Dear Parents and Carers,

As we draw to the end of one of the strangest terms I have ever experienced, I would like to send my heartfelt thanks to all of our parents for the part that you have all played in reassuring and supporting us all over the past few weeks. We know that family life has changed enormously and that maintaining continuity of learning for our children has become even more of a shared responsibility than ever before. Thank you for your kind messages and feedback. Everything we hear from you is helping us to adapt and shape learning for next term and I know that staff really appreciate hearing from you, as well as from the students themselves.

We continue to reflect on how best to proceed during the national closure of schools and I will keep you in touch with our thinking and any developments.

Thank you to everyone who has already completed the parent survey. The feedback you are providing through this is also helping us to reflect and review the way that we are working. In particular, it has been very useful to hear what IT access the children have (or don’t have) and we will certainly be using this information to help us design our curriculum for next term. Click here.

We are really keen to hear from our students – their voice is much missed. We thought it would be great to hear from them about how they are managing at the moment, and then we can share some of their thoughts and ideas. Please ask your child to email studentideas@thejohnroanschool.org.uk with their bright ideas on:

- How they are managing their workload
- How they are keeping fit during lockdown
- Study tips
- Any particularly great subject websites or resources they would like to share with other students
- Ways in which they are supporting their families or the community during lockdown

Year 11 & 13 students are still no clearer about how their qualifications will be awarded this year. At the time of writing this newsletter, we have not heard from OFQUAL or the exam boards. We, like you, are waiting to hear what information they will want from us in order to calculate the grades to award in the summer. We have also heard that there will be opportunity for students to appeal their awarded grades and to sit exams in the Autumn. However, we know no more than this at the moment. It is enormously frustrating for everyone, I know.
Useful Links
Over the past week or so we have been collecting together useful links to websites and learning platforms that you may or may not find good to use at home. These are all linked to the website and will be added to as new ideas are shared with us. Go to the top of the home page on our website, and click on the green ‘student’ or click here.

News from some of our subjects
In addition to the regular newsletter input from our Heads of Year, some of our Curriculum Leaders have also put together some messages for you this week. Please click -
- Drama
- Maths
- Music
- Peripatetic Music
- Science
- PE
- Inclusion
- Languages
- History
- H&SC

Competitions
The Charles Causley Trust have launched a poetry competition that some of our students might be interested in entering. Please see here for more details.

Our library has launched an Eggscellent competition, together with a reading list and a reading log for those of you who would like to take up the family reading challenge. Click here.

Twitter
@TheJohnRoan continues to tweet information as it comes in, as does @TheJohnRoan_PE, @HistoryRoan and @jr_library. So do follow these to find out what is going on in the virtual world of The John Roan School, as well as @TheJrsa which is run by our Parents’ Association.

Key Worker Provision
We have been very pleased to be able to stay open for some children over the past two weeks. Following strict government guidelines, we have provided day time facilities for a handful of our EHCP and key worker children, staffed by volunteers from the school. This provision will close for the next two weeks, but if there are any key worker families who find that they do need to find some day provision for their children to enable them to go to work, please let me know directly via email. We have an arrangement with another school via a Greenwich Hub facility and I can organise for students to attend this if you let me know of the need. For those who have been with us, we re-open at 8.30am on Monday, 20th April.

Please remain safe and well. My very best wishes.

Cath Smith
Executive Headteacher
It has been very encouraging to hear how our younger students have adapted to school distance learning at home. We are all learning new skills together at this unprecedented time.

Please complete the parent survey, if you haven’t already, so that we can get the full picture of how best we can support you with your child’s learning.

Please do encourage your child to read for pleasure, there are lots of book suggestions from Mrs Allen, which covers a wide range of interests inspired by your child’s curriculum subjects. As we know, reading widens your child’s vocabulary along with their imagination.

There will be lots of other suggestions from subjects that you and the family can do for fun during the holiday. I do hope you find time to schedule some in. Let us know what you really enjoyed.

I wish you and your household good health during this season’s holiday.

