Haydock High School, September 2020: Blog.

Welcome back! It really has been great to see our students return to school and we have been so impressed with how responsible and caring they have been during this difficult and challenging time. The 'zones' have really helped create year group identities and we're looking to continue this as we develop our School Council.

Having had so many disrupted months before the Summer, which affected all our school community, it feels like the right time to introduce our first monthly blog. So many fantastic events, opportunities and programmes happen during the school year, which is a testament to the Haydock High attitude of 'going the extra mile', that we feel it right to share with you and develop our community identity at this time.

I hope you enjoy the reports, and please do send comments and notices to the school office – we'd really like to hear from you!

Modern Foreign Language Update:

Bonjour tout le monde!



This week, every year, for 14 years, the MFL Department has held our annual MFL Coffee Morning to raise donations for MacMillan Cancer Support. For those new to the school, we generously donate cakes and have a lovely extended break - collecting lots and lots of money for this good cause.

Evidently, this year it is not to be. Even my Plan B of a staff Bake-Off competition cannot happen either! So, sadly, we move to Plan C, which is a simple donation. I intend to put an envelope in the office and would ask that, if you can, could you give generously? In order to reach (or surpass!) our usual goal, about £5 would ensure that we support the great work of Macmillan in our usual way.

Many of us are affected by cancer, be it family, friends or colleagues. The MFL department started raising money back in 2005 due to the death of our MFL colleague Annick Hardy from breast cancer. She was only in her early 30s and left a baby son. Since then, this horrible disease has impacted on our department several times, so we really value doing something to help - we hope you can support us!

Mrs Giles, Head of Modern Foreign Languages.

School Council - September 2020 Update:



During the last week of September, students in all year groups have been asked to consider elections for their Tutor groups and to think about how they would like the School Council to operate. Taking on the role of a Tutor Representative is a great privilege, one that allows students the opportunity to share their views, and the views of their peers, on school issues and how we want to develop initiatives and opportunities over the year.

We have asked students to consider a 'Leadership Ladder' system, that co-ordinates the year group approaches to internal and external school opportunities. From sports clubs, extra-curricular opportunities, work experience, to eco projects, charity events and celebration evenings, we want our students to develop their leadership and collaboration skills as we take this time, post Lockdown, to take stock of what is most important to us as a school community.

As a part of the School Council discussion in the first term, students across the school will consider our Haydock High identity.

Dating back to 1346 and the Black Prince (Edward Woodstock, heir to Edward III), the school's emblem of an arm holding a flag, tells the story of the Black Prince's misadventure at the battle of Crecy on the 26th August.



The Black Prince's focus on chivalry and high morals seems a worthwhile exploration for our students as we look to develop a **House identity** that values our local history, whilst clearly looking forward and creating our 21st century vision and aims.

History Department, Black Lives Matter – Update:

This month we will be focusing on celebrating Black Lives Matter with departments across the school discussing this extremely important message. Students will engage with a range of research and information related to the topic and will explore how society has changed, empowering people from all races, religions and cultures.



Departments will look at a range of influential Black people throughout the last 100 years and will explore the challenges and barriers that only a few were able to overcome. We want our students to understand the social and contextual issues that affected so many, and, in turn, develop discussions about equality and liberty as we celebrate the positive changes and attitudes in our modern world.

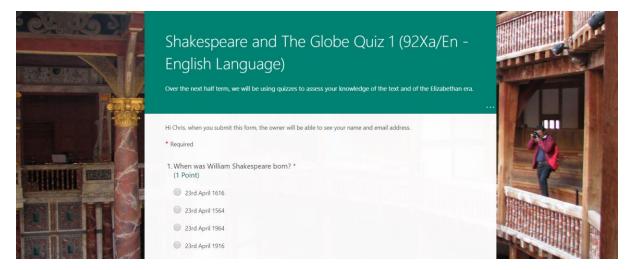
Homework and Home Learning – Cambridge University Research Project:



This year we are collaborating with five secondary schools, one primary school and Portsmouth University's PGCE programme to research and develop our approach to homework and home learning, post-Lockdown. The aim of the research project is to explore best practice and share strategies that support students in their progress. Working alongside colleagues from Cambridge University, we will be exploring a wide range of programmes, initiatives and strategies to best support homework and home learning as we progress through the year.

Students, Parents, Carers, and Staff have already taken part in a Homework Survey that has prompted our initial focus on retrieval and retention as we launched our 100 Question Quiz focus. Departments have reflected on schemes of work and lesson plans, developing opportunities to test and quiz students on key topics and information. These 'low stakes, high frequency'

(researchschool.org.uk) tests enable students and teachers to monitor progress and put interventions in place where necessary.



Alongside the quizzing, students have developed their focus on knowledge organisers and tasks that support independent study skills.

As we progress through the year, we develop the range and variety of home learning as we share good practice with the other schools through TeachMeet opportunities.



