

# Home Learning Newsletter #16

Week Beginning 25<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

By Mrs Gemma Williamson  
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**“Growing a vibrant community of exceptional people  
by developing character, confidence, and creativity  
by growing through taking part, volunteering, and getting to know ourselves and each other”**

## It's All About Context...

This week has been a challenge finding balance in the level of work set for home learning.

I've had emails from parents suggesting their child needs more challenge, others have emailed suggesting the level of work is a little overwhelming.

In discussion with individual families, I came to the conclusion that it's all about context. Some families are balancing home learning with tricky circumstances such as caring for vulnerable family members; working from home whilst caring for young children and, sadly, some families are dealing with Covid-19.

We can all only do our best at this time, and that is the same for our young people- their best is enough. We will always endeavour to understand each child's specific context. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's tutor if you need any support with home learning.

Stay safe,

Gemma Williamson



## Overdue Assignment Overload!

### INSIDE A ONENOTE CLASS NOTEBOOK

- Collaboration Space** Teachers and students can create content in this space, and all students have access.
- Content Library** Only teachers can upload and create content in this space, and all students have access.
- Student Notebooks** Each student has an individual notebook. Teacher has access to all student notebooks, but students only have access to their own.

You may have noticed overdue assignments on the email digest you receive from Microsoft Teams.

Teachers have been setting in-class work as assignments for students during lessons to track completion. Whilst this is really useful for teachers, it shows that assignments are incomplete when it is classwork to be continued the next lesson. As we roll out the Class Notebook function in Teams this issue will be resolved. The Class Notebook function acts as an online exercise book for each subject. More updates to follow!

**Hegarty Maths** can be used to support your learning and understanding. You do not need your teacher to set you a task to access the videos and quizzes. If you have any questions, please email your teacher.



### Hegarty Maths Heroes (13 Jan-20 Jan 2021)

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Mark	Julia	Erin	Millie	Rishi
Ella	Hasini	Ben	Ellie	Fern
Felicity	Calvin		Fatma	Jude

## “Think Piece”



During tutor time, Year 7, 8 and 9 students will be discussing a weekly 'think piece'.

Next week will be a discussion on the history of Milton Keynes and the Concrete Cows.

Please support your son/daughter by discussing your understanding of Milton Keynes, your experiences of how the city has changed over time or why not even have a walk over to see the famous Cows?

There is an optional task for the students to complete this week, any questions please do not hesitate to email: [llazenby@thehazeleyacademy.com](mailto:llazenby@thehazeleyacademy.com)

## The BBC Young Writers' Award with Cambridge University

We have an excellent pedigree of students engaging in creative writing at Hazeley. Only last week a group of Year 9 students were selected to be published in an anthology of mini-sagas. Creative writing builds confidence, imagination and creative expression.

The BBC has teamed up with Cambridge University to launch their annual Young Writers competition. It is open to all young people in the UK aged between 14-18 years to submit stories of up to 1,000 words. Full information can [be found here!](#)



## Acceler8

In June 2020, the 5 Dimensions Trust successfully set up the **Accelerate Tuition company**.

The team went on to recruit and train 20 tutors to meet individual needs outside of the remote learning provision. To date the team has delivered over 500+ addition hours of learning to the children of both The Hazeley Academy and Shenley Brook End school.

If you are interested in tuition delivered by a quality team that is in tune with the government's changes to exam specifications. Please get in touch via [acceler8tutorsadmin@5dimensionstrust.com](mailto:acceler8tutorsadmin@5dimensionstrust.com).

**Parental testament: “The 1 to 1 session's with the Acceler8 tutors have allowed Jessenia to become more confident in asking questions, enabling her to understand the topics covered much better. She has also become more confident in relaying her understanding - this in return has improved her quality of work. Thank you Acceler8 tutors!”**



## MK SEND Information Festival 2021

Thursday 4th February - Saturday 6th February

**Theme: Support for SEND in the Virtual World**

MK SENDIAS Service and PACA MK (Parent Carer Forum) are jointly hosting this event for parents and carers of children and young people with a special educational need or disability, aged 0 - 25yrs. Please note this event is open to families who live in Milton Keynes. Professionals are welcome to join.

