



# Noadswood

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Sunday, 15 November 2020

Dear all

## **Year 10 update:**

I hope the first week of this new half term is going as well as possible for everyone. I want to start with some big shout outs to our Year 10 students. Well done, guys, to the around 2/3 of you who've logged in to your live online lessons with your teachers over the last three days. It's a new system for us all to get used to, but your teachers are working hard to cover the sort of content that needs to be 'face to face' in these lessons, to run alongside the rest of the remote learning they are preparing for you each week. They're also able to reconnect with you all and refocus you afresh, which is so important, we know.

It's been a real team effort getting this underway, and so I'm also giving a big thank you to all your teachers for developing our remote learning in this way as well as to Mr Finn, Mr Wells, Mr Moody and, of course, Mr Hewitt for the behind the scenes work they've done to support them so well.

If you're in Year 10, and these lessons aren't part of your life yet, get yourselves on to the Frog Portal, click on Year 10 at the top and you'll see a video from Mr Hewitt with tips on how to access the lessons, and then keep checking your school email for the links to the correct lessons for you. Don't be the one to miss out and if the tech is a hassle, let us know! Reach out to your House Leader on ePraise or by email or drop me a line at [headteacher@noadswood.hants.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@noadswood.hants.sch.uk) You can also call Mrs Loveday on Loveday's Lifeline between 10 and 12 each day on 07946 884122 and she can pass your queries along to the right people.

**From Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June, we will be offering a programme of some face to face contact on the school site for Y10 and we're really excited to be planning this** – the programme and expectations for this are to follow and must be taken incredibly seriously for things to work out. I'm getting regular reports now of young people gathering on the field and in the community, you see, and this isn't in line with the guidance we need to follow to keep each other and the community safe.

Don't get me wrong, I know this has been such a long lockdown, and the impact of that is huge for you. I also get that there has been so much guidance that has sometimes seemed confusing compared to other guidance. Then there's been all sorts in the news about the Government Advisor, Dominic Cummings, making a lengthy journey during lockdown.

But whatever you think about his decisions or all of the guidance, here's what you know: there is a virus still out there that makes some people incredibly ill, has caused a huge number of fatalities in our country and our world, and puts phenomenal pressure on our NHS. So the only right thing to do is to get behind the instructions we're giving you, from the government guidance that we receive and pore over, and that is what we'll expect when we invite you back on to site for the programme we'll share with you very soon. Nothing less than your best will be good enough for your safety, our school's safety and our community's safety – what could matter more than that?

If you're not in Y10, we're continuing to work on the interactive recorded lessons that have been going well now in lots of subject areas, and we have other plans to share with you later in the half term, too, but we can't invite you on to the school site, unless you're part of our critical workers' student group. We hate that, but, again, that's us sticking to the guidance that's keeping us all safe right now – we want to thank you for all of your ongoing understanding about this and for how hard you're working both on your learning and on coping really well. It really doesn't get easier, and we feel that for you keenly.

### **Work of the Week... so far!**

Proof of how hard you guys are working and of the grit you're showing has come flooding in this week, as always.

You know by now that I believe that looking after yourself is a massively important part of the work you need to do throughout all of this – just as important as any school work. So I am going to start things off today with Erin's simply scrummy looking milkshake:



What could you make to make yourself or your family feel good? Trust me, this is time well spent and will keep you motivated to work hard if you're also weaving in enjoyment and your favourite things into your week. We think about what we'd like to have for lunch each day and when we're going to have it so there's a real break in the work, and little treats to look forward to. Doesn't have to be anything exotic or expensive, but it puts a lovely lift into the day.

