

Feb 2021

Wreake Valley Academy &

Bradgate Sixth Form

BRADGATE
SIXTH FORMWREAKE
VALLEY
ACADEMY

In this issue:

- ◇ A Message from Headteacher Mr Marston
- ◇ Bradgate Sixth Form Information
- ◇ Stars of the week
- ◇ Student work
- ◇ The "Covid Kitchen" Continues!



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www.wvacademy.org

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Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 5

A Message from the Headteacher

It's been another busy week, both in school and via our remote learning.

These weekly messages have the potential to be somewhat repetitive but we really do mean thank you for the efforts of students, parents and carers in making sure that this Lockdown is as positive an experience as possible.

In school we are busy making plans for the different versions of what a return to school may look like. What we know is that the government have said they hope that schools will start to return from March 8th. This could be limited to specific age groups or phases of school but whatever happens we will be in a position to positively respond.

Our in school Lateral Flow testing is continuing and will be ready to scale up when a return to school is proposed. It is important at this point to thank all of the volunteers who contacted us and offered their services, we have been incredibly lucky to end up with a really strong team with skills and experience that complements our in-school testing staff.

I have been dropping in (virtually) on all sorts of lessons this week. It is fair to say that they differ in style and method of delivery but it has been great to witness the levels of engagement from students as well as the variety of ways in which staff have tailored their approach to the new remote lessons. If your child hasn't yet joined a live lesson please encourage them to give them a try.

A reminder that school will be closed at Half Term to all students and staff including Critical Worker students, as we follow government guidance and use the half term to continue to make the site safe for our eventual return.

We hope that you will enjoy what the latest issue of our newsletter has to offer!

Thanks all

Tim Marston
Headteacher

Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 5



Stars of the Week

This week our staff have wanted to celebrate the hard work and effort students have been contributing by nominating their "Stars of the Week." Here are just a few of this week's Stars! Well done everyone.

From Mrs Wade

Rosie Durrance - Year 11 English— Rosie is always willing to share her ideas in live lessons and has produced some brilliant written work.

Toby Gazzard - Year 11/English/Toby is working really hard in English and is improving the quality of his written work.

From Miss Pole

7Q English Class: 'I just wanted to say a huge thank you and well done to my English class 7Q who have all been turning up to live lessons with such enthusiasm and completing work with tremendous effort. It has been a pleasure speaking to them live over the last two weeks and I'm looking forward to being back in the classroom with them soon.'

10P English Class: 'This class have been very consistent with their attendance to live lessons and have enthusiastically taken part in them. At a difficult time for GCSE classes it has been very pleasing to see how many of them are taking remote learning seriously and are attempting to engage with and understand 'A Christmas Carol' through their computer screens.'

From Miss Given

Savanna-Honie Moran— Year 9 Media Studies - Excellent analysis of film posters and engagement

Joshua Leist—Year 10 Media Studies - Excellent completion of work on Music Videos - he's now an expert on Taylor Swift.

Danniella Tovey—Year 11 Media Studies— Produced a fantastic Magazine Cover for her NEA

From Ms Lovegrove

Careen Blair, Keira Brooks—Year 9 English—both have 100% in every single online test completed.



Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 4



Imogen Appleton Year 10 - Fruit

The "Covid Kitchen" Gallery Continued...



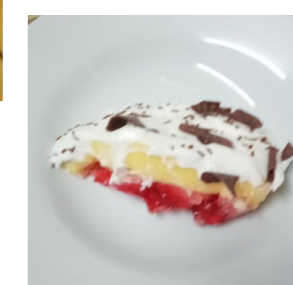
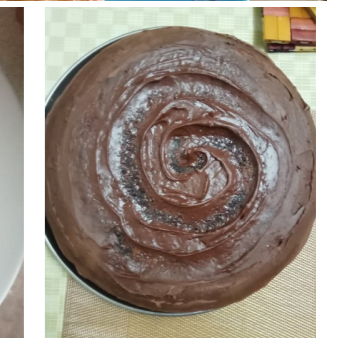
Tyler Ward 7SER—fruit scones!



Archie Dodd 7SER swirling it up with his pizza wheels!

Freya Green yr 10 Fruit Scones

Ansh Shah 9V—sponges for a homemade trifle and some pizza and an anniversary cake! Well done Ansh!



Jan 2021

Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form

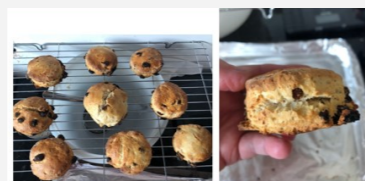


Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 4

The "Covid Kitchen" Gallery Continued...



Isabelle McGoff 7SWA

Leo and Luca Simpkin
8BL cookiesMackenziemay Hayes
7SMM making some
yummy sconesAlfie Armstrong
working hard making
some scones.Cailan Mansfield 7LPR mixed it up with a
scone base and used pears and made a flan
type dessert

Lewis Daniels 8MRE fruit scones



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Feb 2021

Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



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A Message from the Headteacher



From Mr Johnson

Daniel Farmer—Year 10 English Daniel is an absolute legend across the piece.
Vinnie Bailey— Year 10 Vinnie's engagement and contribution has been phenomenal.
Harper Cook—Year 10 has contributed and helped to progress their learning in English.
Rosie Betts—Year 9 Computing has been phenomenal – completing every piece of work to a high standard in a brand new subject



From Mr Naujeer

Thomas McCarten—Year 10 Science- for taking full responsibility for his learning and showing high levels of engagement. Providing me with really good feedback so I can improve my lessons.
Erin Bradshaw— Year 10 Science – for engaging in every science lesson, completing the work to an excellent standard.



From Mrs Nuttall

In 7LPR - Lillie Smith, Lily Maynard Smith, Priti, Jack Gregory, Elodie Dakin and Josh Lewin for their fantastic research and presentations on drainage basins around the world. Great work.



From Mrs Connolly

Year 11 Drama class for every student making it to the live lesson yesterday, I was so proud.
Dominika Himlanska - Year 10 – Drama A fantastic presentation to the class on the social and historical context of Blood Brothers.
Keira Rakhrao and Ansh Shah - Year 9 - Drama For awesome script work this week, both scripts were a fantastic read.



