



Blanche Nevile Secondary Newsletter

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Monday 30th November 2020

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Children,

I hope that you are all safe and well—it is very strange being at school without the children and staff!

It was with enormous regret that, together with advice from Public Health England (PHE), the decision was taken to close the school on Monday 26th November. Safety must come first and we all have a responsibility to reduce the transmission of coronavirus within our communities. Both Primary and Secondary have undergone a deep clean and we are ready to welcome back staff and pupils on Monday 7th December.

I continue to be hugely impressed by the resilience of our students and staff—thank you so much! This resilience has been very much in evidence since school closed. Teachers have been uploading videos and posting work on Google Classroom. Learning Support Assistants and Communication Support Workers have been busy preparing resources and engaging with students. Students have completed their work daily and seem to be enjoying learning in this different way.

Earlier in term, we were able to invite you in for Annual Reviews of Educational Health Care Plans as we were confident that our protective measures ensured everyone's safety and well-being. This had to stop thanks to Lockdown 2 so a special thank you to those of you who have joined me by Zoom for your child's Annual Review. We know this is not ideal and appreciate your understanding.

It is important that for the remaining few days of autumn term we all continue to follow the safety measures in place.

Stay Safe and Stay Well

Heulwen Rees *Headteacher*

Mrs Antoniewicz writes:

Year 7.8 Maths

I wanted to share with everyone how proud I am of the maths work that year 7.8 have been doing in maths this year despite the fact that is not their favourite subject!

They have been completing all the work in lessons, doing their best with all homework and they have begun to successfully use and even enjoy the 2 new maths online programs which they have been registered for this year....Mymaths and IXL.

Well done Year 7.8, you are a pleasure to teach and I look forward to seeing you on Monday December 7th.

Ms Daly & Mrs Christian write:

Years 8 and 9 have been linking their work on Native Americans in Humanities with Mrs Demirci to their Textile work.

They have started to make a 6 panel blanket using images and ideas from traditional Native American art and have been particularly inspired by the images of the Pacific North West Native American art.

We will show you the final product which will involve some tie dye and fabric painting too. On completion of the written work they will achieve a Level 1 Unit Award in Textiles. Well done all of you!



Mr Gathani writes:

Year 10 pupils are preparing to sit Functional Skills exams this academic year.

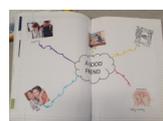
From the start of the new term in September 2020, there has been an in depth focus on E-Safety, revising area that have been learn previously, but with an additional emphasis on digital footprints.



Pupils have been learning how to manage and keep their digital footprints clean and safe.

We are now moving onto digital communication, i.e., emails, video calls, text messaging and social media etcetera, focussing on positive and negative aspects of this technology and learning how to protect yourself with privacy settings.

Miss Worthington writes:



This term in PSD our classes are reflecting on friendships. The qualities of good friends and how to make sure we are being a good friend.

Miss Donovan writes:

We are learning about seasons and the weather this term

We have been learning about how trees change. We are now learning about the different types of weather we get in the UK.

Hopefully we will soon be ready to present in our very own Blanche Nevile weather report.



Mrs Christian & Mrs Thompson write:

Some of the Year 8 and 9 students are busy learning more about graphic communication and are using their varied skills of cooking, art, graphics, ICT and creative thinking, all together, to begin to design and illustrate a recipe. They have been challenged to create a recipe design without using any words....this will be interesting!



Inspired by the illustrations of Felicia Sala, the students are using their latest home cooking lesson with Mr Demirci to prepare 'Cheesy Green Vegetable Gratin' as research for their design work, yummy! We look forward to seeing their finished illustrations. Good luck everyone!

Mr Hooper writes:

I teach British Sign Language (BSL) at Blanche Nevile Secondary School. The Year 11A students are all working on their level 203, which is the last exam they need to achieve their level 2 qualification.

They are all very passionate about learning BSL and are aiming to achieve their BSL Level 3 qualification before they leave our school in summer 2021.

For example, one student has said she wants to achieve this before she leaves school as she would like to add it to her CV. She would like to work in Deaf education in the future. Another student believes that this qualification will help him get a better job with better wages. He would like to

Mrs Demirci writes:

Years 10 and 11 Entry Level Certificate classes have been working hard on their Humanities topic this term, entitled 'Responses to Contemporary Conflict'.

They have been studying the civil war in Syria, including: the origins of the conflict, its impact on civilians, and why it has proven so difficult to resolve.

This work has involved listening to the stories of refugees from Syria through film and television interviews.

Students have completed a piece of extended writing detailing the effects war has on innocent people, showing real empathy and engagement. Well done to everyone involved.

Ms Daly writes:



The Jack Petchey Foundation is a charitable foundation based in the United Kingdom. The charity was founded in 1999 by businessman Sir Jack Petchey. Since the charity's founding, Petchey invested over £110 million in youth projects across London and Essex. The Foundation exists to raise the aspirations of young people, to help them take advantage of opportunities and play a full part in society.

The Jack Petchey Award gives us the opportunity to nominate and celebrate individual students' achievements and successes.

In Autumn 2019 this award went to one of our current Year 10 students who continues to impress us with her attitude to learning.

In Spring 2020, just before lockdown, the school voted for a former student who now attends Harrow College. We celebrated his achievement despite the first lockdown when Year 11 had their Covid secure celebration afternoon.

Nominations could not take place during the summer term because of the national lockdown.



We look forward to voting for the next student in January 2021.

Important Dates

Last day of Autumn 2	Thursday 17th December 2020
Christmas Holidays Start	Friday 18th December 2020 School closed
Christmas Holidays Finish	Friday 1st January 2021
Whole School Inset	Monday 4th January 2021 Staff INSET day. School closed to pupils
Start of Spring 1	Tuesday 5th January 2021 School open to pupils
End of Spring 1	Friday 12th February 2021