Many thanks,

Josephine Okokon
Associate Headteacher
Maze Hill Lead
Quick Links—News to Share Page

*News from the Heads of Year*
For Year 7 click [here](#)
For Year 8 click [here](#)
For Year 9 click [here](#)
For Year 10 click [here](#)
For Year 11 click [here](#)
For Sixth Form click [here](#)

*Music Department News* can be found [here](#)

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Please find below link to the contact details for Greenwich residents who either want to volunteer or who would like to access support.

Volunteering and support for vulnerable residents; | Coronavirus (COVID-19) | Royal Borough of Greenwich

[https://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/communityhub](https://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/communityhub)
Statement on council events and coronavirus
[www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk](http://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk)
So what a couple of weeks it has been, but I am so proud of how everyone seems to be coping and working remotely from school. Students seem to be getting into a good routine of signing in for the day completing their lessons. Well done to all of you who have taken this all in your stride and are just getting on with this new way of working! We have had feedback from some students that they are feeling a little over whelmed with the amount of work being set. If this is the case, please see the expectations below to help guide the amount of time being spent on each activity.

Make sure you are keeping active. There is lots of PE work going up on SMHW, but there are so many different options available! Try and complete a daily exercise routine, weather this is PE with Jo Wicks at 9am or something else that suits you on YouTube. I highly recommend Yoga with Adriane, yogawithadriene.com, or my Teen Yoga teacher hosts a daily Teen Yoga class at 10am teenyoga.com/zen-challenge. Oti Mabuse is doing some great dance workouts, and there are some really good Zumba or Boxercise workouts too. Keeping a health body and mind is so vital whilst we are all on lockdown!

There are a number of things we asking the year group to do each day/week, so that we can maintain good communication and support students where necessary:

- Ensure they are logging into SMHW every day and completing any class work recorded for that day. Students should not spend any longer than the lesson time to do as much as they are able to complete! If there is H/W, this should also be completed. Teachers will let students know on this page how to submit the work they complete.

- Every week they will receive an email from their Form Tutor checking in that all is well and supporting students with any problems they might have. Please can all students ensure they have responded back to this email ASAP. Please note all students should be communicating with school using their school email accounts. They do not have to wait for an email, they can communication with teachers if they have any problems directly here.

Password issues:

If you cannot get into SMHW or email it may be because your son/daughters password needs resetting. Please follow the information below to reset:

1. Please email info@thejohnroanschool.org.uk to request that your forgotten password be reset.
2. The member of staff who monitors the info@ email account will log a ticket on the internal IT Support Helpdesk.
3. IT Support will reset the password using a 3rd party password generator such as https://passwordsgenerator.net/
4. The password will then be sent home via ParentPay to the parents, along with the password requirements and a link to the password reset tool on the school's website https://ts.thejohnroanschool.org.uk/RDWeb/pages/en-US/password.aspx

Please do not hesitate to contact me or your child’s FT if there are any problems. Stay safe, Stay in, Stay well!
First and most importantly, I hope you and your family are all doing well and remaining healthy during this outbreak. Please be aware that we as a school are still being making regular contact with your child during the closure/lockdown.

During the school closure, your child’s subject teachers have been setting work to complete at home. All work is being set on Show My Homework. Please let me know immediately if your child is having difficulties logging into SMHW.

As mentioned before, our tutors and other members of staff will be communicating with your child via emails. All emails will be sent to your child’s school email address. Again, if there are any technical issues, please let me know immediately.

I check my emails daily and I’m usually in school until around 10am. So please do email me if you have any concerns.

If you would like to contact your child’s tutor, please see the list of email addresses.

9J - jannett.stephens-brown@thejohnroanschool.org.uk
9O - julie.heselden@thejohnroanschool.org.uk
9H - scott.woods@thejohnroanschool.org.uk
9N - paul.soane@thejohnroanschool.org.uk
9R - tracey.degallerie@thejohnroanschool.org.uk (covering for Ms Hoang’s maternity)
9A - flo.awolaja@thejohnroanschool.org.uk
9T - ciara.hughes@thejohnroanschool.org.uk
9E - paula.mcgarrell@thejohnroanschool.org.uk

Please be aware that the school will be closed over the Easter.

Please, please, pass on the message to your child to check SMHW & their school email accounts. It’s important we are receiving communication from our students. Please let me know urgently if there are any technical issues.

Stay in, stay well, stay healthy.