From Mr Rowles

Luca Freer - Year 9 Science or his attendance to every live lesson and excellent participation.
Grace Ryder - Year 8 Science for continual participation in live lessons.
Bradley Gant - Year 7 Science for enthusiasm in live lessons.



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A Message from the Headteacher

From Miss Moreland

Lottie Banks—Year 10 Art—for consistent hard work and resilience.
 Georgia Plummer - Year 10 Art- for putting in an incredible amount of effort into her work and being proactive .
 Suhani Solanki—Year 10 Art—Working harder than ever!
 Maxwell Wren—Year 8 Art—Working hard to create high quality practical work
 Poppy Jones—Year 8 Art—Creating fantastic artwork and always putting in lots of effort

From Mr Clamp

Emily Barrow—Year 9 Music - For her continued hard work with Music theory especially this weeks work on Cadences.
 Haydn Lake and Harley Horsley– Year 9 Music - For their resilience and seeking me out for extra help when needed.
 Leyland Meredith - Year 7 Music - For performing to the class on teams! Brilliant work Leyland!

From Mr Wright

Year 10 students Dan Farmer, James Lynch & Finn Smith have all been doing an excellent job of completing and submitting their work in good time, consistently over the last few weeks.
 Volney Fernandes and Oliver Knaggs-Wakefield– Year 10 have also been doing a pretty good job too.

From Miss Rajput.

Erin Bradshaw & Thomas Dziuba – Year 10 English - Consistently putting in their best effort into all work that is set and taking all feedback on board to improve their work.
 Emma Bramley, Elisha Bennett-Jeffers, Bradley Finmore, Logan Wignall – Year 11 English - Consistently putting in their best effort into all work that is set and taking all feedback on board to improve their work.



Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 4



Miss Lad
Food and Nutrition
Teacher

The "Covid Kitchen Gallery"



Finn Turlington-Smith 7LPR showing us how lockdown is done with his own homemade ravioli! Excellent work Finn



Yummy Crepes by Rosie Betts in Yr9

Joeph Gargun 8BL made lamb neck stuffed with garlic and thyme and wrapped in bacon. With a mash with sweet potato, courgette and gravy. Excellent work Joe!





Fantastic work by Lewis Daniels in researching different foods and traditions in different places

Food & Nutrition

Scottish Culture

Haggis
 Scotland is full of food that not many people eat in the UK. They are very creative with their food like haggis for instance, which is made with bits of sheep combined with oats and spices boiled in a sheep stomach. This dish is eaten on burns night which is a celebration that celebrates the life and poems of Robert Burns.

Black Pudding
 Another traditional Scottish food is black pudding and many people in England eat this as part of a fry up, but it originated in Scotland. It is made from oatmeal, pigs blood, lard, onion and spices and is a traditional meal that is hundreds of years old. Any hotel will use black pudding as part of a traditional "fry up" and most people include it when having a fry up as well.


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STAR STUDENT AWARD



Miss Lad
Food and Nutrition Teacher

Next week's practical is:

Pancake Challenge!

Can you create a pancake picture?



The "Covid Kitchen"

Throughout lockdown Charlie Collins has made some incredible food. He always puts in 110% in his work, from making his own jam to fantastic presentation skills. Keep it up Charlie!

Pancake day is on Tuesday 16th February, and I am certain all of you will be making some pancakes. So use this opportunity to make a shape!

To do this you need to make your shape with a squeeze bottle (old ketchup bottle will work) or pouring carefully with a jug. Cook for 1 minute and then pour in the rest of the batter carefully. Cook for a further 2-3 minutes or until you can see all the bubbles, flip and cook for 1 minute and ta dahh!

Remember to take a photo and email it or upload it to Show My Homework.



Next week we are making—Ham, spring onion and basil muffins!
Ingredients:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 100g ham | 1 medium egg |
| 100g spring onions | 1 x 15ml spoon baking powder |
| 3 x 15ml spoon basil leaves | 230ml semi-skimmed milk |
| 250g plain flour | 60ml oil |

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A Message from the Headteacher

From Mr Atherton

Keira Wassel— Year 7 Maths—dedication to the beat the teacher challenge, and proving it with all her solutions.
Joy Skelton—Year 11 Maths— amazing commitment to doing her best... always!
Max Wren and Rebecca Ryves— Year 8 Maths, just about the best Hegarty mathematicians I've ever seen!

From Mrs Rochester

Year 11 Geography - all attended the live lesson and submitted a very high standard of exam question answers particularly :Amy Brocksopp, Charlie Hayton, Rocc Oxley, Aryan Gadhava
Florence O'Grady—Year r 11 Health & Social Care—For submitting both of her role plays on time.

Year 10 Health and Social Care —Isabel Murch, Gia Basra, Kiana Bharakhada, Rupali Sharma, Farrah Welsh for completing all of their coursework tasks for this unit.

From Mr Whitbread

Jean-Luc Ciperes—Year 8 100% in all 12 **English** tests; and, generally excellent all round!

From Mrs Johnson

Thomas Hall- Year 11 English—Great engagement in all of his English lessons. Contributions in our live lessons are brilliant!

From Ms Lad

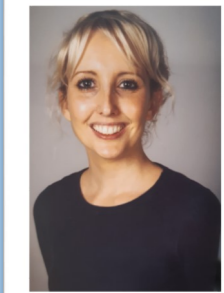
Charlie Collins— Year 7 Food & Nutrition—excellent work for practical's, well presented, always going above and beyond. Recently made scones with his own homemade jam! Theory work is also to an excellent quality.





Feb 2021

Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



Katie Johnson,
Head of Bradgate
Sixth Form



Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 5

Bradgate Sixth Form

This week the spotlight continues on B6 students and I am very proud to introduce you to two students this week, Ollie in Year 13 and Siana-Rae in Year 12.

Ollie:

Why did you choose Bradgate Sixth Form?

I chose to study at Bradgate Sixth Form because of the passion I could see in the teachers and because of the passion they had in the subjects. It led me to be excited and to want to learn new things.

Why would you recommend Bradgate Sixth Form?

