

#### **Important Dates**

Monday 23rd November to Friday 4th December Mock Exams

Monday 14th December Year 7 Flu vaccines

Friday 18th December School closes for Christmas at lunchtime. Bus leaves 1.05pm (further details on page 4)

Tuesday 5th January 2021 School re-opens

Wednesday 20th January Year 11 Parents' Evening

E-mail admin@millfield.lancs.sch.uk Website: www.millfield.lancs.sch.uk Twitter page @millfieldhighsc #Be Exceptional



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Dear Parents and Carers,



Despite this year's challenges, we have continued with our calendared Year 11 mock exams. The logistical planning of this, to keep students and staff safe, was a challenge to say the least, but I am proud to report that this has been a great success and our Year 11s have been incredible! To watch our students completing revision at lunch times with their friends, entering the examination hall in silence, and then patiently waiting for other classes to be brought down until the exam can begin, has filled

us all with immense pride. Well done to them all and Mrs Draper, our exams officer, for her outstanding organisation.

The Millfield teaching and learning team have produced some helpful virtual resources for students and parents, which can be found on our website. Miss Copping has produced a guide on how to effectively work at home (this can be applied to remote learning and homework); we have also produced a range of 'How to Help Your Child Revise' video guides, and again these are not just for parents of our Key Stage 4 pupils, the advice can be applied to all year groups. If, from Year 7, you encourage your child to spend time revising their learning every evening, this will ensure the skills and routines are already embedded by the time they reach their GCSEs.

At Millfield, the importance of reading is highly valued:

At form time, our students read a variety of texts: poems, biographies and newspaper articles. Also, every week, we have an academic reading focus, where students read an academic article in a subject area – this week students read an article in maths which explored 'The Role of Maths in the Development of Society' and debated the phrase: "Neglect of mathematics works injury to all knowledge, since he who is ignorant of it cannot know the other sciences or the things of the world."

We are all eagerly awaiting the arrival of Bookbuzz free books for our Year 7s, which are due any day now! Look out for The Bookbuzz Challenge with prizes for completing 3, 5 or all 10 tasks coming soon in English lessons!

Lancashire Book of the Year is the longest running young people's regional book award in the country. This year Millfield has been picked as one of the judging schools. We cannot wait for our Year 9 students to start reading all the amazing books before choosing a winner. And last but not least, our students now have access to Sora, an app where they can download books for free, please encourage your child to join up and get reading!

Thank you once again for your continued support. Please follow our Twitter @Millfieldhighsc where you can keep up to date with all the exciting events happening in school.

**Be Exceptional!** 

Keep well and keep safe.

Nicola Regan Headteacher



#### We're doing it again!

Many of you may remember last year we launched our selection box appeal and collected close to 100 selection boxes of all shapes and sizes. These were to hand around to local children, in the hope we would help spread a little Christmas happiness.

So, this year we are hoping to do it again! We aim to collect a similar number of selection boxes to take to local charities and put a smile on little faces.

But in order to do this... WE NEED YOUR HELP!



Please find it in your heart to buy just one small selection box and ask your child to bring it to school. It would mean so much to both us and the young recipients this Christmas.

**KEY** 

We would love to reach our target from last year, and with your help we will!

We will keep you up to date with our progress and take photos of the selection boxes donated so far.

Please feel free to contact me at any time.

I will be going around forms from next week to collect in the selection boxes.

Mr. Byrne Head of Key Stage 3



Exceptional Students?

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This week our Year 11 started their mock exams. They have settled in to the routine and their behaviour has been exemplary. We are really proud of them.



After Christmas, we will be starting "Supervised Study" sessions for Year 11. They will run on Tuesdays from 3pm to 5pm in the small canteen. The aim is to provide students with a quiet space to concentrate on work and revision and to help them with study and revision techniques. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided. All year 11 students are welcome to attend. They just need to bring themselves and their work!

