



Friday 28 March 2020

Thank you

Thank you all for your overwhelming support in the last two weeks. Hopefully you are all beginning to settle into new routines now and are able to keep your loved ones safely at home.

School remains open for a small number of students. If you have received a letter offering a place, you are free to send your child into school any day you need to do so (although the advice generally is that staying at home is preferable). If you have not yet alerted us to the fact that you are a key worker and would like a place at school for your child, please contact us by telephoning or emailing help@northolthigh.org.uk to request a place.

For families whose children are entitled to Free School Meals, I will hopefully be able to write to you next week with details of the Government's voucher scheme which is being developed. Until then, a packed lunch is available for collection each day in school between 12 and 12.30pm.

Teachers are setting daily tasks for students via Google Classroom. The idea of this is that students receive daily work and that you will hopefully be able to fit this in around your family lives. We are developing new resources for our Year 11 students which will be released after Easter. These resources will help students to prepare for their Year 12 subjects.

Form tutors are also telephoning you weekly to see how you are. Please note that these calls are being made from teachers' home telephones so they are withholding their numbers. If you see a withheld number coming up on your mobile, it could be your child's form tutor!

Ms Budd - Headteacher

Featured Fabulous Friday Winners

Students have done some remarkable work over the week and will soon be receiving Good News cards or positive phone calls home. Click on the links below to see some of this week's highlights.

[Year 7 Inter-Form Scoreboard](#)

[History: Jess \(7SRE\)](#)

[History: Steven \(7SRE\)](#)

[Photography: Patrycja \(10TAT\)](#)

[Photography: Rishaanan \(10TAT\)](#)

[Photography: Renata \(10TAT\)](#)

[Maths: Elisha \(8ROG\)](#)

[English: Kinga \(8HLE\)](#)

[History: Jacob \(11DAD\)](#)

[3D Design: Aurelia \(11VJO\)](#)

[PE: Maryam \(10MBE\)](#)

Subject Focus: English Literature / English Heritage

The English Department has been working hard this week, ensuring that there is only minimal disruption to our planned learning. We have adapted some resources that we were planning to use in lessons and all students have had a resource pack sent home.

For year 7 and 8, as they continue to develop their ability to engage with and explore the English Literary Heritage, we are introducing the key literary concept of metaphor through the close study of a range of poems.

Students have all been [sent this booklet](#) and teachers are planning and sharing lesson resources and instructions, [just like this](#) Year 7 lesson, which are scaffolded for their particular students on Google Classroom.

How can you help? Read [some of these poems](#) with your son/ daughter and discuss the ways that metaphors have been used to present the ideas. Use this [Knowledge Organiser](#) to help with any tricky explanations.

Or for something a little bit different, David Walliams is one of the most borrowed authors by KS3 students from our school library. For the next month, at 11am every day, he is reading one of his short stories out loud for your family's enjoyment. Why not have a break, a cup of tea and a listen to his daily story [here](#)?

In Year 9, students have been sent a copy "Blood Brothers", a play by Willy Russell. We will be guiding them through their reading of this text. Teachers will be checking their understanding of key events through comprehension questions and a range of analysis and extended writing tasks. We will be sticking as closely as possible to this [Scheme of Learning](#). We know that these texts may take a little while to arrive so teachers have been guiding students through the context of the play, and helping them to understand what life was like in the 1960s - 1980s through [lessons like this](#).

In Year 10, students are revisiting the play "Blood Brothers", this time focusing on the way that the text has been constructed by the writer to explore and criticise the class system of the late 20th century. We are following this [Scheme of Learning](#) and providing lessons to aid deep thinking and analysis [like this one](#).

How can you help? Read the play with your son/ daughter or get together for a family viewing of the play on [Youtube](#).

Year 11 have been continuing to look at key literary texts: "Romeo and Juliet", "The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde", "Blood Brothers" and Power and Conflict Poetry. Teachers have been setting tasks which extend areas for development such as essay practice, extract analysis and embedding contextual understanding to develop big picture responses.

As always, we are encouraging all of our students to continue to read as widely as possible. We know that they do not have access to our School Library at the moment, but there are a wealth of resources that are available online. See our [Library Lesson Guide](#) for some hints and tips to help you support your son/ daughter with the selection of their reading material.

How can you help? Why not listen to a novel together through [Audible Stories](#)? Or discuss any part of their online experience with them?

If you have any comments, suggestions or ideas, please do share them with me: Angie Baker, Subject Lead for English, abaker@northolthigh.org.uk

Ms A. Baker - English Subject Lead

Ms Pott is getting used to home working!



We're all getting used to working slightly differently at the moment, and that includes teachers. Here's my new 'home office' (the corner of a bedroom!). I have my new desk (an old table one of my neighbours was throwing away), my very large cup of tea (ask Mr Haresnape about how big I need my cup of tea to be!), my hand cream (for all the hand washing!), my window (for fresh air whilst I'm working) and everything else I need. Have you organised a space where you can study? I miss seeing all our students but I'm enjoying all the fantastic work they're sending in over Google. Keep in touch everyone. ☺

Ms Pott – Deputy Headteacher

Useful Links

- [Supporting your child's learning during the extended school closure - A guide for parents](#)
- [Google Classroom: A quick guide to using Google Classroom](#)
- [Student Learning During School Closure – Guidelines](#)
- [Working Independently from Home – Online resources – Key Stage 3](#)
- [Working Independently from Home – Online resources – Key Stage 4](#)

help@northolthigh.org.uk

If you or your child are encountering any problems and would like some help in supporting their learning, please email help@northolthigh.org.uk. This can be to address any kind of issue you may be having either with the nature of the work or more technical issues like a lack of internet access, login problems or password problems.

Otherwise please contact the school on 020 8864 8544 between 8am and 3pm Monday to Friday and we will endeavour to answer any questions or queries you may have.

And remember: if you or your child feels ill and you want to know what to do next, please use [NHS 111 online](#).