I would recommend the Sixth Form because of the friendly and extremely welcoming community it encompasses. There is always help and support available when needed, from both students and staff.

How would you describe your experience at Bradgate Sixth Form?

My experience has been very enjoyable but not without its challenges, as all A Levels should be. The teachers have helped me overcome these challenges and have pushed me to achieve higher.

What support and guidance are you given?

Support can be found in virtually every aspect of not only your studies but also for any personal life issues. The staff are always more than happy to help if you have any issues.

What opportunities have had at Bradgate Sixth Form?

During the work experience week, I was given the opportunity to carry out work experience at the University of Leicester in the Physics and Astronomy department where I could work in research groups in Earth Observation Science, Radio and Space Plasma Physics, Astronomy and Mars Lab.

Which course/University are you wishing to study at:

I have received an offer for a course in Mechanical Engineering (with a foundation year) at Nottingham Trent University.



Feb 2021

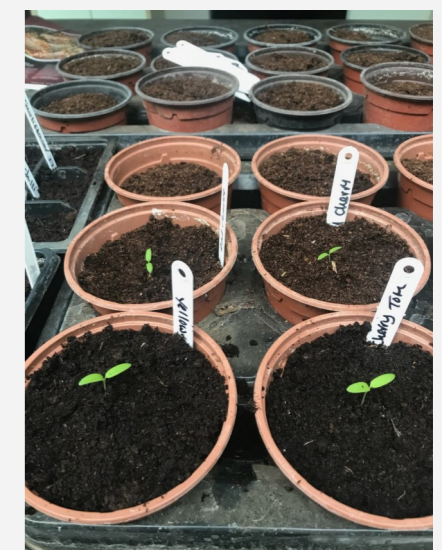
Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form

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How staff are looking after their Mental Health

Mrs Middleton, Senior Teaching Assistant told what she was doing during lockdown to look after her mental health.

For me spending time at my allotment is what enjoy doing. This week I have seen the first signs that spring will soon be on it's way. My potatoes are sitting comfortably chitting under my table, chitting is keeping the seed potatoes in a nice warm area so that shoots grow. In April, if the ground is warm enough, these lovely spuds will go into the ground and by the summer, I should have a great crop of new potatoes.



Another important job for me in January is to sow tomato, chilli and pepper seeds, these again are sitting at home where it's nice and warm, this photo shows my cherry tomato plants that I started last week when I couldn't get out because of the snow. This summer I'm hoping for an abundance of lovely red and yellow tomatoes as well as larger ones that I will use along with my chilli's to make spicy pasta sauce.

Being outdoors in the fresh air makes you feel so much better!





Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form

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Lockdown Thoughts

Lockdown is crazy. All u do mostly everyday is sit at home either doing school work or your sat there with nothing to do. I wish Corona was never a thing because I can't see any of my friends or play out. I don't like doing home school learning because you don't have worksheets which is easier. The other reason why I don't like home school learning is because I have the same routine everyday which is get out of bed, get dressed, have my breakfast, brush my teeth, do my hair and then do my school work. The thing I do the most after doing my work is art because I got watercolours for Christmas and some books my favourite one is the watercolour pad. I miss my cousins because i don't get to see them now and I'm used to having sleepovers with them.

By Amelia Taylor

After lockdown is over I'm looking forward to seeing my family and friends. I am also looking forward to going to Cornwall on holiday to relax and have fun. I love going to the beach with my friend and sand dunning on my bodyboard and go swimming in the sea.

I can't wait to go to the park to chat to my friends and to go on the zip line. I'm also looking forward to going to the skate park to ride up and down ramps. But most of all, I'm looking forward to having a big party.

By Nathan Sharman

What I'm Looking Forward to when we are out of Lockdown

When we are out of lockdown I'm looking forward to going back to school to see my friends. I'm also looking forward to seeing my family and playing out with my friends. Another thing I'm looking forward to is just going out and to be free from home. I go on walks now but that's not the same; I miss seeing other people, my brothers and I have had enough, and so we are hoping that lockdown will be over soon.

And I hope we are out of lockdown soon because I'm looking forward to my sisters birthday, her 1st birthday was in lockdown and I hope we aren't in lockdown for her 2nd birthday.

So I am looking forward to being free and seeing my friends and family.

By Lou Lou Carnall



Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form

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Bradgate Sixth Form

Siana-Rae Year 12

I chose Bradgate Sixth Form for its courses, mainly Drama. This is because many other colleges did not offer Drama as an A Level and also because I loved the subject from GCSE. The proximity to my house was also a plus! I would recommend Bradgate Sixth Form for its teachers and because it is a smaller sixth form than most. We are given support and guidance from our Progress Mentors and teachers. I am also part of The Elephant Group which gives me a huge range of opportunities. The Elephant Group is about the top third of students getting into the top third of universities. By being part of this group, I have access to programmes and conferences such as the Access Ed Research Based Curricula, summer schools and other academic activities to prepare me for my future pathways.

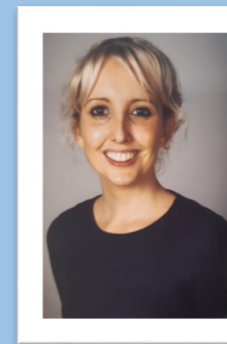
I am currently looking at studying Sociology at university and I would fully recommend Bradgate Sixth Form because I am really enjoying my time here!

B6 Growth Programme-Year 11 Students

On Monday 8th February Year 11 students who have accepted their place at Bradgate Sixth Form for September 2021 will have their first B6 Broadcast on MS Teams. This B6 Broadcast will welcome students to Bradgate Sixth Form and will introduce students to the B6 Growth Programme they are now enrolled on. This programme initially focuses on supporting students in refining and mastering the skills required for success in their GCSE studies. Over the coming weeks we will then begin to prepare students for their chosen A Level subjects. As part of this, on Monday 22nd February students will have access to the first 'Talking Heads' session with subject specialists which I am really looking forward to!

If students have any questions they would like to have answered in the first B6 Broadcast, they can upload them in the 'Posts' section on the B6 Growth Programme page. Students need to check the BEP email account for their invite to this MS Team.

