

20 April 2020

Dear Families



Summer term

I hope you all had a restful Easter break and welcome to our very first remote summer term!

I hope you and your children managed to take a break from home-schooling over the last fortnight and are now ready for the new term. The 'challenges' set by our design technology faculty have been very well-received and last week I sent out a host of certificates to winners of the marble-run challenge which had the effect of involving the family, as well as the child! Well done to all those children and families who entered either the marble-run challenge or the Easter baking competition.

A quick overview of ClassCharts indicates a whole range of creative and worthwhile exercises being set for our youngsters to relieve their boredom and facilitate at least a modicum of educational progress. We have all had to adapt to new ways of working and I wanted to take the opportunity to say what an amazing job you are doing of supporting your child's wellbeing and learning during this time.

It is definitely a strange and challenging time, so it is understandable if you and your child feel anxious and frustrated at the moment. We are here for you every step of the way as we figure this out together. Remember, if you have any concerns about helping your child learn or you need any other support from the school, please let us know by contacting the relevant class teacher/Head of Subject or Head of House for pastoral related matters. The contact email addresses can be viewed [here](#) or accessed through the EduLinkOne app.

We miss having the students in school, but we must continue to follow the government's guidance to keep everyone in our community safe. We are carrying on with setting work via ClassCharts to ensure that your children don't become too bored. Older students may well be engaging in online lessons using *Google Meet* with their teachers. We have been advised to steer clear of using *Zoom* for privacy and safeguarding reasons. The Government and the [BBC](#) have also issued new educational resources this week, which you may wish to explore. The last thing I want to do, however, is to overburden youngsters and families so please focus on the work being set by subject staff and just do your best.

Our teachers will be setting plenty of tasks for students to get stuck into over the next few weeks. Do remind your child to take breaks away from screens and make time for having fun, exercising and connecting with friends and family remotely.

I suspect the news last Thursday that we are in for this further three-week lockdown came as no surprise. Whilst I do continue to receive daily briefings directly from the Local Authority and the Department for Education, I am privy to little more information than you. Rest assured that we will continue to do our utmost to keep students learning and the school connected.

Yours faithfully

Mr G M Watson
Headteacher

Ashchurch Road, Tewkesbury
Gloucestershire GL20 8DF

Reception: **01684 292152**

Fax: **01684 850742**

Attendance Line: **01684 851806**

Email: **office@tewkesburyschool.org**

Website: **www.tewkesburyschool.org**

Headteacher: **Mr G M Watson** BSc PGDip NPQH

Deputy Headteacher: **Mr A Steele** M Eng (Oxon) PGCE NPQH

