

Jan 2021

## Wreake Valley Academy & Bradgate Sixth Form



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### Newsletter - Lockdown Times

#### A Message from the Headteacher

Schools are incredible things. More than anything else they are a community. School communities across the country are being put to the test and Wreake Valley is no different.

In the run up to this week we were preparing to stay open as this was the definitive instruction that school leaders were given, then with zero notice we were tasked with flipping back to a remote educational offering for the foreseeable future.

A lot of effort has gone into this switch but there will be teething issues and it may take us a few more days to work some of these issues through. I wanted to say thank you to all of the parents and families for your patience and support this week.

On a personal level this week has been a particularly tough one as I haven't been able to be onsite to support the staff, on Saturday I started to show symptoms and tested positive for Covid. I have been really lucky that this has not (thus far) been any worse for me than a bout of flu but it has brought into sharp focus just how careful we all need to be.

As and when we are able to return to school, testing will be a big part of that process. We will use this weekly newsletter to share some of the planning but also to support and share some of the highlights of our remote learning experience.

We will share examples of fantastic efforts from students as well as the results of some competitions and challenges for students.

These weeks will be a real test for us and parents and families should reach out to us for support whenever it is required.

I can't wait to be back on site at the end of my isolation period but for now I am experiencing the remote version of Wreake Valley. Thank you for your support and please keep in touch throughout this process.

Tim Marston  
Headteacher

Jan 2021

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### Newsletter - Lockdown Times

#### A Message to Year 11

I am sure you will know by now that the government have announced that your formal exams will not take place.

This is really disappointing because your hard work and commitment is most fairly awarded through taking the same exam as everyone else your age. Please don't worry as our main focus for the rest of this year is ensuring that you and your year group are fairly rewarded for your hard work and commitment.

It is really important that you don't stop working, the government will be telling us soon how we are to assign grades, what is certain is that part of the grading criteria will include your commitment to working throughout lockdown. Grades will be 'teacher assessed' but this doesn't mean that your teacher gets to give you the grade they would like you to achieve, it means that, like last year, students will be in competition to earn the grades that the school is allowed to award. We will only have a fixed number of each grade to award and therefore your work now until the end of the academic year is really important.

Mr Lockhart  
Head of Year

#### A Message to Year 13

Year 13 students, you are stars! We just wanted to tell you how proud we are of you, your dedication, hard work and the person you are developing into. We also feel very disappointed that you will not have the opportunity to sit your exams in the summer. However, you do still have the opportunity to show us and your teachers how fantastic you are!

From this moment onwards, work will continue to be set, live lessons will take place and we know you will engage fully with these to the best of your ability. Grades will be 'teacher assessed' and the government will be telling us soon how we are to assign grades, what is certain is that part of the grading criteria will include your commitment to working throughout lockdown. Keep being brilliant and contact us if you need any support at all.

Katie Johnson  
Head of Bradgate Sixth Form

Karen Stirk  
Student Manager



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### Newsletter - Lockdown Times

#### Staff Lockdown Gallery

Lockdown has had a big impact on the way that we are all spending our time lately. Here is our staff gallery of some of the weird and wonderful ways in which some of our staff have been spending their time!!



Mr Pares - Maths  
Teacher

Doing his Break  
time Duty



Ms Lovegrove - Head of English  
Having dinner with Gary Lineker!



Ms Chamberlain - Teaching Assistant  
Made herself a pair of Harry Potter shoes!

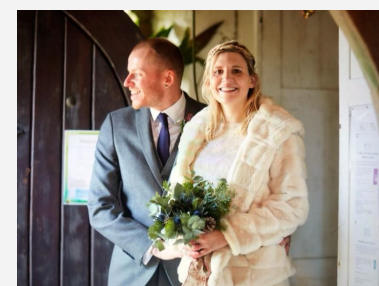


Dr Jones - Science Teacher  
In her Chemistry Kitchen



Mr Marston -  
Being  
interrupted  
from working  
by his new  
puppy Bebe.

Zoe - Inspire  
Coach  
Congratulations!



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### Newsletter - Lockdown Times

#### Year 7 taking everything in their stride.

This year has been an usual time for many of us. However, Year 7s at Wreake Valley have taken it in their stride and embraced the whole situation as 'normal'. They have enjoyed having their own playground and it has been lovely to see them playing together and running around, it has been exhausting for the adults to see them running, and running and running...

They have not complained about the dropping temperature and take some persuasion to come inside when its raining. This picture was a particularly lovely day, with the rainbow looking down on us.

