

Headlands HEADLINES

ISSUE **32**

FRIDAY MAY 22nd 2020

Headteacher's message

We are aware that many parents, carers and students are growing increasingly anxious about what the phased return to school for children in Years 10 and 12 will look like at Headlands School.

It is worth noting here that it is very likely every school will take a different approach to this phased return because each school's circumstance will be special to that school—with different numbers of staff being available, the layout of the schools being very distinctive and us all having unique student populations.

However, whilst there will be differences between schools, there should also be similarities as we should all be following the same Government Guidelines.

The Government Guidelines for Secondary Schools were due to be published on Monday 18th May. At the time of writing, 21st May, they have still not been published.

So the Headlands team were all set to send out our Year 10 and 12 letters on Thursday, informing you about our provisional proposal to allow students to return from the 1st June (in small groups of two) and then from the 8th June in alphabetical small teaching groups.

However, the Local Authority informed us on the afternoon of the 20th May that any provisional plans we had to have students return from 1st June should be put on hold.

So, we have paused our "return to school" plans for Years 10 and 12

and will await further advice from the Local Authority and updated Government guidance.

After the half-term break we will therefore extend our emergency childcare provision for the children of critical workers and offer opportunities for vulnerable children to complete their online classwork, in the school's Learning Resource Centre.

As a School Leader and parent, we all continue to work and live during these extraordinary times. The support my team and I have had from the school community over the last few weeks has been incredible - thank you each and every one of you.

Making the 'right' decisions comes with a huge sense of responsibility and please believe me when I say we only want to do the best for everyone.

I think at this point it is also important to share with you the decision that my husband and I have also made as parents. Prior to the Government's decision to go into lockdown, we had already withdrawn our daughter from her primary school. This is because, as many of you will know from previous correspondence from me, she has an underlying heart condition.

We have therefore also decided not to send either of our children back to their primary school for the remainder of the summer term. In the words of my son "if it isn't safe for everyone to be back in school, how can it be safe for me, my friends or my teachers?"

Therefore, based on our personal circumstances, we believe it is in their best interests to continue to keep them at home.

Looking beyond the half-term break, each and every one of us as parents will have to make a very personal choice about where we believe our children are safest to be educated.

Whatever you decide, please be reassured you will have my team's full support and Headlands School's "virtual school" will continue to operate.

To conclude I would like to reiterate my thanks to you all and reaffirm any return to the 'new normal' will be approached with absolute caution by me, the Senior Team and Governors.

Your child's safety and the safety of our wider community, is at the forefront of all our future planning.

Should anyone wish to discuss or share any concerns or worries about our future planning, please contact me via admin@headlandsschool.co.uk.

Transparent communication is central to us all moving forward together through these very difficult times.

Wishing you all a safe, quiet, half-term break.

Sarah Bone

**STAY
ALERT** 

**CONTROL
THE VIRUS**

 **SAVE
LIVES**

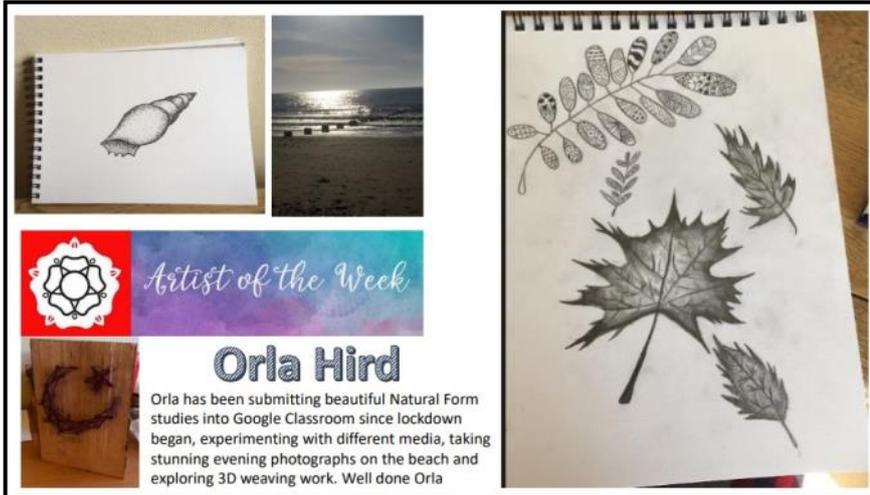


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Well done to Orla, our fifth Artist of the Week.

Mrs Bannister said: "Orla has been working really hard in lockdown and using her artistic skills to make some beautiful observations of natural forms.

"She has taken the opportunity to visit the beach on her social distancing walks during "Golden Hour" to capture some lovely photos of the sea, and has been busy making afternoon tea for VE Day.

"Artists of the Week are nominated for an Amazon voucher in the Extra Curricular group on Google Classroom so please do submit work!

"Also, please can students have a look at the postcard competition put into Artist of the Week last week,

"Next week, over half term, we will be posting a rather different challenge, so keep your eyes peeled!"

Excellent English

The English department have been impressed by the standard of some of the work submitted this week.

On the Headlands Facebook page this week, we posted a narrative poem by Jack in Year 7 and Miss di Placido was impressed by this review of a dream holiday by Amy in Year 8.

My holiday was amazing, the staff at the hotel were so kind and helpful, everyone was so nice. The hotel itself was so clean it seemed as if it was still new to say it was the oldest hotel in the resort. The restaurant was spacious and the buffet was packed with food that tasted out of this world, different types of food every day.

The beach was a short walk from the hotel, the sea was warm, clear and you could see little fish swimming and they nibbled at your toes as you walk in the shallows. The sky is so clear not a cloud in sight just the odd seabird flying by.

The shops and markets are very busy, the different smells from the food stalls made my mouth water and the sound of the stall holders trying to haggle with you as you look at items for sale, shame that my week had to come to an end.



Miss Massey has enjoyed receiving emails from Year 7 students about what they have been getting up to in their spare time.

Thank A Teacher Day

Wednesday was national Thank A Teacher Day and we asked for your messages to the Team Headlands staff.

Thank you to students and parents who took the time to leave a comment, it was lovely to read your words and pass them on to the staff.