

# SENIOR & SIXTH FORM HCS AT HOME

5 MARCH 2021



**“With luck we are now starting on the process of returning to normality.”**

As we look forward to school reopening next Monday, there continues to be lots of preparation to help ensure a smooth start. Whilst we recognise that face-to-face teaching brings significant advantages to pupils' academic progress, perhaps more important is the advantage that socialising brings to the wellbeing of young people. With this in mind, we will be placing a special focus on pupil wellbeing next week. There will be no homework set for Years 7-11 to give them all a chance to adjust to increased travel time, early starts, and the demands of learning in a different way and setting. Parents can help by reading the information and advice sent out from School, and keeping us informed if their child is struggling. Of course, it is of paramount importance that the guidelines for hygiene and social distancing are strictly adhered to: the last thing we want is to be required to send large numbers of pupils home because they have had 'close contact' with someone testing positive.

We know that some pupils will be nervous and apprehensive about next week, but that will pass, and with luck we are now starting on the process of returning to normality. I am looking forward to seeing the vibrant HCS experience bringing back all the excitement and joy that is normally evident within our school community.

**Mr Paul Smith, Headmaster**

## THOUGHT OF THE DAY...

Mr Blyth shared this to mark Sleep Awareness Month:

*“Sleep is that golden chain that ties health and our bodies together.”*

**THOMAS DEKKER**



## FREE ONLINE FICTION LIBRARY

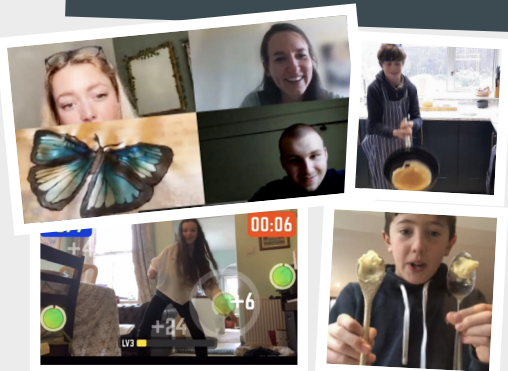
Our librarians have arranged for our e-book library to be available for the school through Firefly. Free, downloadable reading to keep students sane through lockdown. Use your Firefly details to log in. [Click here to access the catalogue.](#)

## A CELEBRATION OF REMOTE LEARNING AT HCS

As this spell of remote learning draws to a close, the School would like to thank pupils, parents and staff for their perseverance and commitment this term.

Although learning away from the classroom has presented its challenges, there have been some real highs, and it has been a steep learning curve for everyone in the HCS community.

[We have put together a video](#) to showcase the highlights of Hereford Cathedral School's remote learning offering.



## PUPIL SURVEY: WHAT HAS BEEN THE MOST POSITIVE IMPACT OF REMOTE LEARNING FOR YOU?

**“I've learnt how to work to my full potential with pure self-motivation.”**

**Year 9**

**“I've had more time to better my relationship with my family.”**

**Year 11**

**“It's taught me to try to view things in a positive light.”**

**Year 10**

**“I will appreciate being with my friends more.”**

**Year 8**



## BOARDING

Our boarders enjoyed sweet treats in the spring sunshine last weekend, with a DIY doughnut kit from Krispy Kreme. The treats continued on Monday (St David's Day) when the dining room was filled with daffodils and Welshman Mr Hunt laid on a morning breaktime snack of delicious Welsh cakes.



Mrs Fowler and Mr Higgins have been arranging homestays for the boarders for the Easter holidays. The School is extremely thankful to those in the HCS community who have offered to welcome our boarders into their homes. It will be a great opportunity for the boarders to experience home life, and for our homestay families to learn more about other cultures.

After being inspired by Sixth Former Olivia T, who is taking part in the 27 27 running challenge for charity Mind, Wilmot House residents have now signed up, too. Spencer L, Ivan F, Osman C, Miss Westbrook, Mr Hunt, Mr and Mrs Fowler and their eldest son (Year 4), are running a mile a day in March to raise awareness of student mental health issues. [Please click here if you would like to sponsor the Wilmot House 27 27 team.](#)

Well done to HCS Debaters Medi S, Laura B and Ioan O, who put in an excellent performance in the Mace competition earlier this week.

## ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME: HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WEEK

Hereford Cathedral School pupils received valuable insights into the world of sports journalism, motorsports and mechanical engineering from three Old Herefordians this week.

On Wednesday, Tom Bull revealed how his career in sports journalism has allowed him to combine his two passions: writing and horse racing. Tom spoke passionately about his move into presenting on Racing TV.

Tristan Jones delivered Thursday's session, in which he revealed how his internships with Dyson while studying Mechanical Engineering at the University of Birmingham have built a solid foundation for his future career.

Friday's session with amateur racing driver Alex Summers was an exciting insight into the world of motorsports and engineering. Many thanks to Olivia A and Cameron T for co-hosting the sessions this week.

Tom Bull spoke passionately about his career in sports journalism



Alex Summers revealed the highs of life as an amateur racing driver

"[Tom's] talk was very insightful and his enthusiasm and energy for his job were infectious."

Cerys J, Year 11

"Tristan's session highlighted how much effort goes into creating the appliances we take for granted in everyday life."

Sophie W, Year 10

## HISTORY: YEAR 8 IMAGINE ELIZABETH 1 WITH NO MAKE-UP

8L1 created these wonderful #nomakeup portraits of the real Elizabeth I as a starter activity for their classwork on the imagery and symbolism within the portraits of the monarch.

They didn't know who or what they were drawing until they had finished - if they had known before-hand they might have been too polite to reveal the true likeness of Her Majesty! Luckily for them, things have changed a little since the late 1500s and they should be allowed to keep their heads!



## EXTRA-CURRICULAR: ROOTS AND SHOOTS CLUB UPDATE

Over Half Term, members of Mrs Vines' Roots and Shoots club got going with the preparation of their home vegetable patches, using cardboard to cover over old weeds before putting on a thick layer of mulch to stop new weeds growing. Meanwhile, Mrs Vines planted broccoli, spinach, radishes and broad beans in tiny pots. They germinated within 5-7 days and have now been banished to her greenhouse so they don't grow too fast and get 'leggy'.

They will be the first seedlings to be planted out in the school vegetable patch in the next few weeks. Roots and Shoots Club will meet on Friday lunchtimes - keep your eye out for further notices. Email [c.vines@herefordcs.com](mailto:c.vines@herefordcs.com) to get involved.

