



Issue 6 April 2020

## Coronavirus School Closure- An Update

### Importance of routine



Welcome back to the summer term. We would like to send out a huge thank you to all parents for the work you are doing at home, supporting your children as they try to keep up with some school work. We offer the following as advice and tips to help:

You are not expected to *teach* your child at home, but we are asking that you *support* their learning.

Have a routine, with key times in the day for different activities. This may include:

- Waking up at a reasonable time.
- Some physical exercise – perhaps do the Joe Wicks workout each morning, or go for a walk, or spend half an hour outside, playing in the garden if you have one. In school, we start each day at 9am with the children of key workers by getting active with Joe Wicks on Youtube.
- Reading for pleasure – reading is so important and can make a huge difference to how well children do in school, so building in some time for this each day would be very valuable.
- School work – chunk it down into manageable blocks, and take breaks.
- Something different – maybe baking, helping around the house, making something creative, looking at some educational websites (e.g. museums, wonders of the world...).

### Internet access and laptop use

We are contacting families where internet access is an issue and children are not able to use a PC or laptop, with a view to loaning out some equipment for the duration of the school closure. If we have not been in touch with you and you would benefit from some support of this sort, please contact the school reception, open each day from 9am – 12pm.



### Weekly Quiz Results

Once again we have been amazed by how many students have taken part in the Friday Quiz. It seems even more took part this second time. The results are as follows (I have also included the 1<sup>st</sup> place percentage for info and which tutor group got the highest in each year group).

Year Group	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Top Score
7	Castle	Watermead	73% (7.4)
8	Castle	Victoria	75% (8.10)
9	Abbey	Castle/Victoria	76% (9.5)
10	Victoria	Watermead	79% (10.11)
11	Beacon	Bradgate	83% (11.3)

## Looking for more resources for home learning



### For English

**Audible** <https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>

For key stage 3 and key stage 4, all children's audiobooks are available for free while schools are closed.

**English Mastery** <https://www.englishmastery.org/>

For key stage 3, downloadable resource books providing 12 weeks of activities covering writing and poetry.

**English and Media Centre**

<https://www.englishandmedia.co.uk/publications/>

For key stage 3 and key stage 4, downloadable resources covering a range of texts for key stage 3. GCSE resources are categorised by examination board.

**Pobble 365** <https://www.pobble365.com/>

For key stage 3 and key stage 4, a new image is published each day as a basis for creative writing. Story starters, questions and drawing ideas are provided

**Poetry by Heart** <https://www.poetrybyheart.org.uk/>

For key stage 3 and key stage 4, a wide selection of poetry covering different topics.

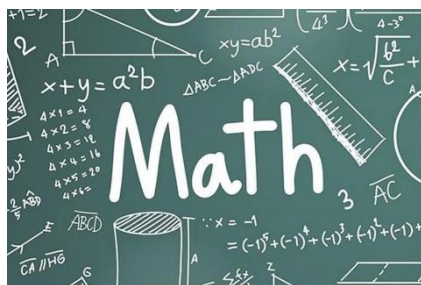
**Seneca**

<https://app.senecalearning.com/courses?Price=Free&Age+Group=GCSE&Subject=English+Language>

For key stage 4, a range of downloadable resources covering the GCSE curriculum, categorised by examination board.

**The Children's Poetry Archive** <https://childrens.poetryarchive.org/>

For key stage 3 and key stage 4, an archive of spoken poetry recordings. Pupils can listen to poems being read aloud.



### For Maths

**Bowland Maths Resources** <https://www.bowlandmaths.org.uk/>

For key stage 3, downloadable assessments on a range of subjects, including sample answers and assessment tips.

**Corbett Maths** <https://corbettmaths.com/contents/>

For key stage 4, a range of videos and downloadable questions categorised by topic and predicted grade.

**Mathigon** <https://mathigon.org/>

For key stage 3 and key stage 4, interactive maths resources that allow teachers and parents to track student progress and set activities.

**Maths Kitchen** <https://mathskitchen.com/topics>

For key stage 4, an interactive GCSE revision website. Resources are categorised by topic, including video lessons and practice questions.

**Mathematics Mastery** <https://www.mathematicsmastery.org/free-resources>

For key stage 3, downloadable guidance and resource packs for parents and pupils.

**Nrich** <https://nrich.maths.org/>

For key stage 3 and key stage 4, a range of activities. Some are interactive and some are to be completed offline. Activities are categorised by age range.

**Nrich Core Maths** <https://nrich.maths.org/12524>

For key stage 3 to key stage 5, games and puzzles as well as mathematical-thinking and problem-solving questions. Content is categorised by topic and age group.

**Nrich 'Solving Together' project** <https://nrich.maths.org/solvingtogether>

For key stage 3, this is a project that provides activities for parents and carers to try with children.



For key stage 3 to key stage 5, videos with tips on gaining confidence, dealing with anxiety and coping strategies from other young people.

**The Child Bereavement Network** <http://www.childhoodbereavementnetwork.org.uk/covid-19.aspx>

For key stage 3 to key stage 5, advice on supporting grieving children during the coronavirus outbreak.

### General sites

If your child is keen to learn for themselves and wants to follow a general interest course or support their home learning, there are lots of websites out there. Here is a selection:

- BBC bitesize and BBC red button - aimed at all years: [bbc.co.uk/bitesize](http://bbc.co.uk/bitesize)
- Amazon are providing free educational books to download for a month
- Duolingo: Learn Spanish, French and other languages for free – aimed at KS3/4/5: <https://duolingo.com/>
- BBC Languages – Free online lessons to learn and study with aimed at KS3/4/5: <http://bbc.co.uk/languages>

### Random Knowledge

These sites spark discussion and general inquisitiveness

- HowStuffWorks – Learn How Everything Works!: <https://howstuffworks.com/>
- Mental Floss: <http://mentalfloss.com/uk>
- Sporcle – World’s Largest Trivia Quiz Website : [https://www.sporcle.com./](https://www.sporcle.com/)



### On-Line Museums, Galleries and Travel

- The Louvre : [www.louvre.fr](http://www.louvre.fr)
- State Hermitage: [www.hermitagemuseum.org](http://www.hermitagemuseum.org)
- British Museum: [www.britishmuseum.org](http://www.britishmuseum.org)
- Musee D’Art Moderne: [www.mam.paris.fr](http://www.mam.paris.fr)
- Van Gogh Museum: [www.vangoghmuseum.nl](http://www.vangoghmuseum.nl)
- Tate Museum: [www.Tate.org.uk](http://www.Tate.org.uk)
- National History Museum: [www.nhm.ac.uk](http://www.nhm.ac.uk)
- The Great Wall of China: <https://www.thechinaguide.com/destination/great-wall-of-china>
- Nasa: <https://exoplanets.nasa.gov/>
- Virtual journey around the world: <https://www.airpano.com/>
- Yellowstone National Park: <https://www.nps.gov/yell/learn/photosmultimedia/virtualtours.htm>

### Other Useful Sites:

These sites spark general interest and keep children active.

- On-line art classes: [www.Warhol.org/lessons](http://www.Warhol.org/lessons)
- Joe Wicks workout free on you tube every day at 9am
- Oti Mabuse is offering free dance classes every night – check out the details through her Instagram account
- Bear Grylls encourages you to enjoy the great outdoors: <https://www.scouts.org.uk/the-great-indoors/>
- Mylene Klass is sharing free music lessons through you tube
- Listen to Music with the Berlin Philharmonic: <https://www.digitalconcerthall.com/en/home>
- Live National Theatre plays every Thursday on Youtube – check out more on: <https://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/>