



Noadswood Year 10 & Year 11

Keeping in touch Newsletter

25th January 2021

Thoughts from Miss Marshall

Hello all, I have written to the whole school this weekend, and in that I have said to you special people that my thoughts are with you so closely.

For Y11, I am with you as you try to grapple with all the demands of your work combined with the uncertainty about how you will eventually be assessed and how your outcomes will be calculated. I know these concerns will be sitting heavily with you sometimes. For Year 10, it's perhaps that worry that no matter how hard you try, you will never have that typical experience of GCSE years to provide a bedrock for your future selves in the ways the likes of me were able to depend on.

It is so tough, and you are all brave. You can depend on us for the support you need and the clarity of info you deserve all the way. In the meantime, try to free yourself from thinking about these years quite the way we've always expected to, and instead lean in to what will get you through, no matter the year, no matter the craziness:

'Infuse your life with action. Don't wait for it to happen. Make it happen. Make your own future. Make your own hope. Make your own love... Do what you can to make grace happen ... yourself, right now, right down here-on earth' Bradley Whitford.

You are all powerful to write your story, and don't let anyone or any pandemic hold the pen for you—we're with you all the way to help you make it happen. So do your best, as you always would, if it all felt usual. That way, your future self will be as proud of you as we all are right now.



Dates for your Diary:

Friday 12th February 2021 - INSET Day

Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February
HALF TERM



Mr Lewis' Top Tips!

Careers Update for Year 11

However you might be feeling right now, please remember that the school Careers Advisor, Mr Lewis, is still available to support you in making those important decisions about your future. You can contact him by email or ePraise with any questions you might have but, in the meantime, here are a few pieces of information for you to be aware of.

College Applications



Hopefully you have already completed your college application, attended a virtual interview and been offered a place for September. If you are still waiting to be interviewed, all outstanding interviews should be completed by the end of February for those who have already applied.

If you have not applied but are intending to make a college application, time is running out and it is already too late to apply for Peter Symonds College. However, please be aware of the following two deadlines:

Barton Peveril College – completed online applications must be received by the college **NO LATER** than **19th February 2021**.

City College – online applications must be completed and submitted to the college **NO LATER** than **31st March 2021**.

Although the remaining colleges, including Brockenhurst, Richard Taunton, Sparsholt and Totton, have not advised any deadlines, it is still better to have completed your applications by the end of March at the very latest. Although applications will still be processed after this date, popular courses may already be full to capacity and you don't want to end up on a waiting list.

College Interviews

The college/s you have applied for will notify you by email of your interview date and time, together with any additional information or instructions that you must follow. All interviews will be held virtually, either by telephone or video conferencing. Because college staff are working from home, all telephone numbers will be withheld from your caller display.

Your interview should last no more than ten minutes, during which you will be asked to confirm your name and provide your most recent targeted grades (if available). The interviewer will then ask you about the courses you have chosen, whether you have already thought about college enrichment activities and if you have any definite career ideas for the future.

At the end of the interview, you will be given the opportunity to ask questions about the college and the courses you have applied for. If you don't have any questions, that is absolutely fine.



Apprenticeships

It is always challenging to find an apprenticeship, but the ongoing pandemic means that it is likely to be even more difficult this year. Several companies, large and small, have already decided not to employ apprentices this September.

If you are interested in finding an apprenticeship and have not already done so, you need to create an account at www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk. Once registered, you will be able to search and apply for any vacancies that interest you.

As there is no guarantee that suitable vacancies will be advertised, it is ESSENTIAL that you have applied for a full-time college course in accordance with the application information shown above. You can always cancel your place at college if you are one of the lucky ones to be offered an apprenticeship.

It is also important that you tell Mr Lewis the type of apprenticeship you are looking for. Mr Lewis is sometimes contacted by local companies who are thinking about employing a young person and, should this happen, Mr Lewis can then contact you to see if you are interested. Please send him a message by ePraise or email glewis@noadswood.hants.sch.uk

Careers Interviews

If you still need to discuss your options, Mr Lewis is able to offer virtual careers interviews. If you would like to arrange an interview, please email Mr Lewis at glewis@noadswood.hants.sch.uk or send him a message through ePraise.

Some people in Year 11 were due to have follow-up interviews this term, having previously attended a careers appointment during the autumn term. If this applies to you, Mr Lewis will be contacting you by phone, ePraise or email between now and half-term to discuss your situation.