Bradgate Sixth Form has extended the deadline for post 16 applications to Monday 22nd February 2021. Places are filling up very quickly! Please email admin@bradgatesixthform.com for further information or to apply.



Katie Johnson,
Head of Bradgate
Sixth Form





Nicola Morland
Head of School

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Children's Mental Health week





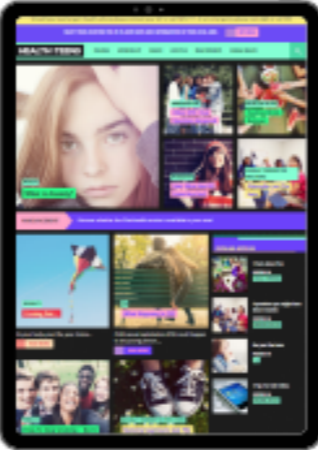

Children's Mental Health Week runs between 1-7 February 2021.

At Healthy Together, we have created a wide range of digital resources to help and support you care for your emotional and mental wellbeing.

Visit [Health for Teens](#) where you can find content, quizzes, audio snippets, videos and more on lots of topics associated with mental health, including:


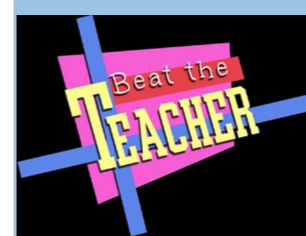
- [Anxiety](#)
- [Low mood](#)
- [Resilience](#)
- [Exercise](#)
- [Relationships](#)
- [Growing up](#)

Head to the Coronavirus section of Health for Teens

We have created a whole new section on Health for Teens with advice to help you at this time, including:

- [Ways to deal with coronavirus linked anxiety](#)
- [Looking after your emotional health](#)
- [How to make yourself a calming kit](#)

Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 4

Beat the Teacher

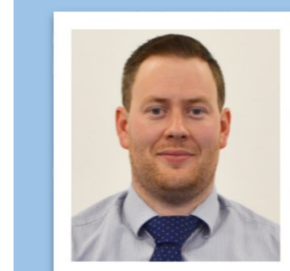
We have had some fantastic performances so far this week on the 'Beat the Teacher' challenge. I was particularly impressed with our Librarian, Mrs Patel, who managed to get the total spot on! Those hours spent over the weekend with her children practising, definitely paid off.

Mr Johnson also managed to reach the total within the 30 seconds time slot, which was impressive. However, it wasn't until I bumped into him at school that I overheard him telling another teacher that in order to do well, he had all the times tables already written in front of him before the recording started! Tut tut!!

It has also been great hearing from the students on how they have been getting on. A special mention goes to Keira Wassell in Year 7. So far the only teacher that has beaten her has been Mrs Rochester. Well done Keira!

Remember, each day 2 new members of staff will be taking on the challenge. Check SMHW each morning for the videos and see if you can beat them!

Mr Atherton—Head of Maths



UK Maths Challenge

Congratulations to the 30 students across years 9, 10 and 11 who volunteered and competed in the 2021 National Intermediate Maths Challenge. It has been difficult to arrange and get set up with students working from home but these students really did a fantastic job of getting involved. We look forward to receiving the results and seeing if any of you qualify for the next round.

Teachers will soon be looking for volunteers from some of the Year 7 and 8 classes to take part in the Junior Maths Challenge later in the year. If you would like any further information on either of these challenges try visiting www.ukmt.org.uk.

Below is a sample question of the types of questions the students face. Can you work out the answer?

Mr Errington—Teacher of Maths

In a magic square, the numbers in each row, each column and the two main diagonals have the same total. This magic square uses the integers 2 to 10. Which of the following are the missing cells?

	10	5
8		4
7	2	

A

6		
	9	
		3

 B

6		
	3	
		9

 C

3		
	9	
		6

 D

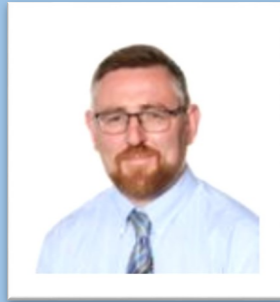
3		
	6	
		9

 E

	9	
		6
		3



Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 5



Mr Parkinson
Aspirations and
Careers
Coordinator

Career Profiles

MY CAREER PATHWAY



Name: Miss Kat Holyman

Job role at Wreake Valley academy:
Mathematics Teacher

EXPERIENCE

Job Title

Acting head of Mathematics – King Edward VII, Coalville.
 Second in Mathematics – King Edward VII, Coalville.
 Acting head of Mathematics – Henbury School, Bristol
 Second in Mathematics – Henbury School, Bristol
 Learning support assistant – William Bradford, Leicester
 Business customer liaison – HSBC bank, Leicester
 Support worker for disabled students – LEMS, Lancaster
 Customer service advisor – Currys, Leicester

QUALIFICATIONS

Qualifications | Date Earned

GTP Secondary Maths (Thomas Telford)
 BSc Mathematics (Lancaster University)

A-levels

Maths, Further Maths, PE, General Studies

As-levels

Accounting, Psychology

GCSE's

English Language
 English Literature
 Mathematics
 Statistics
 Double Science
 German
 Business Studies
 Physical Education
 Graphic Design
 RE

MY DREAM JOB

Premier League Manager

VOLUNTEERING AND INTERESTS

- Collecting and solving Rubik's cubes.
- Powerlifting and competing at Crossfit.
- Reading

Quote

"Does the walker choose the path, or the path the walker?" – Abhorsen trilogy, Garth Nix

"It doesn't matter how slowly you go as long as you do not stop" – Confucius

"We'll just have to try to make better mistakes tomorrow" – Alexandra Bracken



Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 5



Nicola Morland
Head of School

Children's Mental Health week



If you're aged 11 to 19 and live in Leicester, Leicestershire or Rutland, you have access to a dedicated, confidential and secure text messaging service called ChatHealth, which enables you to get professional health advice and support?

Getting in touch

If you live in Leicester city, text your Public Health (School) Nurse on:

07520 615 386

If you live in Leicestershire and Rutland, text your Public Health (School) Nurse on:

07520 615 387

How does it work?

