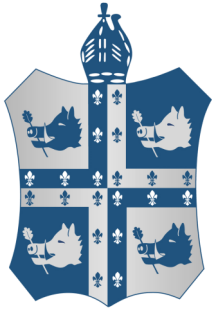


# REMOTE LEARNING

Tadcaster Grammar School

Be Your Best Self



1557



April 2020

## REMOTE LEARNING @ TGS

### Families

The most important thing to think about is the wellbeing of you and your family, please do not lose sight of this. Having a routine can help with wellbeing. Try to embrace the opportunities this may provide you with. Learn to cook, play a board game, keep fit together. See it as a gift to spend time with your amazing children.

### Parents

You are not expected to be the teacher, or to suddenly be an expert in 15 different subjects. We are also aware that many of you will still be working from home. Be supportive and encouraging of the effort your children are putting in, but you don't need to teach them.

### Students

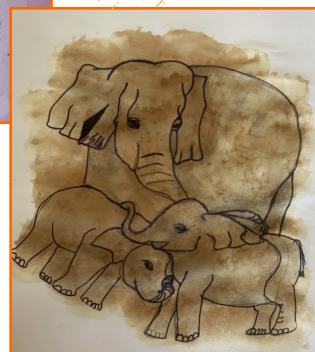
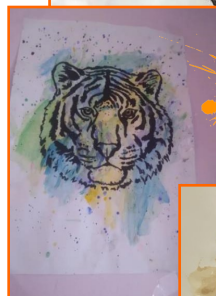
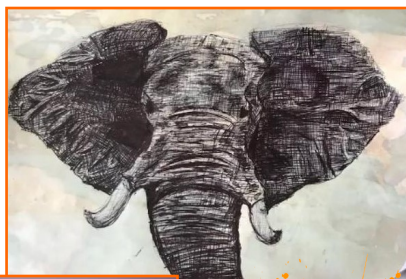
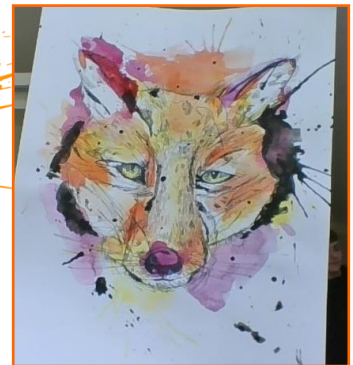
Staff are setting work because they care about your education, but more importantly they care about YOU. Please don't stress or worry if you cannot do the work. Drop your teachers an email; if they are fit and healthy they will try to get back to you with some help.

*Good health permitting, staff will use the Google Classrooms to set essential key knowledge and skills work for each class. We also aim to supplement this with a fortnightly parent overview for each year group. >> [read more](#)*

## ART CLASS

### By Mr Carr Teacher of Art

I'd just like to highlight some of the incredible work students have been doing for art, post school closure. It's tough without the discipline of a classroom setting but these students have shown some real initiative in getting on with their work. Mrs Lattimore and I have made a few videos to demonstrate the tasks on Google Slides - I've also created a YouTube channel and have uploaded some of these videos, [here](#).



Thank you to the following students for allowing me to show you their outstanding pieces of artwork.

Monisola Dehinbo, Thomas Tether, Chloe Clark, Kirsty Oakley, Franklin Stubbs, Aaron Smith, Madeleine Thurrell and Julia Howden.

# Supporting Home Learning

During the COVID-19 School Closures

## FAQ for parents

*How much work should my child be doing per day?*

*Why are you not insisting that students stick to their normal school timetable when working from home?*

We are aware that every student will be dealing with a set of unique circumstances. Students may have taken on substantial additional responsibilities within their households to allow their parents to work additional key-worker shifts or work remotely from home; they may be supporting the caring of younger siblings; they may be ill themselves or helping care for members of their families who are ill; they may be sharing access to a family computer with parents and siblings. Parents at home are in the best position to determine what is reasonable for their children. We have designed a home learning programme that is flexible - it directs students to the core work they should complete first and then provides direction as to further subject specific enrichment where it is appropriate. We are aware that some families are trying to keep to a 'normal school week', others are finding it easier to condense a week of work into fewer (but longer) days, whereas others are finding it easier to spread the work over 7 (shorter) days. You are in the best position to decide what is appropriate but your child's House Leader is able to offer support if you need it.

