

Pix Brook Academy

Press



Issue 9: May 2020

STOTFOLD
says
THANKYOU!
To all key workers and frontline staff.
For keeping us safe!

Message from Mr Adams

First and foremost, I hope everyone is well and coping under these most unusual of circumstances. We have not had the vast majority of pupils in school for six weeks, that is the length of an entire summer holiday! Of course, in stark contrast to that holiday period, we have spent the last six weeks trying to work at home and self-isolate, neither of which is an easy task. I am all too aware that the challenge for parents; trying to keep the household running, working from home and trying to do some school work with children, can feel overwhelming. These pressures apply to PBA staff also and as a consequence we are aware of the need to be as supportive as possible. Many of you have accessed Google classroom while some are making use of the Home Learning Hub on the Website. The key message from the school is to work in the way that is appropriate for you and your family and in a way that does not add pressure at home.

In this newsletter, we have tried to capture some of the activities undertaken by staff and pupils during this period of lockdown. Normally, the newsletter is full of images and information about all the wonderful learning experiences and events that happen at school. Obviously, we cannot do this but that does not mean lots of things aren't happening. I will write again on updates regarding the school, for now this is our celebration of the ingenuity of the PBA community.

I know everyone is trying to make the most of this situation and while there is no doubt that "lockdown fatigue" is inevitable, I try to remind myself to be positive at all times. Hopefully some of the images and comments below will help create some positivity and remind us that at some point, hopefully soon, we will get back to school and the days will once again be too busy!

For now, I have tried to use this time wisely. My workshop is as neat as it has ever been and I am trying to get to grips with the multitude of projects I have never quite got around to. Below is the "rocket launcher" inspired by Mr King-Mand's DT club project. I can't wait to get back into school and try it out with the PBA pupils!



Please take care of each other and I look forward to seeing everyone at school very soon!



Ambitious

Aspirational

Responsible

Here's some of the things you've been doing since lockdown started.

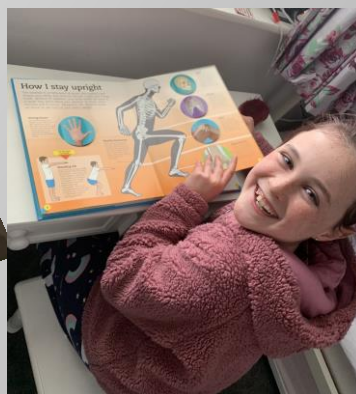
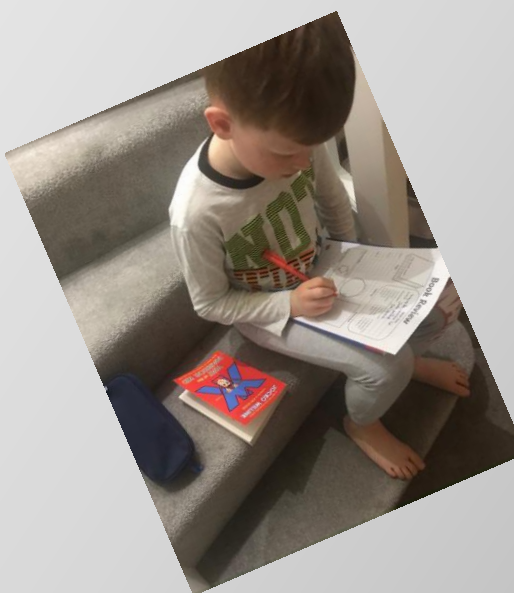
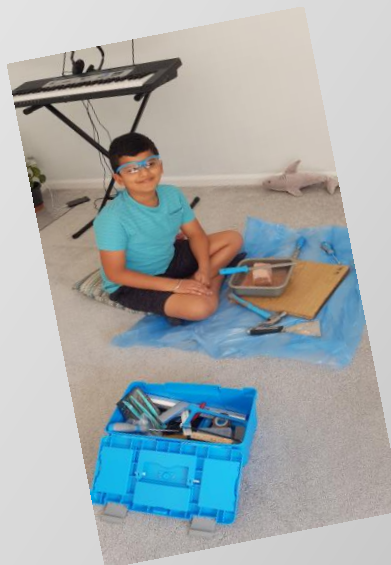
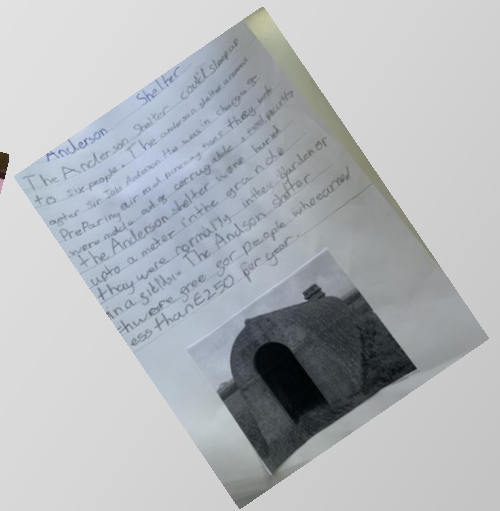
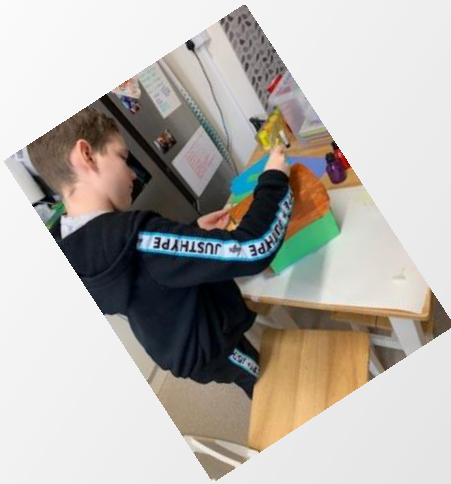
There's been cooking...



