



# Headlands HEADLINES

ISSUE **31**

FRIDAY MAY 15th 2020

## Headteacher's message

I hope you are all well, keeping positively busy and staying safe. You will no doubt have seen from the Prime Minister's announcement on Sunday that schools may welcome back from 1st June students in Years 10 and 12 if the government thinks it is safe.

East Riding of Yorkshire Council Children's Services are working with schools and the Trade Unions to consider the implications and practicalities of how schools could reopen safely.

You may well have seen in the media, there is a fierce debate about the wisdom of more students attending schools from 1st June.

Clearly, there are many who absolutely need to get back to work and there is no doubt that the long economic shutdown is having a serious impact on our society and our local community.

It is also true that student learning will no doubt have been affected by the lockdown.

Weighed against this is the sincere and genuine concern that social distancing is effectively impossible in a situation where large numbers of people spend hours together in a confined space, especially when the majority of those people are teenage students who naturally gravitate towards one another!

It also seems very contradictory that while we are being advised to wear masks in public places such as shops or on buses – and places where crowds congregate such as pubs, cinemas and restaurants must remain closed – we are also being told it is fine for staff and students to return to school with no masks or PPE equipment. It just doesn't seem to make sense.

While there is a broad scientific consensus that the direct risk to children from the virus is very low, probably no more than that a typical influenza outbreak, there is much less consensus on the role children might play in spreading the virus to adults.

At Headlands School, we would normally have 100 adult staff in the building at any one time, with a significant number of those over 50, some over 60 and a few over 70, plus several staff have underlying health conditions or live with people with underlying health conditions.

Similarly, many parents have underlying health conditions, or live with someone who has them and they are understandably anxious that, though their child may well be comparatively safe in school, they might bring the virus back to members of the family who are at much greater risk.

These are not trivial concerns and cannot be dismissed lightly, which is why the current debate and discussion is so fierce.

In the meantime, please be reassured the team and I here at Headlands School have been compiling a Recovery and Return Plan over the last six weeks and do have a letter to send to parents and carers.

However at the time of writing (Thursday 14th May) I have been advised by the local authority to await further guidance and clarification from the Government before I can send this letter. As soon as I am given the green light by the local authority, I will be in touch with parents / carers via email.

It is obviously a very unsettling time for all of us, but rest assured that we are going to be doing everything we can to make sure we are ready to receive the identified year groups if it is indeed safe for schools to receive these students in the coming weeks.

However, I would like to reassure you that no one will be pressured to send their child back to school during the summer term. You know your children and your personal situation best. It will be your choice. As a school, we will continue providing home learning for all year groups for as long as is required.

In the meantime, a reminder that the school only remains open for vulnerable students and the children of critical key workers (in

emergencies only). Indeed, the majority of critical key workers are able to ensure that their child is kept safe at home. Every child who can be safely cared for at home should be.

Between Monday 25th May and Friday 29th May, Headlands School will therefore need to close for all students and staff to allow 14-Forty the opportunity to deep clean the school in preparation for the possible re-integration of students in Years 10 and 12 from 1st June 2020.

I would like to take this time to thank all of our teachers and school staff for their dedication. Headlands School has remained open throughout this entire lockdown. I would also like to thank our parents and carers for supporting students through this difficult time.

Next Wednesday (20th May) is National Thank a Teacher Day - more information can be found here - <https://thankateacher.co.uk/thank-a-teacher-day/> - if you have 10 minutes spare - please take the time to thank a teacher!

In addition, a big well done to our amazing students for adapting to the huge changes they have faced in recent weeks.

In particular, congratulations to all the students who took part in National Numeracy Day on Wednesday 13th May - and to the winners, some great Amazon prizes are coming your way!

Finally, what I would like to reassure you with is that I will always put the health of staff, students and their families first. While it is evident that we cannot eliminate all risk, the question we have to ask ourselves is what level of risk is acceptable?

While the answer may vary from person to person, I would not dream of penalising any parent who took the view that given their personal circumstances, the risk for them was too high, and they would prefer to keep their child at home.

*Sarah Bone*



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## Something for everyone

There is now a brand new Google classroom where you will find all your usual extracurricular activities and even some new activities to complete.

From sporting challenges to daily quizzes and from drama challenges to cooking recipes you will find something for everyone.

There is also a chance you can be nominated for the weekly £10 Amazon vouchers!

The google class code is gomyoln and teachers will be uploading different activities weekly for you to have a go at.

You could even challenge your family. Enjoy!

## Sixth-formers help to get vital PPE to local frontline workers

Over the last two weeks, five of our Sixth Form students have been working in conjunction with the University of Hull to arrange delivery of personal protective equipment to the local community, in the form of perspex face shields.

The students have researched and identified local businesses in need of equipment and taken telephone orders, reaching a whopping 611 individual masks.

These will be ready for delivery from Monday (18th May) to help protect the Bridlington front line workforce.

The list of establishments benefitting from this project includes local primary schools, care homes, first responders, and the police force.

Well done to Lizzie, Nethu, Finley, Ellis and Taryn.

## VE Day video

We had some great feedback about the VE Day video which was posted on the Headlands website, Facebook page and Twitter feed last Friday.

Staff contributed stories and photographs of relatives who had fought in World War Two, and students sent in photos of their work, such as baking for a social-distancing street party and red, white and blue bunting they had made.

One of the highlights was a piece of music gathered by Mr Buckby, featuring six girls singing Run, originally by Snow Patrol and then Leona Lewis. They all sang separately, and had not heard each other's parts, but Mr Buckby blended them together to create an emotional piece of music which was perfect to match the videos.

Thanks for all your efforts.



*Artist of the Week*

### Savannah Kilburn

Savannah has been engaging with her online work really well, producing this piece based on some artwork she has found about Groups. A really creative way to present her findings.

Savannah has also been busy keeping her mind active with diamond paintings, creating lovely canvases for her mum and posters for the NHS Heroes. Well done Savannah, a true ambassador for Art.





Mrs Bannister has picked our fourth Artist Of The Week - well done to Savannah.

Join the Google Classroom with the code 53qwzsv