*How do I know what work my children should be doing?*

Students are being set work through the appropriate Google Classrooms. Parents and students can also see an overview of what work is being set each fortnight via the new special TGS remote learning website. This website will be updated fortnightly and also allows you to see what work has been set previously. [>>read more](#)

*I am not a subject expert - how can I teach my children effectively?*

This is not 'elective home schooling' where a parent takes on legal responsibility for

educating their children. We do not expect parents to be teaching their children but, instead, helping ensure that they dedicate appropriate time to their studies each week.

Circumstances have meant that our school buildings are closed but school is still aiming to educate our students. The situation is perhaps better described as 'remote schooling' where school provides work for students to undertake at home.

The tasks being set are a mix of consolidating topics studied previously and new topics. Teachers have carefully selected the topics and tasks that they think students can most easily learn without direct teacher instruction. If your child is stuck they can contact their teacher through the Google Classroom.

*Why are you not providing 'live video' lessons?*

Our students are accessing the learning resources at different times of the day/ week based upon their home circumstances. By making the learning resources 'flexible' it allows students to access the resources as and when they can. There are also significant safeguarding concerns with 'live lessons' and there have already been several well publicised examples of some popular 'video lessons/ meetings' systems being hijacked and inappropriate content shared. Some countries have already banned the use of 'live streamed lessons' for this reason.

*How will school keep an eye on the work my child is doing?*

Class teachers are, where possible, monitoring the work students are accessing through their Google Classrooms. Some are using 'Google Forms' to set quizzes that test student understanding of core skills and knowledge. Others are asking students to submit some work electronically for assessment.

Teachers are in the best place to pick what is possible and manageable in their subject area.

*What will happen if my child is not doing their work?*

We are mindful of the valid reasons that mean a student might not be doing all the work set. We do not want teachers

inundating families with phone calls and adding to the stress in what may already be a difficult situation. Equally we don't want students to miss out on their work without parents realising because the X-box was a more appealing use of their time!

We have asked teachers to log centrally where they have concerns and, where appropriate, a member of our care and guidance team will call home to see how things are going and to discuss any additional support we can give.

*My child has completed the work set - what should they do now?*

It is particularly important that students look after their wellbeing during these challenging times. That means making time for things that they enjoy - reading, physical exercise, talking with friends and family, playing games etc. As parents you will play a key role in supporting students to get that balance right.

Students are encouraged when school is operating normally to constantly review work they have studied previously in order to ensure that it is fresh. This constantly reviewing previous work should continue whilst studying at home. More information for parents and students on retrieval practice can be found [here](#).

Many subjects have provided opportunities for enrichment work in their Google classrooms and which is summarised in the fortnightly update for parents.

We have also launched a website with wider enrichment activities that students could access - whether learning a new skill such as origami through to entering art of writing competitions; whether from a virtual interactive tour of world class museums through to undertaking short courses designed for 11-18 year olds by some of the top Universities in the world.

[>>read more](#)

Support Learning  
at Home



# Managing Your Day

## At Home

### Keep a regular routine:

- Get up and complete your school work keeping to a normal timetable if possible
- Email teachers if you need help with your work – staff are still here to help
- Give yourself some breaks and treats
- Try and break up your screen time

**At this time when families are together more than usual, some stress and arguments are natural.**

### Remember these key messages:

- Listen to others – try and understand their point of view
- Try and explain how you are feeling – try and stay calm
- Take time out – go and listen to music, stand in the garden, give yourself space to calm down
- Talk it out! Other people in your family will be feeling stressed too!

## TGS Support

All students have been invited to join the Google classroom **'Wellbeing & Personal Development: Home Learning'** (class code sent via school email).

This is regularly updated by our Care & Guidance team with information, advice and support for students for example:

- Coping with Lockdown
- Dealing with stress and anxiety
- Signposting young people's services (e.g. Kooth, Compass Buzz etc)
- Wellbeing activities and fun challenges

## KEEP IN TOUCH

Please email a member of staff if you need anything during the school closure. Don't be afraid to ask for help, we are all still here for you if you need us!

"What is the bravest thing you've ever said?" asked the boy.



"Help." said the horse.

