

Year 11 Newsletter - 1st May 2020



Message from the year 11 team

The two week Easter 'break' is over and it probably felt a bit odd for everyone but perhaps it gave us all an opportunity to do something different.

It is now nearly 6 weeks since you experienced school closure and hopefully some new routines are settling in. Although it's sad that school ended the way it did across the nation, the priority is keeping safe, staying at home and protecting the NHS so it can cope with the increased demand. WE are proud of the way you coped with the sudden end to your year and I know many of you will be making good use of the time you have suddenly gained.

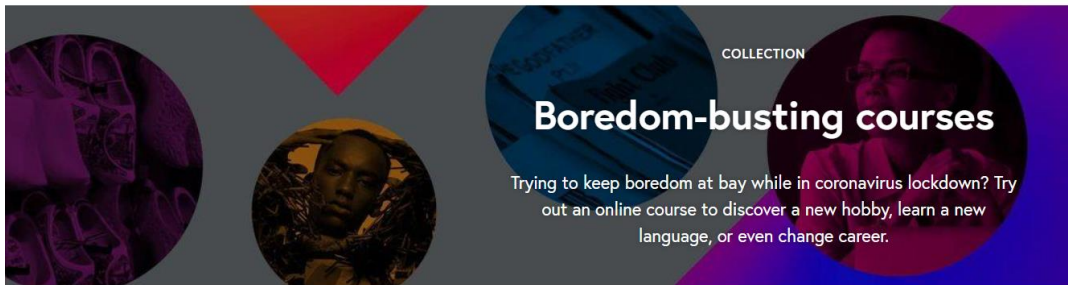
Preparing for your next steps

I know you are moving onto the next stage of your education and beginning to think about future jobs and careers. Now is a great opportunity to get a jump start on next year. We have provided some bridging work to help you leap into A levels [Link to A Level bridging activities](#) along with some guidance from Mr Brixey and Mr Catt [Link to letter](#) .Even if you haven't definitely decided which A levels to do, have a look at the material available. It might help you to make a more informed choice over the summer once you see your results.

What did you do during the closure?

On a positive note, this unprecedented period provides an opportunity for using the time to develop yourself - learn a new skill such as cooking, read some books, watch some classic films rather than what you usually might watch, listen to interesting podcasts, complete an online course that interests you. Try to avoid letting the time slip away, so when someone asks, 'What did you do during the closure?' you have an interesting response.

I know many of you have interests and hobbies you are committed to in a big way. There are loads of resources out there that will help you to prepare for the world beyond COVID-19. I hope you've had a look at the website after my letter last week [Link to website](#) . There's a load of stuff there for you. If not, here are some more suggestions for courses.



<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/collections/boredom-busters>

This is also a great time to explore the cultural heritage of this and other countries as many companies are putting out free material. Here are just a few examples that might interest you.

- Every Friday night, Cirque du Soleil are uploading a 60-minute special to their YouTube channel. I'd recommend this, they are amazing! Watch at least one of these awe-inspiring videos: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPiWljwDZQo3UobMqvi4ggg>
- Explore a variety of different sacred texts via The British Library website: <https://www.bl.uk/sacred-texts>
- Read about the history of the Tower of London: <https://www.hrp.org.uk/tower-of-london/history-and-stories/the-story-of-the-tower-of-london/#gs.3304tb> and also the Ceremony of Keys: <https://www.hrp.org.uk/tower-of-london/history-and-stories/the-ceremony-of-the-keys/#gs.2gwhg5>
- Explore The Anne Frank House online: <https://www.annefrank.org/en/museum/web-and-digital/>
- Watch a Shakespeare play via <https://www.youtube.com/user/ShakespearesGlobe>
A new video will be uploaded every other Monday. For more information: <https://www.shakespearesglobe.com/discover/blogs-and-features/2020/04/03/how-to-watch-our-free-globe-player-films/>
- Every day, Cincinnati Zoo are doing a Home Safari. Find their past videos here and learn about some of the amazing animals they care for: http://cincinnati-zoo.org/home-safari-resources/?fbclid=IwAR2XpFPRdr-O2EuV3GzQOiPzRUOFMZWxqZz7_oeVWOPPrTbbQMMqMZQkwYw

Email me if any of these ideas catch your interest as I have a whole load more!

Weekly Quiz

I know loads of you will be watching a lot of TV so here's a quick quiz on some programmes.

1. What is Postman Pat's surname?
2. In what year did Channel 5 launch in the UK?
3. Of what is the sci-fi show Torchwood an offshoot?
4. Which show is Frasier a spin-off from?
5. What was the name of the tower block where Del Boy and Rodney Trotter lived in Only Fools and Horses?
6. Gillian Anderson plays a therapist in which hit Netflix show?
7. What is the name of the fictional borough of Melbourne where Australian soap Neighbours is set?
8. EastEnders began broadcasting on BBC1 in which year?
9. Who is the longest serving presenter of the BBC children's show Blue Peter?
10. What is the name of Mackenzie Crook's character in sitcom The Office?

Answers next week!

That's all for this week. **#staysafe #stayhome and look after yourselves.**