

CLAVERHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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Principal: Mr P. Swatton, B.Eng (Hons)

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Dear Parents and Carers

Update - 5th February 2021

Remote Learning

As we near the end of this term I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of our students for their continued hard work and diligence when completing their remote learning work. Working remotely is challenging but it is important that you remain resilient and are able to motivate yourselves to complete work being set. We've seen some amazing work and also some fantastic examples of perseverance from pupils when faced with challenging activities or concepts. Undoubtedly the regular live lessons have helped in these circumstances. If you are struggling please do not 'give up' and hand work in without even attempting it thinking teachers will not notice, they will. Instead, if you are experiencing difficulties with work please make sure you have contacted your teacher to let them know; they will do all they can to help.

We are continuing to provide support for students and families where accessing remote learning is a difficulty. Thank you to the members of our community, the local business organisations and charities who have been helping to support this work through their donations, we are extremely grateful.

I am also exceptionally proud of our all the College staff. Over the past few weeks, they have moved their planning and resources on-line with great success. Teachers and support staff alike have shown themselves to be agile, adaptable and extremely creative in the way in which they have supported students and each other. It has not been an easy task; I am very grateful to them and to the students who have engaged so positively.

We certainly understand that this excellent work would not have been possible without the support of our parents and carers. We all appreciate your hard work and engagement with this process. We know that it is not easy to juggle your own commitments alongside managing the education of your children at home, but you are an essential part of this process and we are grateful for the support you have given to this. We would also like to thank you for the positive and constructive feedback that you have provided us with which enables us to continue to reflect on and develop our provision.

We would like to reassure parents that we support you in establishing and maintaining consistent limits to 'screen time'. Remote learning requires a significant amount of time engaged with live teaching. The College has taken measures to ensure that we have implemented consistent limits to screen time such as including breaks throughout the day and removing the need for homework which could have been based online. Please can we

ask parents to help ensure that during these breaks that your son's and daughter's step away from their devices, have a drink, a healthy snack even a breath of fresh air before returning to their device to get ready for the next lesson.

The screen time issue is compounded by the amount of recreational time students spend on screens. Again we would recommend that this aspect of your child's time online is monitored and that households establish a healthy balance between school work online, recreational time online and non-screen time. We would recommend that establishing routines around when and where devices can be used and kept is part of a positive solution; certain times of the day, such as meals and bedtime, should be planned as device free.

Senior Prefects' Charity

Please see the message below from the Head Boy, Head Girl and Senior Prefect team:

When discussing as a Senior Prefect Team how we, as a school, can thank our local Carers and Key Workers, we decided to challenge ourselves to hold a fundraiser. By raising money, in a community effort, we will deliver care packages to our hardworking NHS staff who are keeping the country moving 24/7. These packages will contain the basic necessities to get key workers through their shifts with products such as: hand cream, lip balm, granola bars and bottled water. We hope to make this a regular occurrence in the near future to support nurses and doctors in our local community.

However, we mustn't forget our other local heroes such as: taxi drivers, bus drivers and retail staff, as they too are busy working in strenuous conditions day in day out. We aim to support them as well through the use of these packages and school-lead community support.

We are therefore asking you, wherever possible, to please consider donating to our cause via the 'donation' button on ParentPay. By doing so we can all contribute towards the purchase of these items, thereby allowing us to safely deliver them to those who are keeping the people around us safe whilst we are all at home.

We look forward to updating you on our progress and we thank you for your continued support through this strange and difficult time.

Kind regards,
Aidan and Kitty.

Head Boy and Head Girl of the College, on behalf of the Senior Prefect Team.

Key Stage 4 Options

We have currently launched our website to provide advice and guidance for our Year 9 students, and their parents and carers, with regard to the Key Stage 4 options process. For further information and to access the website please click [here](#).

To further support this process we are holding a consultation event for Year 9 parents, carers and students. Details of this event can be found [here](#).

Timetabled Lessons on Friday 12th February - Important Information

The Year 9 Consultation Event for Key Stage 4 options will take place on Thursday 11th and Friday 12th February. In order to allow staff to participate fully in this event, work will be provided for all students to complete however no live lessons will take place on

Friday. Morning registration will take place at 8.45am to ensure a prompt and smooth start to the day.

Welfare Support

YoungMinds

Please remember, YoungMinds [Parents Helpline](#) is available for detailed advice, emotional support and signposting about a child or young person up to the age of 25.

Information Videos for Children and Young People

These short films are aimed at children and young people but can also be viewed by parents and carers to support their understanding of mental health and how to support their children.

[Mental Health Advice for Children and Young People during COVID 19](#)

[How to maintain a routine and lifestyle during lockdown](#)

[How to manage anxiety during lock down](#)

[How to maintain my mood during lockdown](#)

Information and Advice

The following articles provide advice for parents on how to [support your children as lockdown eases](#) and [juggle your responsibilities as a parent at home](#).

Please find attached with this letter a poster confirming the dates for 6 upcoming weekly free *virtual parenting groups*. Please note these groups are only available to parents living in the Hastings and Rother areas.

Parents can book a place by emailing: info@openforparents.org.uk

Pupil Voice Survey

Earlier this week we emailed all of our students to give them the opportunity to provide us their reflections on the current situation we are in, the way in which the school is currently operating and the support available to them.

If your son or daughter hasn't responded to the survey yet, please encourage them to participate so that they can help us to look at areas where we can further develop as a College and make improvements in future.

ACRES - Adult Education

Did you know that adult courses happen at colleges and community venues all around our local area with ACRES - Adult College for Rural East Sussex? ACRES would like to know what courses you think should be happening nearby in your own community.

- Perhaps you would like the opportunity to retrain to open up job opportunities, or gain skills to assist with home schooling?
- Would you like to enhance your life with a new hobby or interest?
- What are you passionate about?

- Do you want to find something to complement your existing skills or discover something new?

By sharing your views and opinions you will help your local adult college to provide the courses that are important to you and your local community. Please complete this short survey [here](#) and you will get a £5 voucher off any ACRES course to say thank you.

Race to Tokyo

As you may be aware we have recently joined the Hastings and Rother challenge, '**Hastings to Tokyo 2021 Race**'. Tokyo is 5958 miles from Hastings and they are the host city for the 2021 Olympic Games. The competition is simple, a challenge to schools to reach Tokyo 'virtually' through students recording their distances for walking, rolling, running, scooting or cycling.

Each student's PE teacher will upload a spread sheet onto Google Classroom each week for them to fill in every time they go for a walk/run/scoot or cycle. At the end of the week we will add up the distances completed by our students and these will go onto a central leader board.

This is a whole school effort and we need everybody to take part in order to help Claverham get to Tokyo.

We will be rewarding the top student in each year group on a weekly basis. There is also a £25 Amazon voucher for the Hastings and Rother student who accumulates the most miles during the lockdown period.

Here are the latest figures for the Claverham Race to Tokyo:

Race to Tokyo	miles	km
Week 1	2083.1	3332.9
Week 2	1674.5	2486.8
Total	3757.6	5819.7

Please encourage your son or daughter to get involved where possible, thank you.

Geography Caption Competition

In order to enter your son or daughter just need to think of a suitable caption for the week's geographically themed picture. The winners will be announced at the end of each week. Please use the link [here](#) to enter the competition for Monday 8th - Friday 12th February.

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or concerns please contact your child's pastoral team in the first instance. Contact details are available on our website.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Swatton
Principal