## Strength and Patience by Mrs Henson

My young people, be strong and patient -  
there is not much else you can do.

Don't forget...everyone is in the same boat as you.

You need to continue to steer your ship...  
dig deep and focus, don't let your spirits dip.  
All of your special family and friends  
need your strength until this ends.

I keep thinking back to our special time at school -  
always a smile and 'Hi School Mum!' from you all!  
I get so much strength from memories of all this.

Engagement with you all, I really do miss!

When I am with you in lessons, we have such an amazing time.

All I ever witness is young people in their prime.

Always helping whenever I need it -  
at rare times told off, but it is always heeded!

I am always happy at the end of the session  
and really look forward to our next lesson!

You know that I learn a lot from you often.

You are my role models too - don't ever let your principles soften.

You always let me know if someone is ill, upset or just carrying a frown...

The books are given out before I have even sat down!

Always such positive attitudes and thought for others -

Now you need to keep transferring that to your sisters and brothers!

My young people, be helpful when you possibly can.

I have faith in every young woman and every young man.

At this challenging time, strong you will stand.

In this virtual world, I am there to hold your hand.

# EXAM UPDATE

Following the cancellation of examinations and assessments across the UK, Ofqual has shared further information on how grades will be awarded for GCSE, AS, and A levels this summer, along with the reassurance that guidance for other general, vocational, and technical qualifications, such as BTECs, will be provided shortly. Although the process for awarding grades may be different, the admissions process to confirm students' places at universities and colleges will remain broadly similar to previous years. *We are working to ensure all applicants are treated fairly and consistently, as they are in any other year.*

The Government have asked all universities and colleges in England to stop making unconditional offers or amending existing offers to students for two weeks.

The Government wants to reassure students that they will get grades. It says "no student should feel pressured into making a quick decision which may end up not being in your best interest". It is important that students have all the information available when making decisions on their offers and understand how awarding of qualifications will work this summer.

To give students more time to make their decisions, the May decision deadline (the date by when you need to make your firm and insurance choice) has been extended by two weeks.

When students receive their results and universities and colleges make decisions, the Clearing service will still be available to all students, as it is for tens of thousands of applicants each year.

# You're Kidding!

Well done to Year 13 student George Hurren who has a flock of goats on his family farm and so far has helped 59 kids into the world during March and April.



## volunteer for the NHS

Well done and 'Thank You' to Year 13 student Charlie Oldfield who has been volunteering at his local hospital and his mum's GP surgery to keep himself busy. Charlie is really enjoying helping others, along with it giving him 'something to do'. "As lovely as it is to do nothing, September is a long way away and I need a daily routine" said Charlie.

Thank you to all of you who are helping your neighbours and who are volunteering in your local communities.

# UCAS New Dates Confirmed

Original	UCAS Undergraduate Deadline	New
5 May 2020	The deadline for applicants to reply if they received decisions from all their choices by 31 March 2020	<b>19 May 2020</b>
6 May 2020	The deadline for universities and colleges to make decisions and reply to applications received by 15 January 2020.	<b>20 May 2020</b>

# Verb Bugs!

Mrs Alderman's Year 8 French groups have been keeping busy. Here are some examples of their remote learning- Verb Bugs.

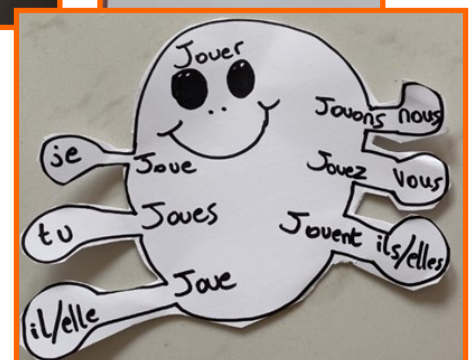
# Open Learning

*Get inspired and learn something new.*

OpenLearn is a free learning platform, delivered by The Open University as part of its Royal Charter commitment to support the wellbeing of the community.

OpenLearn deliver bite-sized learning experiences designed to fit easily into daily life, suitable for older students along with parents' looking for a new challenge or a promotion at work.