The service is available **9am to 5pm every weekday**, excluding bank holidays. All texts will be responded to by a public health nurse (health visitor/school nurse) within 24 hours. Outside of the service working hours, you'll receive a message back to inform you that your text will be responded to once the line reopens.

Should you require urgent health advice in the meantime, contact your GP, visit an NHS walk-in centre, use the online 111 service or call NHS 111. For emergencies, call 999.



Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 5



Ms Lovegrove
Head of English

English Competition

There are five £10 Amazon or Tesco vouchers available as prizes if you can complete this sentence in an APT and ORIGINAL way:

I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because...

Rules and information:

1. Maximum 20 words.
- Submit your answer via the notification on SMHW or email glovegrove@wreake.bepschools.org
1. The *best responses will be published in the school's weekly newsletter.
2. Deadline for submissions: Friday 12th February
3. It's a maximum 20 words EXCLUDING the introduction "I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because..."
4. *Best - the five winners will be determined in terms of originality, humour, meaning and/or use of effective language.
5. The competition is open to students, parents, carers and staff at Wreake Valley Academy.

The originator of this competition fully acknowledges that lockdown is the right place to be at the moment!

Here are some of the wonderful responses we have had in already:

I'd rather be in school than lockdown because... it is less sociable and you get easily bored. Also, you don't get to see teachers mess up in class.

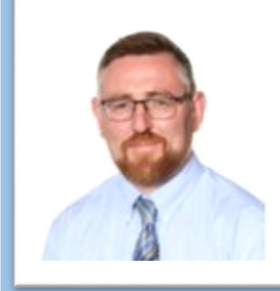
By Conor Russell (Year 9)

I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because... I really miss my daily break-time bacon and cheese panini made by the best school canteen staff in the whole of England! **By Teacher - Miss Given**

I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because... I must escape the tyrannical tornado condemning me to endless hours of torturous toddler TV dictating my life! **By Emily Barrow (Year 9)**




Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 5



Mr Parkinson
Aspirations and
Careers
Coordinator

Career Profiles

MY CAREER PATHWAY



Name: Mr Geoff Parkinson

Job role at Wreake Valley Academy:
Aspirations and Careers Coordinator, Science Teacher

MY DREAM JOB

Wildlife Warden working for the National Trust, English Heritage, Forestry commission or the Environmental agency

EXPERIENCE

Job Title

Head of Year, Clarendon College, Trowbridge, Wiltshire
 Head of Biology, Clarendon College, Trowbridge, Wiltshire
 Pharmaceutical Technician, Erne Hospital, Fermanagh, NI
 Courier, all around Ireland
 Bar Tender, Crowes Nest Enniskillen, Fermanagh, NI
 Factory operative, Dungannon, Tyrone, NI
 Scrap Yard labourer, Lisnaskea, Fermanagh, NI
 Farm labourer, Fermanagh, NI

EDUCATION

Qualifications | Date Earned

Careers Leadership Diploma (Nottingham Trent University)
 PGCE in Secondary Science (Bath University)
 BSc Environmental Biology (University of Sunderland)

A/levels

Biology
 Chemistry
 Geography

GCSE's

English Language
 English Lit
 Math
 Science
 Geography
 Music
 Business
 RE
 European Studies

VOLUNTEERING AND INTERESTS

- Collecting vinyl and listening to a lot of music, going to gigs when I can
- Coaching junior rugby at South Leicester Rugby Club (volunteer)
- Fishing at every opportunity
- Parent governor at my local primary (volunteer)
- Completed my Day Skipper sailing license and I love sailing

My favourite quotes:

"Be so good they can't ignore You"
Steve Martin

"You are never too old to set a new Goal or dream a new dream"
C S Lewis



Newsletter - Lockdown Times Issue 5



Mr Parkinson
Aspirations and
Careers
Coordinator

Careers

Free expert advice on guiding your child to a successful career



Trustpilot ★★★★★ Excellent 4.9 out of 5

We are delighted to announce our "Success Beyond School" events for this term: **free-of-charge** interactive 'Live Online' seminars designed to help parents supercharge their children's career potential.

Wednesday 24th February: The Skills Surgery

How to break into careers in medicine, dentistry and veterinary science

Wednesday 3rd March: The Power of Networks

How your child can build a powerful professional network

These events are for parents of students aged 12-18 and free to attend. We kindly ask you to forward this email to relevant parents; either directly or via students.

Please visit the link <https://investin.org/pages/parent-info>

Monday 8th February 3pm - 5pm
National Apprenticeship Week
12 Global Brands
Open to all Y10, Y11, Y12 & Y13 Students!
Degree Apprenticeships
Work Experience
Insight Day Opportunities
Hear from some inspiring apprentices!

Monday 8th February 3pm - 5pm
We will be hearing from 12 different apprentices from some of the biggest brands on the planet. Each apprentice will give a short 10-minute snapshot on what they do, their career journey to date and why their apprenticeship has been the best route for them!
Open to all year groups in Y10, Y11, Y12 & Y13
Opportunity to ask questions and find out about other young people's career journeys
Learn about different types of apprenticeships, some myth busting and a few prizes along the way!
Registration Link: <https://www.research.net/r/NAW2021>



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Ms Lovegrove
Head of English

English Competition

I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because... then I can insult Mr Johnson and Mr Marston with some witty remarks that they can't comeback on!

By Ansh Shah (Year 9)

I would rather be in school than at home because... Mrs. Lovegrove's charades skills are hilarious when she tries to act out 'Vampire Diaries'.

By Imogen Barber (Year 8)

I would rather be in school than at home because... you get to interact with normal human beings rather than your family.

By Imogen Barber and Taylor Durrant (Year 8)

I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because... school = 'normality', normality (done well) means we thrive, if we thrive, we can go to a beach in the summer!

By Teacher - Mr Whitbread

I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because... I no longer get my dinner cooked for me by my personal chefs, oops, I mean my students!

By Teacher - Miss Lad

I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because... lockdown is quite boring, there is also not much to do in lockdown so I'd like school better to socialize.

