



## The Misbourne Families' Bulletin

### Week commencing Monday 2 November 2020

Welcome to our Families' Bulletin. For more details regarding any of the information below, please click on the links or visit our website: <https://www.themisbourne.co.uk/601/newsletters>

#### HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Walking around school over the past few days, I have been delighted to see the high levels of student engagement in and enthusiasm for their learning. At a time of ongoing uncertainty, it is great to see them so settled and focussed in lessons.

I would also like to commend many of our Year 7 students who are currently having to work from home due to having to self-isolate. Their teachers have been hugely impressed with the maturity they have shown in accessing and participating in their live lessons. We recognise that it is challenging for many of our students to maintain their motivation to work while they are at home, but perhaps most difficult of all for our very youngest students and I am proud of the resilience they have shown in adapting to this method of learning.

It was very encouraging to welcome so many Year 11 families to our virtual Making the Grade evening last night. I hope that families found the opportunity to hear from Curriculum Leaders useful and that they feel positive about supporting their children through the next few months of their GCSE studies. While we are unable to have families in school it is wonderful that we are still able to connect through technology.

Student voice has really struck a chord this week. We have had Sixth Form representatives supporting with the next step of our catering tender, reviewing presentations from three businesses and compiling a survey that has been sent out to all students. We have also had students supporting the recruitment process for a new Academic Mentor. It is so fantastic to see our students not only representing the Academy so well but for us to be learning and gaining so much from their involvement.

Finally, thank you to all our families who donated so generously to our OneCanTrust appeal. Jo Belshaw from OneCanTrust was overwhelmed by the amount of goods that were donated and asked me to pass on her sincere thanks to everyone at The Misbourne.

I wish everyone a safe and restful break and will look forward to welcoming the whole school community back on 2 November.

Jo Meloni



Jo Belshaw and Miss Perry

# School Notices

## Covid-19 Information Hub

A reminder that we have created a dedicated Covid-19 Information page on our website. This is in the Families section, but can also be accessed directly from the home page, [here](#). We will continue to update this page as guidance evolves.

## Library catalogue access

For the foreseeable future, access to the books in our library has moved online. Every student has been given a keyring with their login details. They follow this format:

- 4 digit barcode pin
- Password (starts in 482ch)

Please visit [here](#) to see how your child can now reserve, renew, return and review books from the school library. To login, enter the 4-digit barcode pin and press enter on the keyboard; a pop-up will appear for the password. Year 7 and 8 will receive their books during their Cafe break and Year 9 and above will have theirs delivered to their form rooms. All books can be returned to the book-drop in the Cafe.

## Careers information update

**Newsletter issue 5:** To read our latest careers newsletter, [click here](#). As a school we are sent a wide range of interesting opportunities for families and students to take part in ranging from babysitting courses to RAF virtual insight days. We hope you find some of the opportunities of interest.

**Bucks Skills Show Student/family webinars:** Please sign up to the two after-school live webinars for 16-18 year olds. Full details can be found [here](#):

- Tuesday 10 November 6-7pm – Where next: employment, education or apprenticeship?
- Thursday 12 November 6-7pm – Understanding the job market: what's on your doorstep?

**1:1 careers advice:** Bucks Careers Hub has funded additional careers advice for Year 11 - 13 students and families. Please [click here](#) to take the opportunity to book free 30-minute 'What's right for me?' 1:1 advice and guidance sessions with a careers expert.

## IT for Learning

Please [click here](#) to read a parent's guide to managing screen time during remote learning.

## Friends of The Misbourne

FOTM would like to thank everyone who donated £1 to take part in the *Last Man Standing* contest this morning. Form tutors reported that students had great fun competing to win a Bluetooth speaker. All the money raised will go into FOTM funds to support the school.

Forms that did not get to take part in the contest today will have an opportunity early next half term.

## Launch of Duke of Edinburgh Award 2020/2021

Over the past few years, the Duke of Edinburgh Award has gone from strength to strength at The Misbourne, with the number of students participating increasing year on year. Ordinarily we would launch our new Bronze, Silver and Gold groups in late October. In the past, guest speakers from Windsor have visited to address our Year 9 and 10 students in their assemblies to tell them more about the Awards and what they entail. Unfortunately, this is not possible in the current climate.

Similarly, our existing Bronze and Silver students would be completing their Awards at this time of year, but lock-down has made it very difficult for them to do so. Many of the students adapted their activities to fit in with the imposed restrictions, however none have yet been able to complete their Awards. We are, though, still hopeful of running our expeditions this side of Christmas 2020!

As a result of these changes, we are delaying the launch of the new Bronze Award for our Year 9 students until November. At this time, we will email Year 9 with details of the Award and how it is run at the school. In the meantime, should any Year 9 students want to look into the Award, the DofE website ([www.dofe.org](http://www.dofe.org)) is full of information for both interested students and their families.

We hope to launch our new Silver and Gold groups this side of Christmas too- we will keep you updated.

**Mr Tebb and Ms McCarthy**

**Duke of Edinburgh leaders**

## Year Group-Specific Notices

### WHOLE SCHOOL

Week commencing 02.11.2020 is timetable Week A

**Face Masks:** May we remind families that it is expected that students should bring their own personal face mask to school every day. These need to be worn at all times when students are indoors, including in the café, hall and other indoor communal areas. The only exception to this is during lessons and when eating and drinking.

**Pastoral update:** please [click here](#) to read a letter from Mr Griffiths and the pastoral team.

### YEAR 7

**Homework schedule:** This week, students will receive 30 minutes' homework in each of these subjects: English, Maths, Science, MFL and DT/Food.

### YEAR 8

**Homework schedule:** This week, students will receive 30 minutes' homework in each of these subjects: English, Maths, Science, History, MFL, IT and Philosophy.

### YEAR 11

**Making the Grade evening:** This will take place virtually via Microsoft Teams between 5.15pm—7.00pm on **Thursday 5 November**. This evening will focus on the GCSE options subjects. This is a chance for families and students to hear from teachers about what students can do over the coming months to maximise their chances of success in these subjects. As this is a live event, families will be able to speak directly to teachers during the evening. Families will receive details of their Teams invitation to Making the Grade during 5 November and we hope as many families as possible will be able to join us.

### SIXTH FORM

Please [click here](#) to read a letter from Mr Dwight, rounding up events of this half term and looking ahead to the next.

## Community Notices

### Witherslack Group Information Webinars and Conference

#### Helping your child to make friends webinar

Witherslack Group is hosting a live webinar for parents on Wednesday 28 October from 2-3pm on the subject of 'Helping your child to make friends and build positive relationships.' To find out more and to register for the webinar, please click [here](#).

#### FREE Early Bird tickets to special SEN Conference

Witherslack Group is hosting its first virtual conference, 'Supporting you and your child: Positive Minds, Positive Behaviour', on 26 November 2020. The day will include presentations on:

**Every mind matters: maintaining a positive mind set for you and your child**

- Professor Sean Duggan, Clinical Advisor, Witherslack Group

**Positive Behaviour Support during COVID**

- Elaine Capstick, Inclusion Manager, Witherslack Group

**Parenting in a pandemic: helping children and teens cope with anxiety**

- Dr Tony Lloyd, CEO, ADHD Foundation

**"Beacons of Light" : empowering neuro-diverse children to shine**

- Anne-Marie Harrison, Ideas Afresh Education

Early applicants can benefit from free tickets. To find out more and apply for tickets, please [click here](#).

#### Walking With You Families' Support Group newsletter

Please [click here](#) to read the latest newsletter from Walking With You. This is a families' support group which offers some valuable tips about helping children with complex needs and challenging behaviour.