The vast majority of Year 10 have worked really well during their period of isolation. It has been really interesting to teach students via Teams and students have sent back work of outstanding quality. To welcome our Year 10s back to school,



we will be running an effort competition, starting on 30<sup>th</sup> November, and running for two weeks. The form with the highest number of effort slips will win a Domino's pizza lunch.



Finally, our fantastic Senior Student Team has launched a charity campaign for food donations for Streetlife Blackpool. You should have received an email about this and students will have watched the videos created by the Senior Student Team. All donations of non-perishable food items should be brought to form rooms where it will be collected. There will be a prize for the form who collects the most items. It would be wonderful if as many students as possible could support this fantastic initiative from our Senior Students.

Make a Difference

Miss. Gower Head of Key Stage 4



## **Teaching and Learning Notices**

# Teaching & Learning



#### How do I find out what my child will be learning?

If you would like to know what your child will be learning, you can access all department learning journeys on our school website. Visit www.millfield.lancs.sch.uk and select the department tab; here you will find all our curriculum areas and their learning journey.

#### Remote Learning Explained

Please use the school website to watch the video that explains the process and expectations of remote learning from Mrs Regan and Mrs Thompson. The video can be located using www.millfield.lancs.sch.uk; select the pupil tab then home learning.

#### What do I do if my child has to self-isolate but is well enough to complete work?

If your child is required to self-isolate but is well enough to complete school work, there are now year group outlines on our school website that pupils can access. Your child will need to go to the school website using www.millfield.lancs.sch.uk; select the pupil tab, then remote learning. Within this section, there is a folder for each year group. If your child selects the appropriate year group, there are outlines for every subject. The outline is split into weeks and states the focus for the week, accompanied by links that will support their learning. There is additional information on the outlines including success criteria, how to receive feedback and the appropriate email addresses for teachers should your child require further guidance or support.

We hope this will support your child if they are required to learn remotely.



All of the students have been nominated by Miss Elliott for their excellent work in History.

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## SCHOOL CLOSING TIMES FOR CHRISTMA

School closes on Friday 18th December at 1.05pm and re-opens on Tuesday 5th January 2021.

On Friday 18th December the year group bubbles will finish at staggered times:-

> Year 7 - 12.50pm Year 8 - 1pm Year 9 - 12.45pm Year 10 - 12.55pm Year 11 - 1.05pm

The bus will be leaving school at 1.05pm



### REMINDER ABOUT **FACE COVERINGS**







#### **Excellent Knowledge Organisers**

Wow! These revision resources are fantastic from Lilly Hewitt, Taylor Dyas, Archie Bowater and Lily Podesta. Well done!



#### **HEDGEHOGS**



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I'm going to take a break from the plastic free tips this issue to talk about our spiky friend, the hedgehog. Now is the time for hedgehogs to enter hibernation, choosing to nest in sheds

and hedges, but also in piles of leaves. Some may also have hoglets late in the year, and these hoglets may not have enough time to fatten up ready for hibernation. So below are some tips and random facts about those timid little creatures that you may be lucky enough to have visit your garden.

- If you do have a pile of leaves or branches to clear in your garden, make sure you check it first for any hibernating hedgehogs before you burn it or start raking it away.
- Hedgehogs need space and may often visit many gardens at a time. We have Tom visiting us, but he also visits both my neighbours, and may very well visit others too. One thing you can do to help them is to make a hole in your fence or gate between gardens and driveways. My neighbours and I have little doors cut into them, and every night Tom pops into our garden, does his lap looking for food, then leaves again to go next door.
- If you find what looks to be a small juvenile on their own, they will need urgent care to fatten them up ready for the winter. There are local rescue groups that you can contact, or you can call the British Hedgehog Preservation Society on 01584 890801 for advice. You can also visit the BHPS website for more information.
- Like us, you may like to feed a visiting hedgehog, and although people are now more aware about milk, not everybody is - cow's milk is never suitable for hedgehogs. Suitable foods for them include peanuts (unsalted and chopped up), hedgehog food (you can find this in a lot of pet shops now), cat and dog food (Tom loves the scraps), and also cat biscuits (another favourite of Tom's). If you still have pumpkins lying around, leave them out of reach as they can give hedgehogs a funny tummy and you'll see the results all over your garden too!
- Why not build a hedgehog house? There are lots of websites with instructions on how to build one, and it doesn't have to cost much either.