Year 7 have been very enthusiastic about the hot food available at Wreake Valley, with the vast majority eating every day. Most of Year 7 took the opportunity to partake of Christmas lunch, this took the form of a Christmas dinner baguette. These went down very well and the students gave the kitchen staff a rousing round of applause. As part of this festive day the students embraced the opportunity to wear a Christmas jumper.

I challenged Year 7 to participate in the national, virtual Lakeside challenge of running 147 miles. They rose to this challenge admirably. We ran around the 3G pitch and needed to do 700 laps to reach the Target! Many of the students helped to record the laps completed, with virtually every student taking part. This brought out the competitive side of some young people with a few spending their entire lunchbreak running around the pitch. Well done in particular to Archie, Tyler, Yvard and Amelia.

The final tally was just over 200 miles, including contributions from Year 7 tutors, Mr Hunt and Mr Rowles.

The students have asked if we can do this again in the spring to raise money for charity - if we are in school , it will definitely be a yes.

Tree Price  
Head of Year 7



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### Newsletter - Lockdown Times

#### Online Learning

There is lots of information flying around and lots to take on board so here's a 4 point guide to help you get started:

**1. All of your work for the week will be published on Satchel:One / ShowMyHomework**

You will see all the content you need for your lessons here – mostly you can complete any work in the exercise books we gave you last term. You may be asked to join a live lesson in Microsoft Teams in which case check Satchel:One for the link. We recommend that you access Satchel:One through a browser (like Chrome or Safari) rather than the app.

**2. You can access your work on a laptop, phone, Smart TV, Xbox, Playstation or Kindle**

You can use the browser on any of these devices to access Satchel:One or even Microsoft Teams. If there are lots of you home-schooling together, perhaps there are more devices in your home that can access your work than you realised!

**3. You can download and install all Microsoft Office apps for free**

Login in to office.com with your @wreake.bepschools.org email address and password and you can access all MS Office apps like Word, PowerPoint for free. You can also download them from your phone's App Store and use the @wreake.bepschools.org email address to activate the license on your tablet or smartphone.

**4. Most phone companies are providing free data for home schooling**

Contact the school to find out more – all you need to provide us with is your telephone number and a bit of information about the contract and we can make the request on your behalf.

***Supply is limited, see page 9***

If you need more information about any of this please contact the school by email [admin@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:admin@wreake.bepschools.org) or phone 0116 264 1080. We will do whatever we can to help you get online and support your learning during the lockdown.



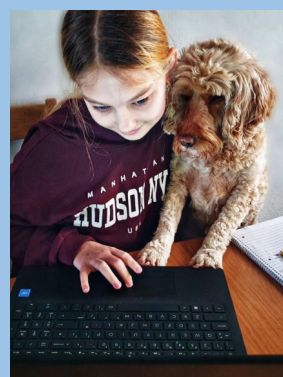
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### Newsletter - Lockdown Times

#### Online Learning

Hopefully all students have now successfully managed to access their online lessons. All lessons will be made available through Show My Homework where there will be links to other websites, online packages or Team Meetings.

In each lesson we are asking staff to set tasks for students to review their previous learning. Teachers will introduce new learning and then guide students to complete tasks based on this learning. In some cases, we will be using PowerPoints with an audio commentary so we can fully explain the learning. Some tasks will be completed online, while others will require students to work offline. Teachers will ensure appropriate feedback is given to students.

We will be supporting students with a timetable of live online lessons for them to join and we hope to get the timetable out to you as soon as possible.

Instructions for how to access the various online learning platforms that we are using for students can be found on our website under the Covid 19 tab. Click on Online Learning or click the link here <https://www.wvacademy.org/learning-from-home/>

If you need help with accessing any of the sites please do contact us.

For Show My Homework support – email us at [SMHW@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:SMHW@wreake.bepschools.org)

For Hegarty Maths support – email our Head of Maths  
[catherton@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:catherton@wreake.bepschools.org)

For queries on other platforms please email [admin@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:admin@wreake.bepschools.org)

Please state your child's name, tutor group and which platform you need support with, on your email.



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### Newsletter - Lockdown Times

#### Miss Lad Recommends Aldi Recipe Competition

Miss Lad our Food Technology teacher has recommended that our students try entering Aldi's recipe competition. After seeing all the wonderful work that our budding chefs have been making at home we surely stand a chance of being finalists!

Aldi are doing a competition!

You have a chance to win an exclusive Team GB goody bag, £50 in Aldi vouchers, a certificate, and their recipe will join Aldi's collection of Taste Kitchen recipes – featuring on both the Aldi and Get Set to Eat Fresh sites.