I have received a lot of good feedback from students saying that they are completing their work and adjusting to not being at school. These are obviously very difficult times.

It is important that students don’t get overwhelmed with the workload and take regular breaks. Although school is ‘closing’ for the Easter break, if parents or students have any questions, please feel free to email me - tracey.sumner@thejohnroanschool.org.uk.

Take care of yourselves and your families, we will get through this together.
I hope that this email finds you all in good health, along with your families.

I know that the past 2 weeks can't have been easy but I'd like to commend those Year 11 students who have really ploughed on and made the best of what we all know is a very difficult situation.

Mrs Smith will have eluded to the latest information from OFQUAL, so I would encourage you to read this, if you have not read details of it in the papers already, as it has provided us with a much clearer idea as to how we will be grading students.

Today is officially the end of the Spring half term and the beginning of the Easter holidays, which will be a strange one due to the current situation. All I can do is wish you and your family a somewhat restful break and hope that you all remain safe and healthy.


It's been two weeks since you experienced school closure and hopefully some new routines are beginning to settle in. While it's sad that school ended the way it did for us and across the UK and most of the world, the priority is keeping safe, staying at home and protecting the NHS, so it can cope with the number of people requiring treatment.

On a positive note, this unprecedented period gives us all an opportunity to have the time to develop ourselves. To learn a new skill such as watching some classic films; listen to interesting podcasts; cooking; reading some books; or to complete an online course that interests you. Try to make the best use of this time when you can so that in the future when someone asks, ‘What did you do during the closure?’ you have an interesting response. Year 12, now is a great opportunity to really do some super curricular work to include in your applications. I have provided some ideas below. Year 13 could be researching what is on their chosen degree course and using the time to do some pre-reading on topics which you know were weaker in your A Level studies or to start work on new topics that interest you the most. We are already being contacted by a universities telling us that they are keen that Year 13 continue to study so they are ready when they begin university, I know some of you have received similar emails from the universities you applied to.

To assist year 13 with getting ready for university, and for those thinking they make take up the opportunity to sit an exam next academic year, staff are setting work via email and Show My Homework to ensure you have completed the specification and worked on weaker areas. Please log in to both email and Show My Homework regularly. If you have difficulties please contact Miss Cook via email helen.cook@thejohnroanschool.org.uk to get help.

Year 13 moving on to apprenticeships, these are still being advertised and applications are still being taken. Use this time to fully research and apply. https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeshipsearch.

Everyone needs to be looking after their wellbeing. Joe Wicks PE every morning on YouTube is a great start to the day. For mental health support there is information here: https://youngminds.org.uk/blog/what-to-do-if-you’re-anxious-about-coronavirus/#dealing-with-self-isolation.
How about pursuing some culture:

The Royal Opera House is broadcasting a full length ballet every Friday evening.  
https://www.youtube.com/user/RoyalOperaHouse

Use Google Arts and Culture to explore some of the world's greatest landmarks, culture and arts.  
https://artsandculture.google.com/explore?hl=en

Go on a virtual tour of 12 famous museums from around the world.  
https://www.southernliving.com/syndication/museums-with-virtual-tours

Closer to home, why not explore London’s museums  
https://artsandculture.google.com/explore?hl=en and Galleries  
https://artsandculture.google.com/explore?hl=en (from the comfort of your sofa of course).

What about opera? The Met Opera in New York have a broadcast every day  
https://www.metopera.org/nightly-opera-stream/. Glyndebourne Opera in the UK is here:  
https://www.metopera.org/nightly-opera-stream/

As mentioned above, National Theatre Live are staging a play, for free, every week.  
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUDq1XzCY0NIOYVJvEMQjqw

The Royal Shakespeare Company are doing similar.  
https://www.rsc.org.uk/education/teacher-resources/online-performances

There are also live classical music concerts, some recorded on Zoom! Live chamber music can be found here:  
https://www.therestisnoise.com/2020/03/covid-19-live-streams.html and the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra can be found here:  

Fancy learning a new language? Duolingo is amazing. I recommend Welsh, with German a close second. Your preferences may vary.