Equally important is the work you do to support your family or the local community, and Ted and Zoe, two of my many Lockdown Heroes, have been giving their time to assembling the contents, then packing and sealing some of the kits that will protect flight crew and attendants from possible infection from the virus from passengers at their Dad's work. He is Managing Director at a company providing these kits to various airlines and the kits contain things like, masks, gloves, aprons and goggles. As you can imagine, the demand is high for these kits and Zoe and Ted gave up two days of their time to help their Dad and his customers. I'm really proud of you both for this important, selfless work, guys:



Then there's the really hard work you're putting in to rising to your personal challenges in life. Not long before we went into lockdown, I had a chat with Abbie in the corridor outside my office about the important spine surgery she was waiting for to tackle the condition, scoliosis. Abbie describes this for us:

*Scoliosis is a curve of the spine, it affects both genders off any age. Scoliosis occurs most often during a growth spurt and it can affect your ribs, shoulders, hips and sometimes in severe cases your lungs causing difficult breathing.*

Last night, she messaged me to share the great news that the surgery has been a massive success – look how straight her spine is now:



But not only that, she let me know about the website she's created which includes a powerful write up of her experiences in a blog. You could be a real ally for Abbie, as I know some of you already are, by checking her work out here:

<https://scoliosisjourney280263456.wordpress.com/>

You'll find out about the fundraising she is doing, including a sponsored 10 mile cycle ride on June 27<sup>th</sup>, which will be a brilliant achievement for her, as it'll be the furthest she's cycled since the surgery.

She's doing her all to use the experiences she's been through to help and support others going through a similarly tough time. She has my massive respect, I am incredibly proud of her and I can't wait to give you more updates:

*I share my scoliosis journey in hope to spread awareness and let others know who may need surgery that it's ok and that they can do it and to also let them know that they are not alone.*

Cara has also put her heart and soul into our kindness agenda, baking lots of cookies and sharing them out in really thoughtful ways:



Even though she says how much she wishes we could all just crack on with things again, she put her focus on to making other people feel really great (and she'll have felt so good too!):

*I put 9 in one bag for one of my friends because I believe that she deserves them (there were 3 for each member in her household) as she has been working really hard. I gave them to her on Wednesday when we met up in Hythe Park ( staying 6 feet apart at all times).). I then put around 6 cookies in another bag and walked up to Mum's friend's house. My mum volunteered to just go around an elderly person's house every Monday because they felt lonely. But, due to quarantine, they have been calling every Monday. So, we walked up, placed them on her doorstep and stood further away so she could answer the door and get them. A lovely conversation followed and then we headed home.*

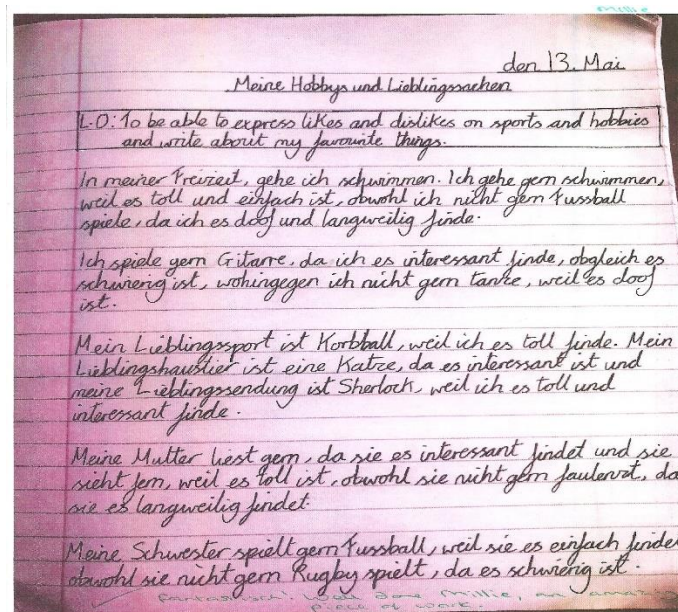
Well played, Cara – the cookies look delicious and your efforts will have been so valued by everyone involved.