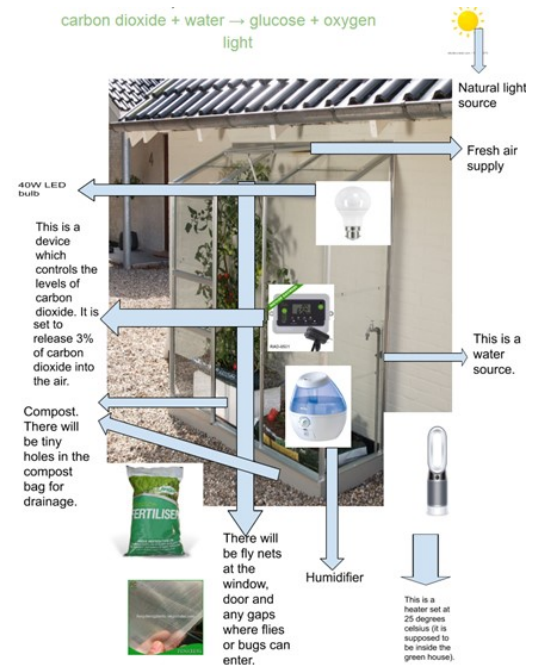
The courses have been proven to increase confidence and develop the skills needed to enter Higher Education and succeed with learning. [>>read more](#)





## Greenhouse Design

Mrs Harrison set her Year 10 Biology students a revision exercise as part of their home learning, on photosynthesis. The students had to compete against each other to design a greenhouse. The work completed was outstanding here is just one example.



While regular travel may not be available for the foreseeable future, virtual escapism is open to everyone with an internet connection. Some of the world's leading galleries, museums and landscapes are all just a few clicks away.

Take a virtual tour of a museum. Experience the best museums from London to Seoul in the comfort of your own home. [>>read more](#)

Explore National Parks around the world. Follow rangers on a journey to places most people never go. [>>read more](#)

Ride on a virtual rollercoaster! These virtual roller coaster rides put you in the front-seat point of view every time. [>>read more](#)

For all budding astronauts NASA has launched a new activity hub called NASA at Home, that's full of videos, podcasts, do-it-yourself projects and even virtual tours. [>>read more](#)

## TGS Lockdown Challenge

### We want to hear your Stay-At-Home-Stories:

Over the next 3 weeks, write or make something that you can share with Tadcaster Grammar School staff and students.

A poem? A song? A diary of 'one day in isolation'? A photo story? A news article about your family? An Easter themed piece of artwork?

Email your entries (photos would be great!) to your House Leader.

The best work will be published on the school website and twitter and prizes will be awarded when we all get back to school!

Good Luck Everyone.

## EVEREST In a Month



**The challenge is simple: climb 1000 steps a day for 30 days, and you'll have climbed the height of Mount Everest in a month!**

*Some of you may have seen #EverestInAMonth trending on twitter... so in lockdown I am attempting that! The stairs in my house have a height of 2.8m so I need to climb 3160 flights of stairs to reach the top of Everest! I am trying to do 100 flights a day, I've already gone past Scafell Pike, Snowdon and Ben Nevis and hope to get to the top of Mont Blanc this week. Would love to see any of your attempts! Take care, Miss Holmes*

## Recipe of the Day

### Mrs Hubbard's Ginger Biscuits

- 10oz Plain Flour
- 8oz Sugar
- 1tsp Bicarbonate of Soda
- 3tsp Ground Ginger
- 1.5tsp Baking Powder
- 6oz Butter
- 1tbs Golden Syrup
- 2tbs Milk

1. Place all dry ingredients into a bowl.
2. Melt butter and syrup over a gentle heat, making sure not to boil. Pour this into the dry mixture, add the milk and mix thoroughly.
3. Shape into small balls and place on a greased baking sheet. Space well apart.
4. Bake at 160C for approx. 15 minutes until golden brown. Allow to cool before removing.



Enjoy!

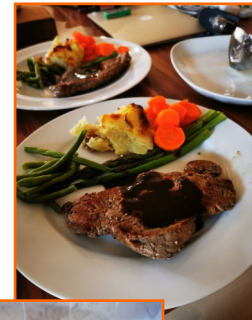
# Culinary Delights



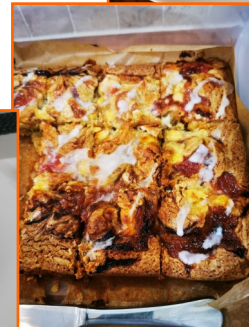
Remote learning is not just about Google classrooms. Miss Naylor has challenged her students to continue being creative in the kitchen and has been inundated with an array of photographs of fantastic culinary delights created by TGS students. Not only are these students perfecting and improving their skills, they are also helping out parents who are juggling working from home and home schooling. Well done everyone, and watch out Mr Parkinson!