Here is a picture of Cleveleys resident Tom, who likes cat food, hiding behind plant pots, and chilling out in our front garden with our three cats. Share your hedgehog pictures, including hedgehog house ideas, with us on Millfield's Twitter page.

## **ADVICE GUIDES**



Lots of really useful advice guides have just been uploaded to our website for our parents and students (of all ages): How to Help Your Child Revise and How to Succeed When Learning From Home.

#### HOT CHOCOLATE WITH THE HEADTEACHER

#### Year 8

- Leo Cole
- Emily Thistleton
- Olivia Clueit
- Molly West
- Joel Alcock
- Nell Stephenson

All of the students have been nominated by Mrs Winterson for their excellent work in technology.

Be Exceptional

## E-Book Library

Students are now able to access our new e-book library using the Sora app.

Please install the Sora app from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store, or go to soraapp.com.



## **VLOGSTAR WINNERS**



Isabel and Hannah have come runners up in the United Utilities 'Vlogstar' competition. They were presented their certificates this week and have won a £50 Amazon voucher for themselves, as well as £250 to spend in school. They presented their ideas to Mrs Regan on how to best spend the money. We are hoping some of their ideas will become a reality very soon!

## **Teaching and Learning Tip**

#### Growth mindset tip no.5: Reward effort not attainment

The "Growth mindset" is the belief that "your basic qualities are things you can cultivate through your efforts" – Carol Dweck

**Theory:** Praising ability can lower a child's IQ whereas praising effort can raise it. Praising children's intelligence harms their motivation because, although children love to be praised, especially for their talents, as soon as they hit a hurdle their confidence can plummet. If success means they're smart, then failure can leave them feeling lost. They will not develop the skills and resilience to cope with failure.



**Action:** This doesn't mean we shouldn't praise our children! It means we should focus on certain types of praise. Make a point of praising "growth-orientated processes" – what they accomplish through practice, study, persistence and good strategies. We should avoid praise which judges their intelligence or talent.



# PASTORAL





Food for donation should be non-perishable and include items such as the following:

- \* Juice
- \* Coffee
- \* Water
- \* Tinned Meat
- \* Tinned Fish
- \* Tinned fruit and vegetables
- \* Rice and pasta
- \* Toiletries

Please bring in your item(s) by Friday 11th December.

Thank you for your support.

If you wish to find out more about what Streetlife do, then please look at their website.

<u>The Streetlife Trust – Shelter and support for</u> youngpeople in Blackpool (wearestreetlife.org)

### Our Provision During COVID-19 Lock down

Streetlife is offering the following support to all vulnerable young people aged 16-25

- Tenancy support
- One to one counselling
- General information, advice and support
- Food parcels
- Toiletry packs
- Activity packs containing jigsaws, puzzles etc.
- Various other essential items

#### Contact us on: 07741 949 544

Streetlife's day centre and night shelter are temporarily closed due to the coronavirus outbreak. If you are homeless, please contact the Council on 01253 477760. If you do not have access to a telephone and are homeless, please attend housing options on Chapel Street between 1pm and 4:30pm, Monday to Friday. Outside of these opening times, please call EDT on 01253 477600

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Tel: 01253 294477 life.org l info@wearestreetlife.org Registered Charity No. 1078167

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Just a further reminder that students should not be congregating in large groups outside school. Although behaviour is usually impeccable, we are receiving complaints from local residents, particularly elderly neighbours, who are clearly very worried at this current time.

Mr. Deaville Assistant Headteacher In charge of Behaviour and Safeguarding



