work will be set while we await further advice.
- ▶ Those of you who are going to university it's a chance maybe to do extra work around the subject you are hoping to study.
- ▶ Please don't make life hard for staff by not completing work- they are trying to help ensure you aren't disadvantaged

#### What we need from you...

##### **. Work with us.**

- ▶ New information coming in- please check emails each day
- ▶ Try not to overstress or worry - talk to us – talking helps!
- ▶ Re-sits will go ahead next week- at the moment we are waiting to hear how grades will be decided on
- ▶ Year 12 you will still have the A levels next year so it is really important you do all the work staff are setting

**We are here for you and we care very much about each and every one of you.....**

- ▶ Your tutors will be in contact regularly
- ▶ Mrs Booth , Mrs Livings and Miss Iwanczuk will also be in contact and we are happy to call you if you want to talk
- ▶ We will keep telling you everything we know as the situation develops.
- ▶ Keep safe and thank you for the incredible way you are dealing with what is happening
- ▶ As a 6<sup>th</sup> Form team we could not be more proud of you

**It's not goodbye to Year 13.....**

- ▶ We are not saying goodbye- we will be in very regular contact
- ▶ We will arrange a farewell once back –no way of knowing when but it will happen.

### **University Offers and Students finance**

***Please don't reply to offers until you have discussed them with me. You can email her and she will telephone you if you prefer this. This is a massive decision and needs lots of thought and weighing up what is best for you. The advice I sent out the other evening from UCAS is to not panic and reply because of what is happening- take your time. You don't have to decide until the start of May. On the other hand if you are sure that's fine. I hope you are starting to look at applying for finance following the link below.***

**<https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-register-login>**

***PLEASE email me if you are struggling at all with accommodation options and be really careful about what you are signing up to.***

**Lockers : Many of you will still have your locker keys (don't worry – when we have our reunion you can hand them back and we will return your deposit).**





To:

**Matthew Smalley – 26<sup>th</sup> March**

**Charlie Harrison – 27<sup>th</sup> March**

**Jade Forrester and Joseph Kingsland – 28<sup>th</sup> March**

**Joke of the week:**

In my crossword I have been looking for a nine letter word for two weeks...  
I have it!

**FORTNIGHT!**

**Another contribution from Mr Park**

Mr Park has also sent the link below and I thought you'd enjoy watching/listening- really heart-warming – you may go on to develop a love of classical music if you haven't already  
.... <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3eXT60rbBVk>

**Opportunities**

**Police Constable Degree Apprenticeship - Derbyshire -**

[https://www.indeed.co.uk/m/viewjob?jk=483e152026de46ac&from=ja&alid=5adf28d790084f4882bea4b5&tk=1e3o140682tjp800&utm\\_campaign=job\\_alerts&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=jobseeker\\_emails&rgtk=1e3o140682tjp800](https://www.indeed.co.uk/m/viewjob?jk=483e152026de46ac&from=ja&alid=5adf28d790084f4882bea4b5&tk=1e3o140682tjp800&utm_campaign=job_alerts&utm_medium=email&utm_source=jobseeker_emails&rgtk=1e3o140682tjp800)

**A message from UCAS** (look on the UCAS website for more details.....)

As well as supporting current applicants, we remain focused on helping other students and year groups continue with their studies. Although many events, like open days, exhibitions, and face-to-face conversations may have been put on hold, your students' futures have not. Please take this time to remind them about the

many resources available online, such as the [UCAS Hub](#), [virtual tours](#), [subject guides](#), and [Unibuddy](#) peer-to-peer support.

### **University holder days: University of Leicester**

Check whether your possible university choices are doing what **University of Leicester** is doing....

#### **.....Going Digital**

We've now gone digital with our Offer Holder Days to replace on our on-campus events, providing students with the opportunities to watch subject talks and tasters, take a virtual campus and accommodation tour and chat online with current students, admissions tutors and support services from the comfort of their own homes. The format has been created by the direct feedback from previous applicants on what advice and information they need to make a decision.