Super Curricular ideas to include in your personal statement but mostly because you enjoy learning and are curious about your subjects beyond your exam specification:

Here are a list (not exhaustive) of MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) available from top universities around the world. These are free if you don't want the certificate at the end.  
http://www.openculture.com/freeonlinecourses

Another source of MOOCs  
https://www.futurelearn.com/ Individual Universities will have their own lists on their websites.

Gresham College, which has existed since 1597 and has been providing free lectures in the City of London for over 400 years has put many of its lectures online  
https://www.gresham.ac.uk/watch/

LSE has similarly put many of their lectures online.  
http://www.lse.ac.uk/Events

University College Oxford has put together a page to help you explore your subject.  
https://www.univ.ox.ac.uk/applying-to-univ/resource-hub/. Staircase 12 is another resource from them.  
https://www.univ.ox.ac.uk/applying-to-univ/staircase12/. Along with a reading bank  
https://www.univ.ox.ac.uk/applying-to-univ/reading-bank/

You may not be able to access libraries at the moment but you can still access their ebooks. Your local library webpage will tell you which app they use but the common one is Libby. You can borrow ebooks for free and read them on your phone, ereader or tablet.

Radio 4 have very interesting podcasts. Download the BBC Sounds App for podcasts on Science, History, Geography and many, many more.

These are unusual times and while we spend time adapting to them, it is important not to lose sight of our future plans and to continue working towards them. I hope you all have a nice break (from what I’m not sure) over the Easter holidays and your teachers will be back setting work for you in two weeks.
And ‘play on’ is exactly what we will do!

We are continuing to teach all students who have instrumental or singing lessons at school, whether this be through live Skype lessons or a variety of other media. By the end of this week you should have been emailed by the peripatetic member of staff that teaches your child, suggesting a way in which lessons can continue whilst school is shut. The peripatetic staff have been working hard trying to get lessons/technique videos etc set up so please do bear with them if there are technical difficulties at the outset. If you have not received an email, then please do contact them – all email addresses are listed below. If your child does not have an instrument at home to practise on, then there are creative ways of getting around this.

Please do watch this for some inspiration: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yQddk3zN3zQ

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mr Wright</th>
<th>Teaching Y7 – 13. Singing (y11) and flute</th>
<th><a href="mailto:alastair.wright@thejohnroanschool.org.uk">alastair.wright@thejohnroanschool.org.uk</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ms Hill</td>
<td>Teaching Y7 – 9 &amp; 11-13. Clarinet and singing (Y7)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:julie.hill@thejohnroanschool.org.uk">julie.hill@thejohnroanschool.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Evans</td>
<td>Teaching Y7, 8 &amp; 10. Piano (Y8 &amp; 10)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:claire.evans@thejohnroanschool.org.uk">claire.evans@thejohnroanschool.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Johnson</td>
<td>Piano and saxophone (Y7-11)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:max.johnson@thejohnroanschool.org.uk">max.johnson@thejohnroanschool.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Jones</td>
<td>Piano (Y9 – 11)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:simeon.jones@thejohnroanschool.org.uk">simeon.jones@thejohnroanschool.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Luckett</td>
<td>Guitar &amp; bass (all years)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:neil.luckett@thejohnroanschool.org.uk">neil.luckett@thejohnroanschool.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr Mills</td>
<td>Steel Pans (Y7 – 10)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:eversley.mills@thejohnroanschool.org.uk">eversley.mills@thejohnroanschool.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Phelps</td>
<td>Singing (all years)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alice.phelps@thejohnroanschool.org.uk">alice.phelps@thejohnroanschool.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms Talbot</td>
<td>Violin, cello &amp; piano (Y7 &amp; 8)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wendy.talbot@thejohnroanschool.org.uk">wendy.talbot@thejohnroanschool.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr West</td>
<td>Drums (all years)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:edward.west@thejohnroanschool.org.uk">edward.west@thejohnroanschool.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Some recommended (free) websites for music

Music theory: https://www.musictheory.net/

Band lab (composition): https://www.bandlab.com/

Free music courses: http://www.bbc.co.uk/learning/subjects/music.shtml

Learning composition: https://learningmusic.ableton.com/

Notation software: https://musescore.org/en

I hope you and your families are well and staying safe. Please do email me if you have any questions, requests or suggestions.

Best wishes,

Mr Wright
Head of Music