*Hello Miss, Yesterday I decided to try out the recipe for American Mac and Cheese. It was quite challenging to make I managed to do it and my whole family enjoyed it. I will definitely make it again! Molly.*



*Hi Miss, I have made BBQ fajitas for my family tonight with peppers, mushrooms and onion. I also made a salad with lettuce, spring onions and cucumbers. We had it with sour cream and salsa. It was really fun to make and tasted delicious. Layla*



## The Weatherill Family CHALLENGE

### Mrs Weatherill Family challenge

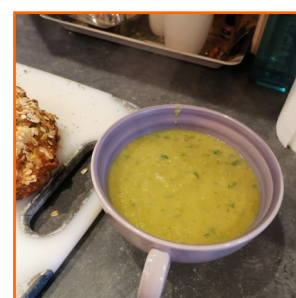
So to keep us busy at this time, I have set my family the challenge of trying at least one new recipe each week. However, this week I have tried a few.

On Sunday, I decided to try the desert that is the downfall of many Masterchef contestants, the chocolate fondant. The recipe was easy to follow from the Guardian website and then I baked it. I am a chemist and at heart a baker so I thought it would be easy. I had to completely disregard all my baking instincts as when I took them out of the oven they were still very squidy! However, they were delicious even if slightly overcooked.



Yesterday was my turn to cook dinner, we had some courgettes to use up in the fridge and I found a recipe for courgette and cheddar soda bread, but what to go with it? Pea and mint soup. Soda bread is much easier to make than ordinary bread as you do not need yeast or too much kneading so it is nice and quick to make. I then added some olives to one of the loaves. The family agreed that the recipes were both lovely.

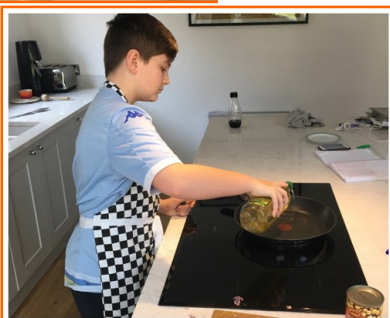
Soda Bread recipe [click here.](#)



Pea and Mint Soup [click here.](#)



*Hi Miss, I made cauliflower cheese with bacon. Daisy*



*Hello Miss, I made a curry for my family. Fred*

# Keep Smiling Through!

Mr Ingram set his Year 7 students a task whilst learning from home. This was to create a product or service which would help the elderly over this difficult time.

He has since received an amazing piece of work submitted by a group of students who have worked remotely together. The students are: Izzy Shooobridge, Emily Spensley and Ava Woodrow.

The students created a charity project which aimed to get as many students to write letters or draw pictures that would be sent out to nursing homes. Izzy's mum liked the idea so much she rolled it out to the primary school she works at, who have successfully made 50 letters and works of art which have been sent out to local nursing home residents.

The students named the charity 'Keep Smiling Through!'

The Students message - *"Living in care homes across the country are many of our elderly neighbours who are missing out on their usual visitors because of the coronavirus. However, we have heard that they would love to receive bright and cheerful messages from caring children just like you".*

*"We would love as many of you as possible to write a letter and/or draw a picture to put smiles on faces and spread as much joy as you can. During this difficult time, we have all found there are many things that we are not able to do. However, one thing we can do is show we care and just how wonderful the pupils of the UK are. Please begin any letter with, Hello my name is.... Then write some kind words and a positive message. You could even talk about how you are keeping yourselves busy at home. We would love as many letters*

**Keep smiling through!**



**Keep smiling through!**

We felt that Keep Smiling Through was such a good idea, that Izzy's mum decided to use the project with her school, Copmanthorpe Primary. We can happily say that 50 letters and colourful bits of art were sent out to a local nursing home last week, and we are hoping for some replies! Here are some of the letters and art we sent. Hopefully we have succeeded in keeping the elderly smiling through this difficult time!



this it may give others the idea to perhaps sit down and write a letter to a friend or relative and make them SMILE today. 😊

*and pictures as we can get"!*

The students then put together costing's for the project. Izzy's mum thought the idea was so amazing she decided to use it herself.

