



**Kemnal
Technology
College**

5 February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

WEEKLY UPDATE

We are very much aware that there is an enormous amount of pressure on remote learners and as a College, we have used a blended learning approach to ensure that students are having regular breaks from the screen. To encourage this further, we would like all students and staff to have a 'Wellbeing Day' on Friday 12 February. This will involve your child doing activities that they enjoy and will not involve attending any Google Classroom lessons.

Attached to this letter is a list of activities we would like your child to complete at least 3 of these activities. If none of these activities outlined suit your child, or your child has other interests please encourage them to select their own activities. We hope all students and staff enjoy this day as we are very aware how difficult and hard this term has been.

I can report that the second weekly Form Time activity based on reading took place this week and it was delightful to see Forms enjoy reading for pleasure. Can I encourage that your child continues to log on for their weekly Form Time session as we are seeing students actively engage and enjoy these structured times. Also a reminder of the times of the school day is attached for quick reference. Assemblies/Form Time take place at 9.15am to 9.30am with Period 1 starting at 9.35am. Can you please ensure that your child arrives on time to lessons as it is disruptive to a whole class when a student joins in late?

You will know that as a College safeguarding our students is paramount and as students are now at home and online for a considerable time we would like to share an online Safeguarding Newsletter with you (also attached). I encourage parents to read it in order to give you a bit of guidance, further information and access to an array of resources that you may find useful during this time.

During the course of next week, all students will receive in the post a "Work Pack". This will include items such as a folder, an exercise book, stationery etc. We believe that in order to enhance students working remotely, they should be making notes whilst in lessons and these items will aid them going forward. Students will know our expectations and work should be as neat as possible so when a full return to school happens, our students will have their "Work Packs" available to refer to. Any work on Google Classrooms, should be saved in the normal way.

As a College you will no doubt be aware that our passion for encouraging students to read is always a primary focus. Please encourage your child to read online texts or listen to audiobooks as these are just as effective.

If your child would like a reading book sent home, please contact Mr McCalla at jmccalla@ktc-tkat.org who will be able to send a book home.

www.ktc-tkat.org

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I remind parents that there are a number of ways students can progress by reading regularly. These include:-

- Reading expands their vocabularies.
- It also shows them how different writers put down their thoughts leading to better writing skills.
- They gain skills in handling complex ideas.
- The more teens read, the more information they pick up.
- Reading also helps them expand their horizons as they learn more about people and the world.
- Reading can show teens that everyone has problems in his or her life and may even help teens see solutions to their own problems.
- Finally, reading is enjoyable. It can bring a great deal of pleasure to teens.

Last year, 9 of our students (James Brice, Lily Smith, Albie Lee, Scott Labram, Jack Heffer, Marley Burton-Bell, Cuma Kok, Alfie Horbacki and Keiran Silvester) were awarded the Jack Petchey Award. This award is aimed at recognising the achievements of young people within the school and their community. Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions the award ceremony could not take place but is to be held virtually next month. I just want to commend these students to you for their massive achievement and to let them know that we are all very proud.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Form Tutor and/or Head of Year if you have any problems or queries.

Until next week, enjoy your weekend and stay safe.

Yours faithfully



Mr Christian Cavanagh
EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER

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