This free event will be held online this year. The event will be opened by the Mayor Councillor Andrew Geary on Thursday 4th February at 10am. The keynote speaker is Natasha Baker MBE, a British para-equestrian who won two gold medals at the London 2012 Summer Paralympics and three at the Rio 2016 Summer Paralympics. Opening and keynote speech will be live broadcasted (recording will be available for later viewing). All workshops will be delivered using Zoom or MS Teams.

Please book your tickets via Eventbrite:

[Milton Keynes SEND Information Festival 2021 Registration, Thu 4 Feb 2021 at 09:15 | Eventbrite](#)

For more information please visit <https://www.mksendinfoday.co.uk/>

## How to Support Anxious Online Learners—Free webinar



Led by: Tom Vodden, parent and educator  
Date: Tuesday 26th January at 4pm GMT  
Aimed at: Parents and professionals from any country  
How to book: [Register here](#) to attend or to receive a recording  
The session will last about 60 minutes

**Other topics:** Browse all upcoming free webinars [here](#)

## Milton Keynes Library

Did you know the public library offers a click and collect service?



Click here for more information -

<https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/libraries/library-community/click-collect>



The committee members in all years groups have been working hard behind the scenes completing an environmental review of Hazeley and coming up with project ideas for our eventual return to school.

I would especially like to praise our deputy chair who has been absolutely amazing in communicating with, and organising, the other members without any prompting from me.

Currently they are thinking of small home projects or initiatives they could safely get involved with now - if anyone has any ideas or suggestions at all please do let me know.

Miss Snelson

[asnelson@thehazeleyacademy.com](mailto:asnelson@thehazeleyacademy.com)

## Children's Mental Health Awareness Week

1st - 7th February 2021 is Children's Mental Health Awareness Week. As such, the University of Leicester has partnered up with Medicine Calling to offer schools and colleges a range of free events and activities to support students to find out more about mental health and the range of exciting careers within it.

### Thursday 4th February (5pm - 7:15pm)

#### Y10 and Y11 Virtual Medicine Calling Careers Evening

Do you have any students who are interested in finding out more about the exciting and rewarding careers in mental health? At this virtual event, students will find out more about different careers in medicine, nursing and psychology, by hearing from a range of professionals and taking part in workshops exploring the impact of Covid-19 on people's mental wellbeing.

#### Medicine Calling Talks in Schools and Colleges for Students in Y7 -Y13

The Medicine Calling team would also love to come and speak to your students about the range of careers in mental health. They can arrange to deliver this talk virtually or face to face later in the term at a time that suits you. In this talk, students will understand the difference between psychology and psychiatry, hear from professionals working in mental health services, as well as find out what they need to enter these careers.

## Gresham College Lectures

Gresham College's free public lectures (running since 1597) will be continuing online in January 2021 until Easter. The lectures are delivered by world-class experts in fields ranging across the arts and sciences, and they include lecturers like Professors Chris Whitty who is speaking about Vaccination ([gresham.ac.uk](http://gresham.ac.uk)) on 10 Feb, Edith Hall (Classics), Leslie Thomas QC (Law) and Joanna Bourke (Cultural History).

A great resource for developing subject knowledge and skills, careers advice, EPQ projects and UCAS statements. Click here for more info: [Schools and Colleges \(gresham.ac.uk\)](http://gresham.ac.uk)

## Inside Milton Keynes Council

It's incredible to see how local communities have been pulling together to support each other- who says MK is soulless?! Milton Keynes Council has created an update video to show how they are tackling the challenges of Covid-19. [Watch the video here.](#)



## And Finally...

Communication is key.

We are all working together for the common goal of supporting our young people through lockdown.