With regards to school work this week, Mr Copland sent me this superb Geography work by James, who's made a great effort to model the Fairy Towers of Cappadocia, Turkey:





Mrs Hockings shared this careful and detailed German work by Millie:



And Mr Stone passed along some fantastic, thorough research by Emily about the role animals play in religion :

## Reincarnation

- Buddhists, Sikhs and Hindus believe in the idea of reincarnation- this is where everything is connected through an everlasting cycle of birth and rebirth.
- Because of this, these religions do not believe in the idea of ruling over animals, as they could have been humans once so they are equal in such ways.
- Many believers are vegans or vegetarians, and do not eat meat or use animal produce.
- However, some argue that humans are in fact better than animals, as to be reincarnated as a human is almost a reward while an animal not so much.

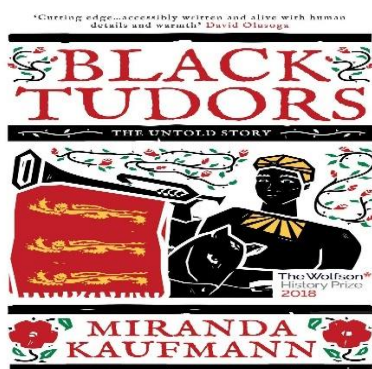


James' research looks at the important question, Is the planet sacred?

► I think that it is sacred and that we should be protecting it as much as possible reducing the global temperature and reaching world peace. I believe that everyone should be treated as equals and that no one should be discriminated.

He says the powerful words, 'I believe that everyone should be treated as equals and that no one should be discriminated against', particularly powerful in this week of heartfelt emotion about the murder of the unarmed black man, George Floyd, in the United States, and about racism or prejudice of all kinds wherever it is found across the world, including here in Britain.

Just one of the important ways we can address discrimination is through telling the histories of all people. For instance, we do this in the Year 7 History curriculum at Noadswood, through the text, *Black Tudors: The Untold Story*:



In this book, it says, 'For all who thought you knew the Tudors, it's time to think again'. Who could you reach out to, to listen to? Someone whose story or pressures are perhaps very different from yours? And whose voice you don't usually hear too much from? Could you research a time in history or a particular historical figure from a different point of view, like the *Black Tudors* book? A big part of being a strong, supportive, kind person is the ability and desire to show empathy, so perhaps you could make that your kindness pledge for this week? Let someone feel they've got a voice because of your listening ear. And if the issues going on in our world about all this are important to you, and you've got views to share, drop me a line at [headteacher@noadswood.hants.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@noadswood.hants.sch.uk) – you really do ALL have a voice in our Noadswood family and I really want you to use it.

### Superstar Pets:

In today's letter, I'm thrilled to share with you the mighty Arthur, the beautiful black and tan dachshund owned by Mrs Loveday and her family:



As you can see, he helped her to sort the stationery packs that she organised to share out with you guys today. If you are in real need of a pack, let Mrs Loveday know on ePraise or by email, or call Loveday's Lifeline and we will see what we can do to help you – Arthur will get on it, too.

## Interhouse Competition:

The House Leaders have been working hard to devise and coordinate a weekly schedule of Interhouse Competitions for all of you to join in with, to create, online, the spirit of competition and fun we always have at Noadswood:



All you need to do is go on to the usual Frog Portal, and you'll see the icon about it at the top of the Home Page. Once you click on it, you'll see the details of the first competition which is to encourage you guys to use ePraise as much as possible by downloading the app, if you can, and to log in regularly to read messages to you and to reach out to teachers or other members of staff you'd like to connect with. As well as creating the spirit of competition between the houses, this will help you to stay truly connected to us, which is massive for us all during this time.

## Hampshire Heroes

I'll end with a message from Hampshire County Council, thanking all of you for the huge part you're playing in keeping our communities safe – as well as being part of the Noadswood family, our school is also part of the New Forest group of schools and colleges and we truly are part of the Hampshire family, too. We're so much stronger and more creative and united working together, and this video thanks you for what you do, now more than ever, to foster that strength – give it a little watch and feel proud.

<https://youtu.be/gE2mAYOvD4w>

Back with you for the weekend, keep in touch, keep the pets and work (of all kinds) coming, share your voice, and, above all, keep yourself and those you love and care about safe,

With you through it all,

Miss Marshall