Home Learning Parent Newsletter No. 11 – Week Beginning 29/06/2020 The Hazeley Academy





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The Million Dollar Question

The question I've been asked repeatedly this week is 'What's happening in September?'. In short, we don't know. However, we are ready to respond to the advice from the government. In true Hazeley fashion, we have plan A, B, ad C ready to go. We are working on guiding principles of safety first; prioritising the wellbeing of our students and families, ensuring that we have compassion for everyone's individual journey throughout this crisis. Hopefully we will be able to open as normal, however, if not, we will continue to support you no matter what. We will come back stronger, with your support.



Supporting Young People with Uncertainty

Like us all, young people are trying to make sense of everything that has happened. However, they may not have the skills that adults have to deal with uncertainty. This may show itself in behaviour that is not typical for them. Here are ideas to support your child with feeling a lack of control and confusion.

Acknowledge children's emotions, especially fear. It is real to them and telling them "don't worry" may seem like it's helping, but it doesn't give them the opportunity to process their emotions. Dismissing or minimising emotions can be detrimental to wellbeing.

Share your emotions with your children. If you're feeling anxious, take time to reflect and then let your child know what you're feeling. This helps to model healthy expressions of emotions, and ways to respond. Strong emotions don't have to be hidden!

Recognise that children feel even more uncertainty than we do. Sit down and talk with them. Answer their questions. If you don't know the answer yourself, be honest. It is perfectly okay not to know.

Remember that you have at least a few prior crisis experiences under your belt. You've lived through adversity and how eventually things improve. Young people may not have had those experiences and they may assume it only gets worse. Remind them that you've handled hard things before and that we'll all get through this.

You may feel like you have no control over the situation, however, young people have even less control. Take the opportunity to communicate about the normal details of life ("When I finish work, we're going to do X") and provide small opportunities for control eg. choosing what to watch on a Friday evening. It helps them feel in control and like they have some way to contribute during a difficult time.



Please don't hesitate to contact your child's tutor should you need further advice.

Focus on... Psychology

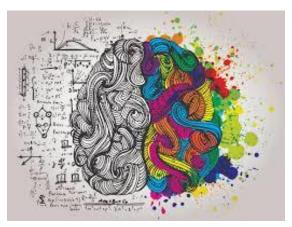
By Miss Bennison, Teacher of Psychology

Something to watch:

If you have a membership, some notable Netflix mentions are The Mind: Explained and Three Identical Strangers. The Mind: Explained explores what is happening in our heads, from anxiety disorders to memory. Three Identical Strangers is a documentary exploring, you guessed it, three people who meet and are identical, but they don't know each other. Please be advised that these are both rated as "12" and may not be suitable for some of our younger students!

Something to read:

Our year 9 and 10 psychologists are currently learning about why we sleep and dream and exploring dream analysis is something that the students always love to do. This <u>website</u> allows you to analyse your dreams for free, and gives you an insight into what your dream may mean. Why not keep a family dream diary for a week and analyse your dreams together?



Something to do:

A really fun activity to do is to do a personality quiz like the one on this <u>website</u> and finding out what type of personality you have. Do you agree with how the personality quiz has labelled you? Compare your findings with your family members and discuss whether they agree with the website.

Creative Nature Programme



<u>Born Free</u>, an International Animal Welfare Charity, supports young people to engage with wildlife conservation and welfare. They have a range of activities and ides to help explore challenging issues such as wild animals kept as pets.

By using art, drama and other forms of creative expression students can engage with a science-based discipline in a way that suits different learning styles. Take a look at the website!

We Are Milton Keynes, Too

"We Are Milton Keynes, Too is an exciting opportunity from Milton Keynes Museum for residents to think about what the town represents to us. After all MK is the largest designed new town in the whole of Europe, and it has been shaped by the many communities that have moved here.



Milton Keynes Museum

Perhaps you can sum up the place you call home with a particular artefact, a piece of artwork, a poem, a piece of drama, or in a song. Anyone can submit to the project; individuals, families, streets or schools, religious groups and community groups.

Submissions are welcome through the email address immediately. For more information or to contribute, email: <u>wearemiltonkeynestoo@mkmuseum.org.uk</u>

Summer of Animation

The Summer of Animation is a free programme to help 13-18 year olds across the UK make a 3D animated film this summer and enter our competition to find the best young animator.

The Summer Of Animation teaches young people to create 3D animations through:

- A series of video masterclasses showing how to make your own short animated film using free software.
- Receiving feedback on your short animated film.
- An free online animation camp to make a short film as part of virtual team.

• A UK-wide competition for the best film made, judged by industry professionals with prizes given by animation & VFX studios. Find out more here!

Modern Foreign Languages Competition – Grand Designs!



The MFL department is pleased to announce a competition for all students called Grand Designs! This competition draws inspiration from the programme Grand Designs where the presenter travels the country discovering the most ambitious, original and eco-friendly self-building projects. Students are encouraged to design and construct an ideal city, using materials found in the home. To focus on our Modern Foreign Languages, students are asked to label the city in French or Spanish.

Using all the resources that students have at home, they are asked to create a 3D model city and label everything in French/Spanish. Students may want to build their city from recycling materials, old clothes, food, items found in nature... let the imagination fly! The 3D model can be as big as students wish but must have clear labels in French or Spanish. Don't forget to name your town!

Each year group will have 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, and these students will receive a prize on our school return. All entries will receive 5 Distance Learning Points! Email photos to Miss Bevilacqua at <u>abevilacqua@thehazeleyacademy.com</u> by 17th July.

... And Finally

We are spending time reviewing all we do to make sure that your child will catch up when we return to school. It's worth noting that from Reception to Year 13 there are 2660 school days. We have missed approximately 60 days, that 2% of their overall schooling. We will use all of our skill and knowledge to support them to catch up. Don't worry!

click here to join our **facebook** group

Take care and stay safe, Gemma Williamson