By Shayden Riley (year 9)

I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because... I miss seeing all those young faces whose lives I have aspired to make a difference to"

By Exams Officer - Mrs Pancholi

I'd rather be in school rather than in lockdown because... I want to feel free like the animals, I want to prosper like the environment and want to work hard like the key workers. **By Harsh Vashu (Year 12)**

I rather be in school than in lockdown because... I miss seeing all my friends and teachers. I also miss having fun with my friends.

By Priya Kapadia (Year 7)



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Ms Lovegrove
Head of English

English Competition

I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because... the aliens won't be able to get to me. **By Jebisha Daniel (Year 12)**

I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because... my cat can't annoy me – isn't that right Oreos? (my cat)! **By Josh O'Reilly (Year 7)**

I'd rather be at school than in lockdown because... I miss socialising with my friends and learning at home is really difficult and my parents are rubbish teachers. **By Phoebe Richards (Year 9)**

I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because... at least I can get bored in person. **By George Sperry (Year 10)**

I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because... School enables me to learn in a more immersed environment, and allows me to seek assistance from a teacher easier. **By Josh Leist (Year 10)**

I'd rather be in school than in lockdown because... my family can't follow me there. **By Becky Ryves (Year 8)**

I would rather be in school than at home because... you have space to move and you can watch YouTube after you finish your work. **By Taylor Durrant (Year 8)**

Tell us why you would rather be in school than in lockdown via the notification on SMHW or email glovegrove@wreake.bepschools.org



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Mr Parkinson
Aspirations and
Careers
Coordinator

Careers

As an academy we promote the importance of Careers Education to help our students make informed decision into what courses to apply for, what skills they need to develop and how to make themselves employable in a Career sector of their choice. Part of this has been sharing the Career profiles of members of staff in classrooms and around the school. The Profiles have enabled students to get to know their teachers better and have helped to start positive conversations regarding Careers.

So, as we don't have the opportunity to have these conversations in school at the moment I thought it might be a good idea to share with you a couple of teachers Career profiles in the Newsletter every week. It might be just the conversation starter you need, to discuss Career opportunities with you son or daughter.

To find out more about apprenticeships we have created a really helpful powerpoint presentation, check out the link [What are Apprenticeships?](#)

Below is a calendar of forthcoming careers activities for next week

Date	Activities available
Monday 8 th February 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete a variety of quizzes to see how much you know about apprenticeships, traineeships and T levels - apprenticeships quiz (amazingapprenticeships.com) Play a Kahoot quiz based around apprenticeship CVs and interviews - Kahoot!
Tuesday 9 th February 2021	<p>Watch a variety of videos about different types of apprenticeships, why businesses like apprentices and people that currently completing an apprenticeship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Great businesses are made by apprentices - YouTube Higher and Degree Apprenticeships - Make them your Plan A on Vimeo Amazing Apprenticeships - Technology Apprenticeships for the New Generation on Vimeo Alim - Channel 4 Apprentice - YouTube Apprenticeships with the House of Commons Vlog on Vimeo Apprenticeships with IBM Vlog on Vimeo
Wednesday 10 th February 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The National Apprenticeship Show takes place online on Wednesday 10th February between 11am - 6pm and will bring together employers, colleges and providers with those wanting to find out more about what apprenticeships can offer. Employers will include: BDO, Sky, Barclays, PwC, NHS, Centrica, Dyson and KPMG. Please visit www.nas.vfairs.com to book your place at the show. Register for an NHS apprenticeship workshop - NHS Apprenticeships - Hosted by Royal Wolverhampton Trust Registration, Wed 10 Feb 2021 at 15:00 Eventbrite



Mr Parkinson—Careers & Aspirations Leader

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Miss Myatt
Geography

Geography Bake Off



Charlie Collins Year 7 –Volcano cake!

Jessica French Year 7

For the geography bake off I made a vanilla sponge cake and decorated it as if it was the world with fondant and my air brush !



A lake.

by Ansh Shah Year 9



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Miss Pole
English

English

Example responses from Miss Pole's 10P class to the question:

'How does Dickens present the Cratchits in Stave 3?'

'Dickens provides an insight into the life of the poor and shows the audience that the poor didn't need a lot to be happy, again emphasising that Dickens wanted to show that money did not equal happiness, "And now two smaller Cratchits, boy and girl, came tearing in, screaming that outside the baker's they had smelt the goose, and known it for their own; and basking in luxurious thoughts of sage-and-onion" this quote shows that the goose was the main excitement of the day. As well as this, the lack of names for the "boy and girl" may connote that they represent many children across the country, and they share the same excitement children from wealthier families do on Christmas day. Furthermore, the main meal contained a goose with sage-and-onion instead of the traditional turkey implying that they couldn't afford a turkey, this is inexplicitly told to the audience through the phrase "known it for their own" which suggests that there are many others who have goose instead of turkey. This emphasises that the family do what they can with what they have and are grateful for it nonetheless. Dickens wanted to emphasise how resourceful and grateful the Cratchits are.

Dickens presents the Cratchit family as kind, humble and grateful for what they have. He uses them to demonstrate to the reader that family is more valuable than wealth. He also uses the family in an attempt to change the mind of the reader, diverting them away from assumptions about the poor and towards the idea of charitable giving.'

An extract from Kiana Bharakhada's response.

'When the family had finished their Christmas dinners and the pudding was revealed Dickens explores their reactions, 'Everybody had something to say about it but nobody said or thought that it was at all a small pudding for a large family. It would have been flat heresy to do so. Any Cratchit would have blushed to hint at such a thing.' They are content with the pudding and are savouring the company and family time more than the food. The Cratchits have learnt to appreciate what they have, instead of wishing for more in complete contrast to Scrooge. They have decided to focus on family over fortune and effort over result – the same way they all put effort into their clothes, even though they are clearly poor.

Dickens uses the Cratchits to highlight the plight of the poor, they are happy and put in all the effort for Christmas despite having so little. This presents Scrooge, and readers like him that family has greater value than wealth and that even the poor have reason to be merry.'

An extract from Aijay Kanani's response.