You are not alone in this strange situation so please keep your feedback, comments and questions coming!

### Gemma Williamson

Deputy Principal for Teaching and Learning

[gwilliamson@thehazeleyacademy.com](mailto:gwilliamson@thehazeleyacademy.com)



### Hazeley Wellbeing Weekly

This section of the newsletter has been created to provide you with information, hints, tips and challenges to support your wellbeing during what can be an unsettling time for many during lockdown.

#### Staying connected

Evidence shows that connecting with others and forming good relationships – with family, friends and the wider community – are all important for health and mental wellbeing. Building stronger, broader social connections in your life can increase your feelings of happiness and self-worth. Where possible, we all like to take time each day to be with family such as arranging a fixed time to eat dinner together, volunteering to help others or using video-chats to stay in touch with friends.

Emily in year 7 has been making face masks as part of her volunteering for her Cobra House charity and has raised £55 so far for the RSPCA – a really good way to stay connected, develop her confidence and creativity and help others!



Another excellent way to stay connected is to get involved in extra-curricular clubs after school and we are really pleased to be able to offer our new programme from week commencing 25 January. Please find the enrichment timetable here - [The Hazeley Academy - Extra Curricular](#) . All of the clubs run between 3.30 – 4pm and students can access enrichment sessions via the HAZ - C Extra Curricular TEAMS folder which has all the different clubs listed in the channels inside the folder. We are delighted to welcome David Millett, the coach with MK Athletics Club, who will be doing his club on a Tuesday with years 7 and 8 with an ‘all purpose warm up’.

If you need further details, please do not hesitate to contact the member of staff running the club – all relevant email addresses are listed.

#### Life Skills PSHE update Spring term

As part of Hazeley’s Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) Education programme students will take part in Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) lessons. These lessons have been carefully planned to be relevant and appropriate to each year group.

Nowadays, there is a vast amount of information about relationships on the internet, on TV, in magazines, to which children and young people are exposed. If children are provided with timely and age-appropriate information about their bodies and relationships, they can make their transition into adolescence and adulthood with the confidence and knowledge to understand what is happening to them. They will also have the best chances of growing into confident and healthy adults able to make positive choices.

In February 2019, the Department for Education released new draft guidance for RSHE. This new guidance came into effect from September 2020 and all the information is on the school website - [The Hazeley Academy - LIFE SKILLS PSHE](#) but a brief overview is below for this term:

#### 22 January

7	8	9	10	11	6th
Cyberbullying	Careers	Cyberbullying	Positive relationships	Sharing sexual images – keeping safe	Living in the wider world – workplace values

## 10 February

7	8	9	10	11	6th
Diversity and self esteem	Discrimination and Equality Act 2010	Respectful relationships and sexting	Consent – myths and misconceptions	Communication in relationships	Life skills – healthy relationships

## 12 March

7	8	9	10	11	6th
Healthy life choices	Safety online	Keeping healthy and alcohol	Managing risks and staying safe	Independence and your health	Consent

At the Hazeley Academy, we welcome engagement with parents on this key area of learning for life for our students.

Please do not hesitate to contact Lesley Mckenzie via [lmckenzie@thehazeleyacademy.com](mailto:lmckenzie@thehazeleyacademy.com) if you have any ques-

## Rock Project

Chris Allum from the Rock Project is also offering his online zoom sessions on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 3:30-4pm with tuition in the following instruments: bass, guitar, drums, vocals and keyboards.

The sessions would be for beginners/intermediate on Wednesdays. The Tuesday sessions would be for advanced players, students who have been playing for a few years and/or are grade 4 and above. Each session would look at how to play popular rock/pop songs with a new song covered every two weeks. The sessions are at a cost of £10 per student. Please contact Chris at [mk@therockproject.com](mailto:mk@therockproject.com) for more details.

The Hazeley Academy is not responsible for the running of these sessions, all bookings / payments and queries should be addressed to [mk@therockproject.com](mailto:mk@therockproject.com).

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