Virtual Careers Fair

Many of you have already visited the Virtual Careers Fair which can be found on the Frog Careers Page. The page remains live and contains lots of information relating to colleges, apprenticeships, employers and more. Even if you have already made decisions for September, you can still use these resources to find out more about the colleges that have offered you a place.

Careers Update for Year 10

During normal times, lots of different careers-related activities are provided to everyone in Year 10 so that you can start planning for those college and apprenticeship applications at the start of Year 11. Unfortunately, the ongoing pandemic means that some of these activities may not happen, so over the next few weeks Mr Lewis will be asking you to carry out several tasks on your own. Your first task is shown below, but if you do need support or have any queries, please send an ePraise message to Mr Lewis or email him at glewis@noadswood.hants.sch.uk

Career Pilot

Most of Year 10 have already created an account at CareerPilot but, if you are one of the few who hasn't, please visit www.careerpilot.org.uk and create an account as soon as possible.

If you are already registered but have forgotten your password, you should be able to reset this from the signing in page. If you are still unable to access your account, please contact Mr Lewis immediately

Everyone in Year 10 should now visit the site and, after you have signed in to your account, the following activities need to be completed **by Friday, 12th February 2021**.

Start with you – under this heading which is on the blue banner, you will find seven activities. Because you are still at school, you do not need to worry about “Do the Post-16 Skills Map”. The other six activities will help you plan for the future and you should try and do as many as possible. Each one only takes a few minutes to complete and you don't have to do them all in one go.

Explore your options – by clicking on the orange banner, you should complete the activity called “Choices at 16+”. This will tell you all you need to know about the different options you can take after leaving school. You don't need to do any of the other activities at this stage, but if you already have a definite career option, why not click on “Search jobs” which is a database of almost every job you can imagine with all the information you need to know.

Plan your next steps – this is perhaps the most important section of CareerPilot and the information that is saved to your account will be used as part of your careers interview in Year 11. Because this is about your future, you do not need to complete “Use skills map pre-16 to apply”, but the other three activities should be completed:

Download/view my report – your report is automatically generated so you can keep a check of the activities you have already completed. You can view this online, download to your own device or print a copy to keep in your school planner.

Use skills map post-16 to apply – this allows you to check your skills and interests, strength and weaknesses. This information will help you when it comes to writing about yourself on CVs and college application forms in the future.

Use the action planner – to help you remain focussed during your remaining time at Noadswood, you should create an action plan about the things you need to do in readiness for leaving school. Examples of the actions you need to take could be “arrange a careers interview”, “find out about college courses”, “find a part-time job” etc. Make it unique to you and what you want to achieve but, when putting deadlines, please make sure these are realistic. You might want to apply to college now but, in reality, you are unable to do this until the start of Year 11 at the earliest.



VESPA Lifeline:

You are all aware of VESPA from House Time but unfortunately we've not done as much as we had planned, thanks to Lockdown. VESPA activities are highly relevant, perhaps even more so in the situation that we find ourselves in, so each fortnight there will be a link to a short VESPA activity you can try at home to help you: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Svz4-AGKRkvdSPIYRVTKuvf-5ba7DCKs/view>

Information—History Year 10 & 11

Many of our Year 10 & 11 students have been enjoying free lectures. There are 3 more coming up and the previous lectures missed can be enjoyed visiting the website at [Historic-All - Cambourne Village College \(cambournevc.org\)](https://www.historic-all.org)



Join us for a series of
free online history
lectures

The lectures are **open to
all** and will be hosted via
Microsoft Teams

FREE LECTURE PROGRAMME

Thank you to all of our generous speakers for
contributing to this programme!

January

Thursday 7th January 4-5pm: **Jane Robinson: *How Women Got The Vote*** (Recording available)

Thursday 14th January 4-5pm: **Joe Stanley: *Strikes, Food Riots, and Living Standards in the Yorkshire Coalfield 1786-1801***

Friday 15th January 4-5pm: **Dr Rory Naismith: *The Witch of London Bridge***

Monday 18th January 4-5pm: **Jack Hartnell: *Medieval Medicine***

Monday 25th January 4-5pm: **Professor Edith Hall: *Why Homer's Iliad is so popular in the 21st century***

February

Monday 1st February 4-5pm: **Professor Robert Gildea: *The Miners' Strike of 1984-5: a new oral history***

Wednesday 10th February 6-7pm: **Matt Myers: *Understanding Roman Violence***

Follow us on Twitter @historic_all for dates and updates

For more information contact:
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