Ms Lovegrove
Head of English

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English Descriptive Writing

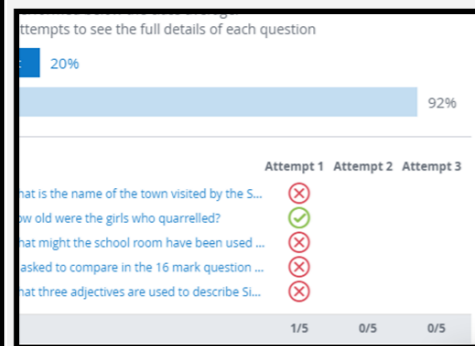
Students were asked to write a descriptive paragraph as suggested by an image they were given. Here is an excellent example

I said that we would....

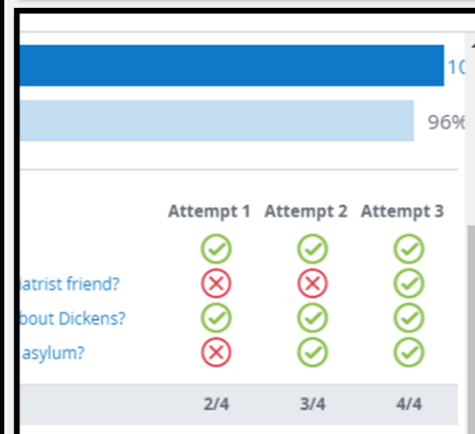
I was in the car struggling, flying mid sky with the temptation of staying alive. The people on the dull, grey ground below felt like a million miles away, looking like tiny ants roaming around. I could see a pyramid before me, it cast a shadow on what I could see. There is no one with me, I'm all alone. No time to groan or moan. I'm all alone. I see these buildings standing in front of me, frightened to death that I might flee. What am I doing here? **Priti Khunti Year 7**

Quizzes on Show My Homework

To encourage all students to put their very best effort into all their work we have provided an example of what to do and what not to do is shown in these two examples:



Here, the student has only had one attempt. Their score is 20% and the average score for the class is 92%. If this could be you, next time please put more effort in.



Here, the student has had three attempts, improving on each attempt. Their score is 100% and the average score for the class is 96%. If this could be you, it's very good. (And getting full marks on the first attempt is SUPERB!)



Career Choice

Structural Engineer – a person who designs the strength and stability of buildings, bridges and rollercoasters.

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Science and Engineering Club

This week's challenge

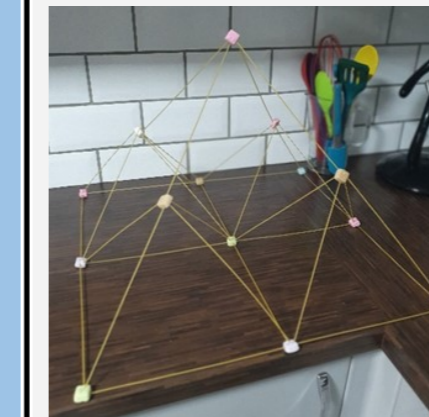
You have 5 minutes to build the tallest tower that you can using just raw spaghetti and a packet of sweets (jelly sweets or marshmallows work best). The tower must be free standing and you can use as many lengths of spaghetti and sweets that you like.



We want to see your designs

Get practicing on the best design for your tower then challenge members of your family. You can then send me your photos of your structure as well as its height (cjones@wreake.bepschools.org). Who will be

crowned Wreake Valley's Spaghetti Tower Champion?



Can you beat Dr Jones' pyramid inspired tower which was a whopping 37 cm tall!

Think you could beat your teachers?

Join us on Teams on **Wednesday 10th February at 3.30 pm** for a live tower building event. You will find your invite on Show My Homework.

Update on the What Bird are you quiz

It turns out that the personalities of the Wreake Valley Community are made up of 75 % blackbirds and 25 % robins!!



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PE Photo Competition



It is great to hear that so many students are getting out into the fresh air and keeping physically active. This week we would like to add a creative aspect to your outdoor activities. We challenge students to take photos of nature and show all the amazing things that they see when outside. This could be simple landscape photos, photos of animals/birds or any of nature's beauty.

Students can submit their photos via SMHW to their PE teacher or email mgrace@wreake.bepschools.org the best photos will then feature in the newsletter and there will be prizes for the top 3 photos.

Get outside be creative, have fun and keep active!

Don't forget to have a go at our virtual Decathalon too!

PE Department



Football Storage Project

We have worked hard with both Syston Town and Riverside Juniors in refurbishing the old water tank area. The area will be used for football storage containers, this strengthen our links with both partner clubs and the local community.



Mr Harrison
Sports
Development
Officer



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Book Club

This week is Children's Mental Health Week and now more than ever we need to raise awareness. The Place2Be website has a whole host of free resources for students, parents and teachers.

At Wreake Library we have a selection of books available to borrow at any time. Search for them by using the keywords "Mental Health" and "Empathy". Reserve them on Reading Cloud, or email library@wreake.bepschools.org and we will deliver them to your home.



Positive Choices

Paul Hannaford Presents 'Positive Choices' to Year 11 – Friday 12th February @

1.10pm

On Friday 12th February at 1.10pm Paul Hannaford will be presenting live to Year 11 on the theme of 'Positive Choices' via Microsoft Teams. **The link will be shared nearer the time and will also be published on Show My Homework on the day.** The presentation will last one hour with a 40 minute talk from Paul and then the opportunity for questions and answers afterwards. Paul will speak from experience about the importance of making positive choices in life and the consequences of making negative ones. Paul will present his life story which will give Year 11 the hard-hitting reality of how his once normal childhood and dreams of playing football professionally spiralled out of control at around that age as he accepted drugs from older boys. He will speak of the consequences of his choices and the many, many years of gang involvement and drug and alcohol addiction. Paul will show the injuries to his legs and describe how doctors battled to save them using live maggots! He will talk about his time in prisons and the impact his choices had on his friends and family, in particular his mum and daughter, who he did not meet until she was 15. Paul will talk about people he helps today and boys and girls he meets in prison who wish they had made a more positive choice.

Mr Robinson—Head of Personal Development





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Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day 2021

On Tuesday 9th February it is Safer Internet Day 2021. The theme this year is "An internet we trust: exploring reliability in the online world". To mark this occasion students in Years 7-9 will be looking at 'Social networking and Online friendships' as part of their PD programme on Friday 5th February. Students in Year 9 have also been asked to complete an anonymous online safety survey – their tutor has shared the link on Show My Homework so please encourage your child to complete this survey openly and honestly. **For all parents and carers please read the 'Safer Internet Day 2021 Top Tips for Parents and Carers' below and please discuss staying safe on the internet regularly with your child.**

Talk together

Communication is the key to identifying online misinformation....

