



Headlands HEADLINES

ISSUE **30** FRIDAY, MAY 14th 2021

Headteacher's message

Hot off the press! Mr Hoults has officially ordered the zorbs for Sports Day this Summer!

This week, we have also seen various staff in fancy dress around the school site - clearly going the extra mile for our Year 11 celebration video!

The theme this year is a staff performance of a song from a track that topped the charts from the year most of Year 11 were born. I can't wait to see the final version!

As we all know, on Monday, the Prime Minister made various announcements regarding the next step in our country's COVID-19 recovery.

As such, from Monday 17th May, students at Headlands School will not be directed to wear face coverings in classrooms - but they can of course choose to do so.

East Riding of Yorkshire Council's local Public Health Team has advised all schools that students and staff should still wear them in communal areas such as corridors, toilets and changing areas.

Furthermore, Government guidance adds: "All other protective measures, such as ventilation and social distancing where possible, will remain in place and regular rapid testing will continue to help find and isolate asymptomatic cases when they do occur."

The reason why we are still leaving it optional for students to wear face coverings in classrooms is we know social distancing among students is simply not possible and we have had confirmed positive COVID-19 cases in school over the last few weeks.

Furthermore, only 38% of our student population is undertaking regular rapid testing.

In respect of school staff wearing face coverings, the latest Government guidance is far less clear and somewhat contradictory. It says: "Staff are not required to wear face coverings in the classroom but should continue to wear them in communal areas such as the staff room, where social distancing may not be possible."

Clearly, whoever has written this latest Government guidance has not been in a school staff room recently. In our staff room, only four staff can be present at any time to ensure social distancing is possible!

In the classroom, which is by far the busiest communal area, we will continue to strongly advise staff to wear face coverings.

At the time of writing it is worth noting only 10% of our staffing team have been double vaccinated, and only 57% have received a single dose.

These figures are below the national average of 31% and 69% respectively. It is therefore imperative, if we are to continue to have a healthy staff workforce, we must continue to adhere to in-school COVID-19 safety measures.

As a result, the team and I at Headlands School are of the view we must continue to proceed with real caution in respect of COVID-19. On Monday three year groups return back to school following periods of self-isolation and parents and carers will be aware the Government is now closely monitoring the India COVID-19 variant and its rapid transmission in parts of Manchester and Bolton.

The school's COVID-19 Risk Assessment has been updated and can be found on the school website at www.headlandsschool.co.uk/virtualschool/

As always, we do sincerely appreciate your patience and support. We completely recognise it is far from ideal for students to be required to self-isolate. We would absolutely much rather have them in school!

However, experience tells us that from one positive COVID-19 case within a year group (always confirmed by a PCR), more follow.

Our cautious approach to self-isolation is intended to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission, both within the school and the wider community.

We have had small groups of students in self-isolation working purely from Google Classroom resources, because "live" lessons are not possible if the remainder of their peers are in class. In these circumstances, we know these students have struggled to keep up with their learning.

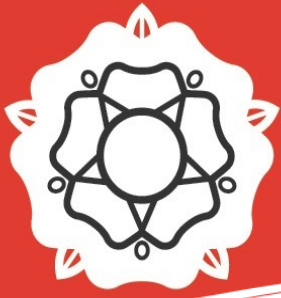
This has led to them acquiring gaps in their knowledge and understanding.

As such, until we are advised otherwise, for the remainder of the summer term, we will continue to stand-by our Risk Assessment protocols and self-isolate year groups where necessary to ensure:

- Our students and their families are kept as safe as possible from COVID-19 transmission
- Continuity of education through the provision of "live" lessons to all students to ensure our students receive their full curriculum entitlement and no gaps in their knowledge and understanding emerge.

In the meantime, we must continue to work together as a community to ensure everyone can continue to stay safe and well.

Sarah Bone



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Sixth Form induction

As Year 11 are now reaching the end of their time with us in the main school, we look to prepare them for their transition into our Sixth Form.

As a result, we are excited to be able to offer a full curriculum programme of Induction activities next half term.

