

Year 9 Student Update

Caludon Castle School Friday 10 July 2020



Year Team update

Hello again everyone.

Can you believe this is the last Student newsletter before we break up for the summer holiday and when I see you all again you will be in year 10?

It has been a long time since we have been in school together and some of you may be feeling a bit anxious about coming back in September. This is perfectly understandable but I want to reassure you that staff in school are working incredibly hard, putting plans in place for your return.

Please make the most of the last week of term and really try to do your best to complete the tasks set on Firefly. I know most of you have been working really hard at home. The refresher work that teachers are setting over the next week will be helpful to you all no matter how much work you have done up until now, so it is important to complete this and come back to school as well prepared as you can be.

I am sure you will join me in saying a huge thank you to Mr Morgan and Miss Banwait for all their hard work with our year group, they are moving on to new schools in September and we wish them lots of luck. We will miss them both!

I will finish by saying that I am really looking forward to seeing you all again in September but, until then, have a fabulous summer.

Stay safe, keep smiling ☺

Mrs Devine

The Tutor Group Challenge

Best entries for challenge set by Mrs Devine: Take a photo of something you are particularly looking forward to as lockdown eases. Well done to this week's winner – Jake in 9.2

9.1 Luca is looking forward to being able to play football with his friends again!	9.2 Jake is looking forward to seeing his friends and family when lockdown eases as he hasn't got to see them as frequently as he would like. He is only seeing his grandparents once every two weeks, to give them their food, as they don't want to go shopping yet.	9.3 Ms Ward is looking forward to when we are all back at school and she can see all of you face to face again.
9.4 Jamie is looking forward to seeing the ice hockey!	9.5 Shannon is looking forward to her holiday in Greece!	9.6 Lots of people from 9.6 are looking forward to seeing their friends and family, getting a hair cut, visiting places and even going back to school!
9.7 Lots of people in 9.7 are looking forward to seeing their friends and families and for clubs to start back up.	9.8 Lots of people in 9.8 are just looking forward to not having to constantly think about hand washing and social distancing and mask wearing and.... Just looking forward to being able to socialise and relax at the same time.	9.9 So many students in 9.9 are looking forward to getting back into learning and having their minds feeling less dull all the time.

Current Affairs

China's government has passed a new law on 1st July that gives it more power over Hong Kong, but lots of people living there are not happy with what it will mean for their freedom. Over the past year there have been lots of protests in Hong Kong as the government in China suggested several new laws for the region.

A law that changed how crimes were dealt with and sparked many protests was dropped. However, people feel this new law is even stronger and will end their freedom of speech; it will also stop them from protesting if they are unhappy with how Hong Kong is being run.

Hong Kong used to be controlled by the UK and life there has been very different to the rest of China. Many people in Hong Kong don't want the Chinese government getting too involved in how their area is run or interfering with their unique laws. Some critics are worried that it could mean life in jail if the new law is broken by doing things like protesting.

Tasks for the final weeks of term

Tasks for the final weeks of term are a bit different, as you know. This past week you have been completing subject questionnaires and maybe just a short task or activity. The questionnaire information will inform the teachers' planning for September, and will ensure that you get help with the parts you found difficult.

Next week - the final week of term – your teachers will be reminding you of the learning that has been set during the lockdown. If you have not completed any of the tasks outlined, then you should do this before September. If you have completed everything on the refresher list to a good standard, which most of you have, then obviously please do not do it again!

Mental Health and Well-Being

A time to reflect on what you have learned and what next.

I truly hope that some of you have taken some comfort, guidance and advice from these inserts over these past weeks. It seems really important to use this last one to help you to reflect. **Reflection** is an important skill where we learn about our own mental well-being. What makes us stressed, sad, anxious or angry? These are questions we sometimes forget to ask ourselves, even as adults, people get so bogged down in life they forget to reflect. Take some time this summer to reflect. In September your tutors will work with you on reflection and planning.

Reflect on things you have achieved; it may not be school related; it may be things you did at home or with friends to help or support someone else. Remember that we ALL have talents and skills - every one of us. What are yours? What has made you feel good, happy or relaxed over this time? Can you do more of that in your day to day life?

Your year leaders, tutors, teachers and all the other staff that help run this school miss you. They miss the noise of young people being young. We have felt lonely at times without you all around because you are a part of our lives. We are excited about seeing you all again in September. We too will be reflecting and using our reflections to try to make things better where ever we can. Stay safe this summer and remember to be kind to yourself and others.

Click [here](#) for some really interesting support ideas from young minds.

Write a list of all the skills and things you have learned, including outside of school, over the last few months. How might these things help you in the future?

Remember to make time this week to drink water every day, get some early nights and have time away from your screens.

Write a letter to someone you have really missed over this period of time and post it, even if they live close by. Notice how your letter makes someone else feel.

Do something helpful in the house that someone else always does (make the beds, prepare a meal or put the bins out). Remember helping others is good for our own mental health too!

2x2 challenge



Shout outs

Hi 9.4! Hope you're all ok - thank you for those who responded to the tutor challenge. I just wanted to say I miss you all and even though all I seem to do is whinge at you guys, I can't wait to be back in a classroom with you! Fingers crossed to see you all again in September. From Miss Walch

Well done Year 9 for all the great learning you have done during the virtual school; we have seen some amazing work. The winner of the Geography rewards competition is **Olivia Keeling**! Well done Olivia and you will collect your prize when we return to school!

Hi 9.6 guys. I know you used to moan at me for checking your pen, pencil, ruler and reading book every day but I can't wait to be able to do it again and see your smiling faces soon! Miss you all. Stay safe and see you all in a September. Ready to start year 10! From Mrs D

9.7 - I never thought I'd say that I miss your moaning at 12.10 about silent reading, but I do! I hope you all have the best summer and hopefully we will all be back at school in September. From Miss Mallett

Thank you for all the amazing entries to the Royal Geographical Society competition. The winners are **Neha Thomas, Nadia Martin and Jenna Bicknell**! Their entries will be submitted to the Royal Geographical Society and will get a prize from the Geography Department when we return to school! Well done! From Mrs Irving

And finally...

It has been a pleasure working with you all these past two years but, as Mrs Devine has mentioned, some of us are moving on to different challenges, and with different horizons, in September.

It should be said that the year 9 tutor team and leadership team are second to none, with a particularly hearty shout-out for Mrs Devine. I can confidently say, on behalf of us all, that she is totally ace. A supremely agile and encyclopedic brain, combined with a very caring heart. We are jolly fortunate to have her leading us all.

There will be a number of changes next year then. Year 9 students will become year 10 students (that's you) and will be embarking on their GCSEs (please give them your best shot), we'll hopefully be coming out of lockdown and a number of new staff will be joining us; the most high profile one being Mr Stokes who, will be working from my office. We have told him so many good things about you all so be sure to make his life a breeze.

So there we have it. Year 9 is drawing to a close and the key stage 4 chapter is primed and ready to explore.

Enjoy!

Mr Morgan