Talk regularly with your child about how they use technology and where they go for information online. Discuss who they follow, what types of adverts they see, and what stories they find surprising or suspicious. Listening to your child will give you the best possible idea of how you can support them.

Set an example

Show your child how you question and evaluate online content....

If you come across a fake news story, or get sent a phishing email, discuss with your child how you spotted it and what you did. Why not ask them for a second opinion? Your child may have already heard about it or seen something similar, and if not, it's a learning opportunity for both of you. Seeing a parent actively question and evaluate online content teaches young people the importance of doing the same.

Think before you share

Fact-check and reflect before sharing content, posts or pictures....

It can be tempting to share surprising or attention-grabbing online content with your child or your family group chats, but make sure to fact-check these links before you do. As it's come from a parent, some children may believe it without questioning it, and older children may find it difficult or awkward to point out if it is false or misleading. This is another chance to set a good example in how to share information responsibly online.



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Year 7 Book Club News

Many authors are reading excerpts of their books online and we have been following Piers Torday reading his first book 'The Last Wild'. This is set in a world where a virus is sweeping across the globe and effecting not humans, but all the animals in the world (how ironic!). You can catch-up on YouTube here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1t7802NwfFM>

Next week, the book club is meeting virtually via Teams during Monday lunch time. Why don't you join us and share your favourite reads with us? There will be fun quiz with plenty of EPraise points up for grabs! If you would like more information on this, please email Miss Rajput (nrajput@wreake.bepschools.org) or Mrs Patel (library@wreake.bepschools.org)

We are also planning some exciting events for World Book Day (March 4th 2021) for all students to join in with. The events will include competitions with exciting prizes. Join the Book Club to get exclusive access to the updates first!

Miss Rajput—Teacher of English and Mrs Patel—Librarian)

Wreake's very own Authors

Make way for two future best-selling authors. The Year 7 Book Club has inspired Elodie Dakin and Bethany Brown to get creative - they are currently working together to write their own story! Check out their enticing blurb and beautifully drawn front-cover below. We can't wait to read 'The Forgotten', when it is completed.

'The Forgotten': In a house, surrounded by trees and rivers, lives a boy called Charlie. After his tenth birthday, his parents disappear without a trace. With no way to find his parents and no one else to turn to, he spends his life alone. Until, one night, everything he knew changes forever...

An excerpt from Chapter One:

One night, as he was gazing up at the stars from the roof of his house, Charlie saw a shooting star passing by. He wished not to be alone and to have help to find his parents. The next day, Charlie was woken up abruptly by a peculiar sound from downstairs and was very alarmed when...



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Year 7 Book Club News

Our Book Clubbers continue to read and recommend some great books. Miss Rajput has finished **Run Rebel**, an intense and emotional verse novel which she had to put down a couple of times before continuing. From the blurb: 'Amber is trapped - by her father's rules, by his expectations, by her own fears. Now she's ready to fight - for her mother, for her sister, for herself. Freedom always comes at a price'. She is staying with this genre and has started the multi-award winning **Poet X** by Elizabeth Acevedo.

Mrs Patel has read "**Where the Crawdads Sing**" which has moved both her and Mrs Sibley (Head of P.E.) to tears. It's a mystery, as well as a coming of age story, that will truly take you to another place; namely the marshes of North Carolina. She is currently reading '**Eight pieces of Silva**', a compelling mystery about step-sisters Becks and Silva who are left alone at home when their parents go on their honeymoon to Japan.

Elodie found Michael Rosen's biographical book '**The Missing**' both informative and captivating; she highly recommends this read. Rosen talks about his search to find out what happened to some of his family members when they disappeared during the Holocaust.

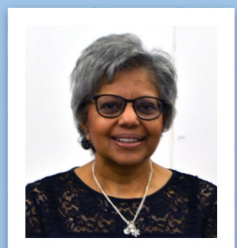
Bethany has been reading '**Shoe Wars**' by Liz Pichon. A girl's father is trying to keep his secret - that he has a pair of flying shoes - from his nasty boss who destroyed their family shop after his wife died.

Elodie and Joe are continuing to request books through Reading Cloud. Some of their choices are; '**Adrian Mole**'; '**Changling Wolf**'; '**Chinglish**', and '**Smart**'. If you haven't yet listened to Ms Given's fantastic reading of '**Adrian Mole**', we recommend that you do!

Elodie and Bethany are writing a story together called 'The Forgotten'. There is more information about this fantastic project in this newsletter. We look forward to reading it when it is finished—check back here for more updates.



Miss Rajput
English



Mrs Patel
Librarian



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Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



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Safer Internet Day

Check in with your child

How does misleading information they see online make them feel?
False and misleading content online can be upsetting and confusing, e.g. harmful claims that target specific groups, or unhealthy lifestyle tips. Young people may feel powerless when faced with the amount of unreliable content they see. Regularly check-in with your child about their online life and ask them how what they see makes them feel. This is an issue that affects all of us. Reassure your child that you are there to talk about things that upset them and to support them with how they feel.

Seek help and support

Ask other parents how they address misleading online content...
Just as we ask young people to talk about what they are unsure of, make sure you do too! Chances are that you'll find other parents or carers who are trying to figure out how to help their family avoid false information and get the most out of the internet.

Find out how to get more support by visiting <https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/need-help> You can take steps to support your child online by using features such as making a report on a range of apps, games and services, and using privacy settings on social media.

TOP 10 CYBER SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS

- 1 Be Informed, Up-to-Date, and Alert
- 2 Know the Tools, Risks & Rules
- 3 Use Online Protection Tools
- 4 Encourage Critical Thinking
- 5 Set Up Your Internet for Safe Use
- 6 Learn about Social Networks
- 7 Understand Games & Apps
- 8 Understand Online Violence
- 9 Trust, Invest Time, Monitor, and Educate
- 10 Practice What You Preach