This is a fantastic piece of work by the three girls and hopefully by reading

# Team PE

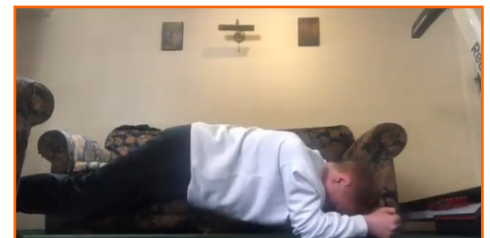
Hopefully our students, staff and parent/carers can enjoy working at their own pace and doing something active during this lockdown period. Create your own home workout. It's a long shot but it may even develop literacy skills, "Flexed biceps Grinning face with smiling eyes" \*Remember only exercise if feeling well\*

Who's going to give this a go?

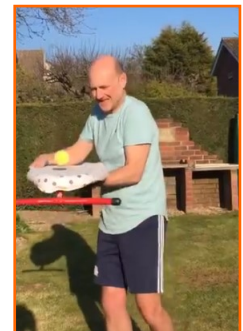
## SPELL YOUR NAME & GET MOVING!

- |  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| <b>A</b> – 50 jumping jacks                | <b>N</b> – 1 min plank up on hands |
| <b>B</b> – 10, 30 second planks            | <b>O</b> – 25 high knees           |
| <b>C</b> – 3 min jump rope                 | <b>P</b> – 12 tricep push-up       |
| <b>D</b> – 30 hip lifts in bridge position | <b>Q</b> – 50 alternating punches  |
| <b>E</b> – 50 alternating side bends       | <b>R</b> – 25 squat with kick      |
| <b>F</b> – 1 min side planks               | <b>S</b> – 50 jumps side to side   |
| <b>G</b> – 1 min plank with hip twists     | <b>T</b> – 50 arm circles          |
| <b>H</b> – 25 squats                       | <b>U</b> – 10 burpees              |
| <b>I</b> – 30 alternating leg lunges       | <b>V</b> – 1 min plank on elbows   |
| <b>J</b> – 20 tricep dips                  | <b>W</b> – 25 jumping jacks        |
| <b>K</b> – 20 pushups                      | <b>X</b> – 25 uppercuts            |
| <b>L</b> – 50 squats in open position      | <b>Y</b> – 30 second wall sit      |
| <b>M</b> – 50 calf raises                  | <b>Z</b> – 50 sit-ups              |

Keep sharing your pictures/videos of you being active. It is important for us all to maintain our competitive nature whilst at home. Check out at [https://twitter.com/pe\\_TGS](https://twitter.com/pe_TGS) for the latest challenge.



Well done to Lenny for his 3 Minute plank!



An alternative to the chopping board challenge, Mr Solk uses an ironing board! Give it a go!

Don't forget to keep sharing your 'healthy selfies' [#pe\\_TGS](https://twitter.com/pe_TGS) [#tgshealthyselfie](https://twitter.com/pe_TGS)

# Chalking Rainbows at TGS



# Keep Moving and Stay Healthy

By Mrs Clark

Mrs Heneachon and I are still maintaining our 'happy walk' fitness programme which we do during VT over at Field View, but Mrs Heneachon has now introduced another twist to the exercise, daily P.E with Joe Wicks!

With school now closed and everyone spending more time at home, it's more important than ever that we keep moving and stay healthy and positive.

We feel this is so important for everyone's daily well being, so we have also started an online 'Exercise and



Mental Health' course just to add to our experience and knowledge to support our students at Tadcaster Grammar School.



This did start off as a bit of fun, but we are so passionate about the well being of our students. We feel the need to encourage these lessons, and build them into our day at school and home, especially in the world we now live in !!!