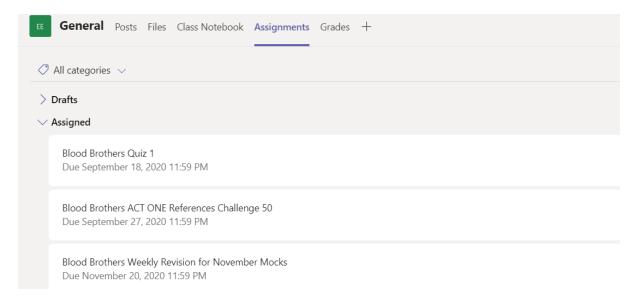
Teams Access Update:

Students in all year groups have been given access to our Haydock High School Microsoft Teams account. The student access allows for teachers to set and monitor work for students, whilst also sharing a range of homework tasks.



Widely used across the school during Lockdown, 'Teams' has been used by schools across the country to support students during the Lockdown closures. Teachers are able to set work for individuals and groups, post messages and video lessons.

The 'assignment' feature summarises the work set by teachers for the current period. Due dates, instructions and resources are clear in the assignment description and students can submit their responses electronically – allowing staff to mark them sooner than classwork due to the current Covid19 restrictions.



It is vital that all students know their login and password details. Students should speak to their Form Tutor about access should they have any difficulties. We are developing our resources and routines in the use of 'Teams' and welcome any feedback that you may have. Please email any comments to the school office.

Alternatively, please see the details here on how to 'Self-Service Password Reset':

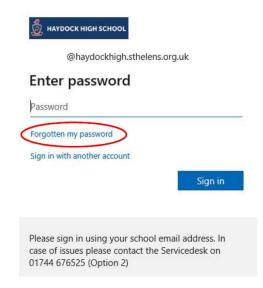
What is **Self-Service Password Reset**?

Self-Service Password Reset is a tool that allows you to reset your school password without needing to contact the ICT support team. This can be useful if you've forgotten your password and the ICT service desk is closed (such as at the weekend).

How does it work?

To use Self-Service Password Reset you must first register your telephone number (ideally a personal mobile phone number) and/or a personal email address (not your school one). To register, go to the following website, https://account.activedirectory.windowsazure.com/PasswordReset/Register.aspx?regref=ssprsetup

Log in with your email address and password when prompted, then provide a personal phone number or personal email address.



Once registered, you can access the following website to begin a reset, or alternatively select the 'Forgotten My Password' link on the login page: https://passwordreset.microsoftonline.com/
A code will be sent to your registered phone number or personal email address.

Is my personal information secure?

Yes, it is. We take data security and your privacy very seriously. We follow St Helens Council's data protection code of conduct when dealing with your phone number and personal email address. Your data is dealt with in accordance with GDPR. But in short,

- Your telephone number and personal email address is stored within your email account.
- No other member of staff in your school can view this.
- Selected members of the St Helens Schools ICT Support team can view this data, but would only do so at
- your request.
- Your personal telephone number and personal email address will never be disclosed to any other person.

If, after registering, you wish to remove your phone number and email address please contact the St Helens Schools ICT Team.

Covid19 School Reminders:



During AM registration this week, we shared a focus on Covid19 reminders about keeping safe. The national focus on "Face, Hands, Space" was discussed in Tutor sessions alongside watching a video that examined how viruses are often transmitted.

The discussions were full of questions and students engaged positively with the focus on safety and looking after one another. Students were reminded that they should wear face coverings in the corridors and communal spaces (library, canteen, sports hall...). That they should wash their hands frequently, using the hand sanitiser stations that are clearly displayed in the corridors and at the front of every classroom. The final focus on space is a crucial one for our community as we continue to support and adhere to LEA guidelines. Students were reminded of the two-metre social distancing rule and of the 'bubble' guidance put in place to keep them safe.



As the news reports, there has been a recent rise in the numbers of confirmed Covid19 patients nationally and it is important that we remember to look after one another and follow the rules in place.

Students News:



Miss Ward, Head of Year 10:

We are very excited to wish Darcy, Grace and Jasmine the best of luck and good wishes as they are to be scouted by representatives from the Wigan Warriors Ladies' Team. Good luck!

Mr Worthington, Head of PE:



We'd like to wish Sonny, George and Ethan the best of luck as they have been selected to attend the Knowsley/St Helens School Boy's Football trials on 17th and 24th October. Good luck!

Miss Lane, Deputy Headteacher:



Well done to our Year 10 students: Lainey, Harley, Taylor, Luke and Lucy for working hard on some challenging poetry material this week. They have shown real resilience and wonderful empathy in their understanding of the poems and contributions to class discussions.

MathsWatch Students, nominate by Mr Hodgson:



Ben, Abbie, Jasmine, Samantha, Alfie, Joseph, Matthew, Luke, Isobel, Zena, and Tajinder were the top students this week in the MathsWatch programme – all students have shown dedication and determination with their completion of the MathsWatch activities and practise questions. Well done!