They are asking for a recipe to be created:

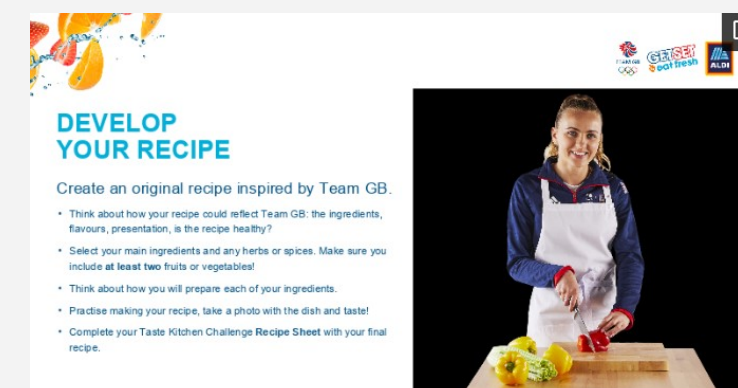
- All recipes should include at least two fruits or vegetables.
- Entries must include ingredients, instructions, a description for the recipe, and a short paragraph to explain how the recipe is inspired by Team GB.
- Entrants must include a photograph of themselves with their finished dish.
- Submit your recipe using the Taste Kitchen Challenge Recipe Sheet and Cover Sheet completed by a parent/carers or teacher.

Entries should be sent to: [info@getseateatfresh.co.uk](mailto:info@getseateatfresh.co.uk)

More information is in the link and **the deadline for the competition is 12th February 2021.**

The link is:

[https://getseateatfresh.co.uk/tastekitchenchallenge?utm\\_campaign=2051316\\_GSTEF\\_TasteKitchen\\_%20Jan21News%20Sec&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=Aldi%20-%20Get%20Set%20to%20Eat%20Fresh&dm\\_i=3J01,17YT0,6WFNZJ,4DPGK,1](https://getseateatfresh.co.uk/tastekitchenchallenge?utm_campaign=2051316_GSTEF_TasteKitchen_%20Jan21News%20Sec&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Aldi%20-%20Get%20Set%20to%20Eat%20Fresh&dm_i=3J01,17YT0,6WFNZJ,4DPGK,1)



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### Newsletter - Lockdown Times

#### Free data available for students working from home.

##### Privacy statement

1. For the purposes of data protection, I need to let you know that the Department for Education (DfE) is running the Mobile Network Offer through schools and their trusts or local authorities.
2. If the offer is taken up by an adult account holder, the school or social care team will share the account holder's name and mobile phone details with the DfE, who will share these with the relevant mobile network operator.
3. The mobile network operator will use that information to increase the data available for the account holder's mobile device, as long as they qualify for the offer.
4. The adult account holder's personal data is only shared with their mobile network operator for the purposes of the offer. No names of children or other adults, other than adult account holder, are shared with the DfE or the mobile network operator.
5. No personal information will be shared with the DfE if you do not want to take up the offer.
6. If you want to know more about how your personal information will be used before you take up the offer, we can send that to you first.
7. If you decide to take up the offer, you'll get a text message from the Department for Education with more information about your data protection rights.



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### Newsletter - Lockdown Times

#### Student Work Gallery

Our students have been producing some fantastic work remotely and we are happy to share some of their work efforts with you.

#### COVID-19 HOME SCHOOLING Y8

by Lewis Daniels (8MRE)  
06/01/2021

#### Food Tech – Cheese & Onion Triangle

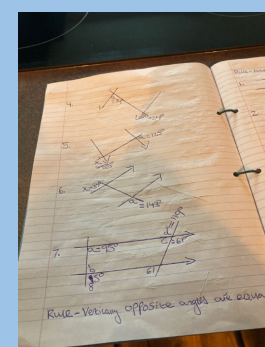
Subject: Food Tech – 8MRE/Eo  
Teacher: Miss Lad



Kieran Taylor 10TC  
Food Tech



Charlie Collins 7LP  
Food Tech



Kieran Taylor 10TC  
Food Tech



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### Newsletter - Lockdown Times

#### Children of Critical Workers

During the lockdown period, school will remain open for those children of critical workers who do not have any alternative support for their child. In order for us to be able to sustain an environment which limits the amount of contacts and minimises transmission of Covid, we are requesting that eligible parents only request this provision if they have no other options available to them. Wherever possible parents are advised to keep their children at home.

Each week we will ask critical workers to submit their request for childcare provision for the following week via an online form. We will email all parents each week, as family circumstances are changing all the time and we want to ensure that all eligible families have access to this support, should they require it.

In order to plan bubbles and ensure the appropriate staffing is in place, the online form **MUST** be submitted by the specified deadline.

We will not be able to accept late requests.

The list of critical worker professions can be found by clicking the link below.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

Childcare will be available Monday to Friday from 8.45am to 2.10pm.