Stay safe, healthy and happy everyone . Mrs C and Mrs H .. part of the Field View crew xx

Join me every day for a home workout



By Mr Holmes - Teacher of PE

**As we are now fully immersed in the home schooling way of life, there are some key thoughts for you as families to be aware of:**

1. Inactivity - clearly we have lost 3 PE lessons per week not to mention the after school practices and their own club training sessions. Actual fixtures can see (position depending) 14/15 year old football and rugby players burn between 2500-4000 calories on match day. Therefore it's important to realise that, as brilliant as Joe Wicks has been, 30 minutes per day will not replace the energy burn our busy sports students experience each week.
2. Students are still growing internally. Skeletal growth and development is key in teenagers and calcium is one vital part of a nutrition plan. Milk is the most obvious choice but you can also gain this from yoghurt, almonds, tofu, broccoli, wholemeal bread and fortified cereals such as weetabix.
3. The fridge is a major distraction. This is certainly the case when (a) teenagers are in the house and (b) teenagers are trying to escape online lessons whilst in the house!
4. It's a biased view but PE is one of the most important parts of a school curriculum. Parents are now realising that children (certainly boys) are like dogs and need exercising daily. Although I mentioned calories earlier, burning them shouldn't be the primary aim, regular chance to be outside is the focus, and is good for the mind and body! Online fitness sessions are ok but they soon run their course. One noticeable change in this generation is the expectation for instant feedback (due to phones etc). Set up challenges which test them and offer variety ,they don't need to run a marathon but just need time distracted by skill tests that they become engrossed in. In the days of isolation they can still compete with friends if they film their attempt and communicate digitally.

Examples: **Keep ups against a wall** - how many consecutively without ball touching the wall, then use alternate feet, right foot only, left foot only. **Rugby balls kicked into a wheelie bin. Netball shots consecutively scored from 2m then 3m then 4m away. Netball passes against a wall with alternate hands** - no stopping just count how many before ball hits the ground. **Keep ups with a hockey stick and ball** - right hand then left hand then both hands. **Cricket shots against a wall with only one bounce in between.** Let the students have fun designing a **fitness obstacle course** from objects they have in sheds or a garage. Also try **imaginative skill challenges** - the **teabag challenge** is a fun one, or if they see Dude Perfect online - lots of ideas to copy. You can also set **progressive challenges** each week. 10 press ups on Monday morning, 15 on Tuesday, 20 on Weds etc. How many days into the week do they get before they can't hit the target? Modify this 5,7,9,11.... if need be - it should be challenging, not impossible.

**Hopefully these help try retain some sanity in the household. It's going to be a while yet so the more imagination the kids can use the better.**

I have also written an article on **The nutritional cost of Home Schooling – help for families about to educate & eat together!** [>> read more](#)

**Stay safe everyone. Mr Holmes.**





Competition  
Time!

# Easter House Competition



To tackle the Coronavirus blues, we want to hear you belt out the song **"All You Need is Love"** by The Beatles! The aim is to mix all your tracks together to create a whole-school recording which will help us to 'spread the love' during this challenging time.

The resources you will need can be found in an email sent to all students from Miss Bignell. There are prizes upon our return to school for the House/s with:

- ◆ The most people singing in total
- ◆ The most entries submitted

There will also be individual prizes for the best photos of those completing the challenge.

### The Rules:

- \* Recordings should be audio only (no videos!)
- \* You need to sing along to the backing track.
- \* The backing track should be played through head/earphones so it can't be heard on the recording, or be played very quietly in the background.
- \* Multiple people can sing on one recording - get your families involved!

Dawson, Wharfe and Toulston - please learn part 1

Calcaria, Oglethorpe and Fairfax - please learn part 2

**Submission details:** Please email your entries (recording and ideally a photo) to Miss Bignell. In the email please tell us the number of people singing on the recording plus your name, your tutor group and your House. One submission per student only!

**Deadline for entries: Monday 20th April**

May the best House win!

Miss Bignell and Miss Buckley



Please don't forget to join the house Google classrooms. You should all have received an email or an invitation. Thank you House Leaders

A reminder to Wharfe students, don't forget to send pictures of any home baking via the Wharfe classroom for our virtual bake off!  
Thank you Miss Buckley

Learn how to study, for students and parents. Take charge of your own learning! [>>read more](#)

Well done to year 8 student Erin who has been busy drawing rainbow heart cards which she has been selling via her community Facebook group to raise money for the NHS. So far she's raised £150!

**STAY HOME**



**PROTECT  
THE NHS**



**SAVE LIVES**

DON'T  
FORGET