Between Monday, 21st June, and Thursday, 8th July, all Year 11 applicants to Headlands School Sixth Form will be expected to attend the full curriculum program of Induction activities as if they were in Year 12.

Students will be able to gain a full experience of life in the Sixth Form, engaging in enrichment activities as well as participating in lessons for the subjects they have opted to study when they join us officially in September.

As previously outlined in student's acceptance letters, for students' places in the Sixth Form to be confirmed, they must attend 100% of the Induction activities.



Emily receives her award

The winners of the 2020 East Riding of Yorkshire Council Chairman's Awards have now received their awards. The winner of the Sport – Talented Performer Category was Team Headlands sixth form student Emily Asquith.

Last year's winners were crowned during a virtual event which was shown live on the council's social media channels, and the recent easing of restrictions has allowed the Chairman of the council, Councillor Pat Smith, to present the awards to the individual winners in person

"These awards continue to reflect the unique community spirit of our local area, and the efforts made by so many."

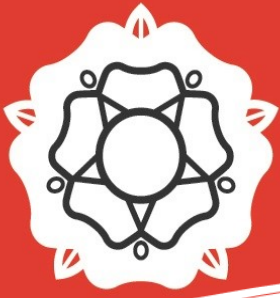
Emily has been boxing for five years, trains four nights a week and undertakes sessions before school. She trains with the England team on a monthly basis and is a member of the excel squad.

She was called to attend an emerging talent squad for the GB Squad and she is the youngest person England have selected for this type of training. Emily has achieved a lot this year including European Youth Gold Medal and won gold at the Sombor Nations Box Cup.

Emily said: "It's an honour to be recognised for the hard work I've put in by the East Riding of Yorkshire Council. To have won this award in an area full of very talented athletes feels like a great achievement."

Careers Corner

- The Team Headlands Careers Google Classroom is suitable for all year groups and is updated every week with links to videos, motivational talks and toolkits to help students decide on the right career for them. We would encourage parents to take a look with their children at the resources. The code is auz5ijv.
- This week, a list of engineering apprenticeship opportunities at companies in East and North Yorkshire has been added to the classroom.



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Students' poetry about nature to mark Mental Health Awareness Week

For Mental Health Awareness Week, Year 7 and 8 students have written Haikus.

Haikus are a Japanese form of poetry that have three lines. Line one has five syllables, line two seven and the last line has five syllables.

The theme is nature. Here is a selection of their work.

Blossom Tree by Nethmy Dissanavake

Pink petals, so pure
Tree leaves and flowers
unfurl
Here comes lovely spring

Sunset by Neve Marshall

Sunset streak with clouds
Pinks flow into orange reds
A wildflower sky

Moonlight by Lana Holmes

The moonlit ocean
Glowing as bright as a light
Oh, how I love this!

Bunny by Emmie Nicholson

Fluffy, smooth and cute
I bounce, leap and eat all day
Hide in the forests and sleep.

Forest by Evie Durham

The tall dim forest
Stands under the dark grey
sky
As owls hoot gently

Winter by Ava Charman

Winter is a charm
A beautiful wonderland
Waiting for some sun

Moon by Jamie McKenna-Hobley

The moon shines brightly
It is full just like a heart
It looks down on us

Trees by Aimee Blewitt

Underneath the tree
With the grass beneath my
feet
I drift off to sleep

Moon by Summer Petch

Moon shimmers at night
Standing out amongst the
stars
Glimmering at midnight

Winter by Summer Binnington

A winter wonder
Blanketing the earth's
surface
Dancing silently

Snow by Cody Fraser

Snow in the field melts
Secret snow in the
shadows
Stays frozen

Autumn by Adam Hollingworth

Browned leaves plummet down
Sunlight trickles through the
gaps
Winter ebbs closer

Calm by Reuben Day

The peaceful, calm tree
Slowly breezes in the wind
The sun appears.

Sunset by Neve Marshall

Sunset streak with clouds
Pinks flow into orange reds
A wildflower sky