



THE STONEHENGE SCHOOL

CAD/dah

5th February 2021

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Maths &
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Headteacher

Mr. N. D. Roper B.Sc., NPQH

School Business Manager

Mrs. J. Wakeham

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to update you on a couple of areas that we are developing in school at the moment, partly in response to feedback received via the parent survey, and also in response to requirements from the Department for Education.

Happy Friday – 12th February

One of the main areas of feedback from you all related to the amount of time students were spending in front of a screen or being stuck in one location through the day. The nature of working remotely means that we are reliant on technology, but we have taken this on board and shared your enthusiasm for more practical elements with our staff. We have also received feedback from Year 10 and 11 students that they are overwhelmed with work and need a chance to catch up before the new term starts.

Therefore, on Friday 12th February we will be having 'Happy Friday' which will involve:

- A bank of tasks being set for Year 7, 8 and 9 that link to the PSHE curriculum to allow them to:
 - o Be creative
 - o Learn something new
 - o Contribute to community/family life
 - o Concentrate on their well-being and health
- These tasks will be set in advance so students can plan what they would like to do on that day to get them away from the screen, plus give them ideas for activities during the February half term.
- There will NOT be any 'live' lessons or normal work set for any students for the whole day to give them the opportunity to **catch up on work from this term if they are in Years 10 and 11**, or complete PSHE tasks in Years 7, 8 and 9.
- Keyworker and vulnerable children who are attending school will have different activities planned for them (more information to follow on this).

Monitoring Attendance and Engagement

Since the start of National Lockdown 3 and restricted access to schools, we have been monitoring attendance and some of you may have had messages from us relating to this. The expectation is that they are attending every day, joining 'live' lessons where they are available, and completing the work that is being set.



Every time a student attends a 'live' lesson, we record it and are able to look for patterns. Microsoft Teams and Show My Homework actually allows us to go beyond simply seeing if they have joined the lesson. We are able to track the time at which they joined the lesson, what time they left (and therefore how long they were actually present for), and we are now becoming more skilled in finding ways to track whether they have actually downloaded resources on Teams and Show My Homework and are tracking whether they submit work or not.

We would appreciate it if you could discuss this information with your child as we can see that some are joining lessons, getting their attendance mark, and then leaving. If they are at home whilst you are at work, they may be telling you that they have attended all lessons for the day, and that they have done all of the work. But this is possibly not the case.

It is worth showing them the table below (we will also upload it to Show My Homework), and explain that teachers are keeping records of how much is completed which will be shared with parents via a tracking report in due course.

We understand that many things will impact on families, and that attendance to live lessons can be impacted on by faulty internet connection etc. Student 4 below may have a legitimate reason for being late, however Student 5 has joined the lesson, left after 16 seconds, and has not reattempted to rejoin the lesson. This does not count as attending the lesson.

Full Name	User Action	Timestamp	
Teacher	Joined	1/28/2021, 11:28:20 AM	This shows the time that the teacher started the lesson.
Student 1	Joined before	1/28/2021, 11:28:20 AM	This student was in the lobby before the lesson started and stayed the whole lesson
Student 1	Left	1/28/2021, 11:52:38 AM	
Student 2	Joined before	1/28/2021, 11:28:20 AM	This student was in the lobby before the lesson started and stayed the whole lesson
Student 2	Left	1/28/2021, 11:51:15 AM	
Student 3	Joined	1/28/2021, 11:30:09 AM	This student arrived just after teacher and stayed the whole lesson
Student 3	Left	1/28/2021, 11:52:29 AM	
Student 4	Joined	1/28/2021, 11:43:26 AM	This student was 15 minutes late
Student 4	Left	1/28/2021, 11:51:09 AM	
Student 5	Joined	1/28/2021, 11:52:15 AM	This person only stayed for 16 seconds. This does not count as attendance.
Student 5	Left	1/28/2021, 11:52:31 AM	

Next term

At the moment we know that no students will be returning to school straight away after the half term. We are expecting a 'Road map' to be issued on 22nd February or shortly afterwards, which may tell us if any students are to return on 8th March or not. This means that remote learning will continue in the way it is at present for at least the first two weeks of next term for all students. We will then be able to update you all based on what we learn on the 22nd February, and adapt our plans accordingly.



Whilst we wait for clear plans we are postponing all parents evenings. Year 11 has already been postponed while we wait for clarification regarding Year 11 grading this Summer. Year 10 Parents evening was due to be on 25th February – we are also postponing this for the moment whilst we wait for a clearer plan relating on the return to school at the start of that week. We will then reschedule the evenings for all year groups in order to provide the most informative evening for you as parents. We hope you understand this decision at the moment.

Again, we thank you for your continued support and hope you are all keeping safe and well.

Yours sincerely

C A Dean
Deputy Headteacher