Students will be met at the gates and will work in their year group bubbles.

Students **MUST** bring a mask and will require a packed lunch and a drink.

Students should wear uniform and come to school with sufficient layers of warm clothing and a coat.

If you have any queries about childcare provision for critical workers please get in touch with us by emailing [admin@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:admin@wreake.bepschools.org) or call us on 0116 264 1080.



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### Newsletter - Lockdown Times

#### Free data available for students working from home.

Lots of mobile phone operators are offering additional data for students working at home this year. Some operators are more generous than others (Tesco mobile are offering data to the first 1000 people only for example). If this could be useful we encourage you to make an application. This has to be done through the school. Please can you send an email to [admin@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:admin@wreake.bepschools.org) with the subject **Mobile Data application**. We must have the following 4 pieces of information to make the application:

1. Telephone number beginning 07
2. Name of the account holder
3. Name of the Mobile provider  
(this is normally displayed in the top right hand corner – eg O2, EE)
4. Whether the phone is pay as you go or on a contract

The school will process these as soon as we get them but given the limits of the offer we can't guarantee the applications will be successful. By all means send a message to your mobile provider on Social Media if you think they could be more generous.

#### Quota and details (correct at time of publishing)

**EE**

20GB per month limited to 60,000 students

**SKY Mobile**

100GB per month for Pay Monthly customers limited to 1800 students

**Smarty**

unlimited data

**Tesco Mobile**

20GB per month for Pay Monthly customers limited to 1000 students

**Three**

Unlimited data

**Virgin Mobile**

20GB per month for Pay Monthly customers limited to 1750 students

**O2**

40Gb per month



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### Newsletter - Lockdown Times

#### Contacting Us through the Lockdown Period

During the lockdown period our telephones lines will be open from 8.30am – 2.30pm each day, if you need help with anything please call us on 0116 264 1080 or email us at [admin@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:admin@wreake.bepschools.org)

If your child is unwell and not able to work online please notify us in the usual way by emailing [studentabsence@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:studentabsence@wreake.bepschools.org)

If your query is specific to one of your child's subjects you can contact the Head of Department directly on the following emails:

Special Educational Needs Coordinator - Jeanette Knowles.  
[jknowles@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:jknowles@wreake.bepschools.org)

Head of English – Genevieve Lovegrove [glovegrove@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:glovegrove@wreake.bepschools.org)

Head of Maths – Carl Atherton [catherton@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:catherton@wreake.bepschools.org)

Head of Science – Nick Rowles [nrowles@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:nrowles@wreake.bepschools.org)

Head of Humanities – Emma Spargo – [espargo@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:espargo@wreake.bepschools.org)

Head of Creative Arts and Technology – Carla Connolley –  
[cconnolley@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:cconnolley@wreake.bepschools.org)

Head of Languages – Sandra Ward – [sward@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:sward@wreake.bepschools.org)

Head of PE – Faye Sibley – [fsibley@wreake.bepschools.org](mailto:fsibley@wreake.bepschools.org)

#### Free School Meals

Reminders of the letters and the important updates that we have sent out to parents about how Free School Meals will be provided during the lockdown period can be found on our website <https://www.wvacademy.org/free-school-meals-during-school-closure/>

To apply for Free School Meals see the Leicestershire County Council webpage below. Please scroll to the bottom of the webpage for the application form.

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/social-care-and-supporting-families/free-school-meals>



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### Newsletter - Lockdown Times

#### Safeguarding

If you have any concerns about the safeguarding of a child please contact our Designated Safeguarding Lead: Nicola Morland 0116 264 1080

If you have an immediate concern for the safety of a young person outside of school hours please contact:

Leicestershire First Response: 0116 305 0005 (24 hour phone line) <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/community-safety/report-abuse-or-neglect-of-a-child>

Leicester First Response: 0116 454 1004 (open 24/7).

<https://www.leicester.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/support-for-children-and-young-people/children-s-social-care/>

Police: 101

#### Keeping Safe Online

As students move back into online learning it is important that we remind them about keeping safe online. We will continue to highlight staying safe as part of our Personal Development lessons and would encourage you to speak to your child about what they are accessing online and who they are talking to. Please ensure that you and your child have checked the security settings on the devices they are working on to increase security and control the personal data you share. Look for the 'privacy and security' or 'settings' on the app or website. It is also important to ensure you update your devices regularly. We will also reinforce with students what to do if they receive unkind or hurtful texts from any of their peers and will ask them to report any concerns to us.

Further support and advice can be found here at the NSPCC

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/news/2020/may/online-safety-during-coronavirus>

The Think U Know website contains excellent support and materials that you can also work through with your child

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>



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