These will be taking place on:

- Saturday 21 March
- Saturday 4 April

### **News Items of the week :**

#### **Coronavirus: Follow virus advice or 'tougher measures' likely, says PM**

**Boris Johnson: "Even if you think you're personally invulnerable there are people you can infect"**

**Boris Johnson has warned "tougher measures" could be introduced if people do not take the government's coronavirus advice seriously.**

The PM thanked people for making sacrifices but said people must follow social distancing guidance.

"If you don't do it responsibly... we will have to bring forward further measures," he said..

The NHS said all those who died in England in the past day were in vulnerable groups including with underlying health issues.

It comes as the NHS in England has identified 1.5 million of the most at-risk people who should now stay at home for 12 weeks.

**The PM told those people to "shield" themselves, adding it "will do more than any other single measure that we are setting out to save life".**

## 'Tougher measures'

Speaking at Downing Street's daily news conference, Mr Johnson told people going to parks they "have to do that responsibly".

It comes after pictures showed people across parts of the UK visiting parks and open spaces in large numbers over the weekend.

**Snowdonia National Park said the area** "experienced its busiest ever visitor day in living memory" on Saturday, with other beaches and mountain summits busy.



**Clapham Common in London was among the parks across the UK busy over the weekend**

"Don't think fresh air in itself automatically provides some immunity," Mr Johnson said, adding that even if people think they are invulnerable, "there are plenty of people you could infect".

"Take this advice seriously, follow it, because it's absolutely crucial."

"My message is you've got to do this in line with the advice, you've got to follow the social distancing rule - keep 2m apart."

Asked whether stricter measures could be introduced, Mr Johnson added: "I don't think you need to use your imagination very much to see where we might have to go, and we will think about this very, very actively in the next 24 hours.

"It's so important that pleasure and that ability is preserved but it can only really be preserved if everybody acts responsibly and conforms with those principles of staying apart from one another and social distancing.

"If we can't do that then, yup, I'm afraid we're going to have to bring forward tougher measures."

Some parks **have already announced** they will be closing. Essex County Council will close all its country parks from 20:00 GMT, while earlier Richmond Park in London closed to traffic on Sunday, although those on foot and cyclists were still allowed.

**And .....on a completely different matter**

## Rats Will Avoid Actions That Hurt Others -- Even If It Earns Them A Treat

March 7, 2020

A new study has found that rats, like humans, will avoid actions that can cause pain to their fellow beings.



This trait is known as harm aversion.

Researchers believe [their findings](#) will help scientists develop new treatments to increase harm aversion in human patients who show psychopathic behavior.

"We share a mechanism that prevents antisocial behaviour with rats, which is extremely exciting to me," says professor Christian Keysers, study group leader at the Netherlands Institute for Neuroscience. "We can now use all the powerful tools of brain science to explore how to increase harm aversion in antisocial patients."

To investigate harm aversion in rats, the researchers gave them a choice between two levers they could press to receive sugary treats.

Once the animals developed a preference for one of the two levers, the scientists reconfigured the system so that pressing their favorite lever would also cause the rat in the next cage to receive an unpleasant shock while the treat was being dispensed. When the fellow rodents reacted by squeaking their protest, the rats stopped using their preferred lever.

"Much like humans, rats actually find it aversive to cause harm to others," said Dr. Julen Hernandez-Lallement, first author of the study and a researcher at the NIN.

The researchers then scanned the brains of rats and found a region of the brain, known as the anterior cingulate cortex, to become active. This same brain region has also been found to light up in people empathising with the pain of others.

"It shows that the moral motivation that keeps us from harming our fellow humans is evolutionary old, deeply ingrained in the biology of our brain and shared with other animals," said Dr. Valeria Gazzola, a senior author of the study.

**Thoughts for the Week:** *"The ideals which have always shone before me and filled me with joy are goodness, beauty, and truth."* – Albert Einstein



THOUGH MILES  
MAY LIE BETWEEN  
US, WE ARE NEVER  
FAR APART, FOR  
FRIENDSHIP DOESN'T  
♡ COUNT MILES,  
ITS MEASURED BY  
THE HEART ♡