There's been clapping for the key workers...



There's been home learning...

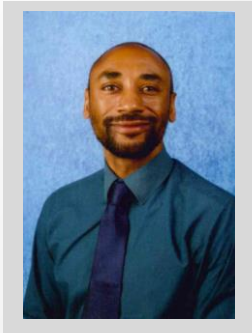


There's been exercise...



Other News

Welcome to Mr. Brooks



I am delighted that Mr. Brooks has joined us as our first new member of the PBA teaching staff. We have appointed five other teachers ready to join in September and I will be able to share details and profiles later in the year. For now, it's great to have Mr Brooks on the team. He will be teaching Miss Broadbent's class until her return in September. As Head of Humanities, I know he cannot wait to meet the pupils properly and while this is undoubtedly a really odd way start a new post, he has already started to work on specialist materials and resources that he will use to bring the world of social sciences to life at PBA. Its great news to have a specialist teacher in this area to really enhance our provision.

Dear Students and Parents

This is a brief message to introduce myself to the PBA community. My name is Mr. Brooks and it is my great pleasure to say that I have joined PBA as the Head of Humanities.

I have been a teacher for some time and have had the pleasure of teaching a variety of schools, including Westfield Middle School, where I was Head of Year 7 and Head of Humanities. I then moved on to Lealands High School, where I was responsible for Religious Education and PSHE.

I have been extremely fortunate during my career to have worked with some brilliant students and some exceptional staff. However, I can safely say that I have never been so excited as I am now to join the PBA community. I hope that I can add to an already vibrant school and share my love for History and Humanities in general.

I aim to enable all students to experience the excitement of History. Through the use of role plays and other strategies, students will be asked to make the same decisions as a Medieval King or a WWII Soldier. I believe this approach will enable students to gain a better connection with History as a subject, this is all the more vital as the lessons of the past must be learnt to enable us to have a better future.

I look forward to meeting you all very soon!

75th Anniversary of VE Day



To celebrate the 75th anniversary of VE Day on Friday 8th May, we would like the children to produce some material to mark the event such as a poster, picture or a poem. Please send these into pixbrook@bestacademies.org.uk

For more information about VE Day, please visit:

www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/remembrance/remembrance-events/ve-day-75

April Birthday Celebrations!



Milo

Lili

Brody

Josh F

Miss Aksoy

Hayden

Here's what the PBA staff have been doing...



Mrs Pearce: I have been reading a number of books both with my children and without. I am really enjoying reading the boy at the back of the class it makes me feel grateful for the things I have. I have been taking my daily exercise by either running or taking my dog on walks I have particularly enjoyed exploring Etonbury woods. I have been missing being at school but seeing the work that is being produced on Google classroom has made me feel proud of our PBA kids.

Miss Broadbent: Life for me in lockdown is probably a bit different to most of you. With a new born baby, it is an endless cycle of feeding, changing nappies and sleeping. Ethan is now 5 weeks old and doing really well. We are trying to get out for a walk with the pram most days. It's a chance for me to get out of the house and get some gentle exercise and fresh air. It's great to hear how you are all getting on and what you've been up to, enjoy the time at home with your families.



Miss Aksoy: I have enjoyed watching computer-animated films. My favourite so far is The Willoughbys and I definitely recommend it! I have also been spending lots of time in my garden: exercising and reading. It's great to see that you're all keeping busy and staying positive. I miss my lunch time duties catching up with some of you and playing UNO. We're going to have lots to catch up on when we're back at school. Can't wait!

Mr Wilson: I am missing the hectic day to day life at PBA, although enjoying time at home with my family. Escaping once a day to complete much needed exercise, I am biking in Etonbury Woods and discovering the surrounding area and its hidden delights. My Italian refresher has begun, helpful as I talk to friends in Italy to catch up in these unusual times. Zoom has become a rather handy platform, ironically named in these times it would seem, where we are learning to slow down and appreciate what is around us. I leave you, not with a picture of myself smiling, but that of my latest "art" project that I am completing with my daughter. Sadly, this awful spoon is 90% my own work!



Mrs Chandler: I have been spending my time with various activities such as home schooling my 2 daughters, walking, cycling, decorating and gardening. It's been so lovely to be able to get outside as the weather has been so nice! Here's a picture of me and the Lego rainbow I made to put in our window.

I miss all your smiley faces, silly dances and jokes especially on library day 😊

Mr Van Wyk: I have spent a lot of time reading and playing with my boys. I also went a bit wild with the hair clippers as you might be able to see! I've been going for a run now and then to make up for the amount I have been eating.



Here's what the PBA staff have been doing...



Mrs Whent: Hi all, I hope you're all well! I miss seeing you all, and thought I would share a few things I've been doing with my daughter at home. We've been doing lots of baking, reading and phonics, lots of lovely walks, and we even had a 'lockdown' festival in the garden! Can't wait to see you, stay safe and enjoy some family time.

Mrs Smyth: Hello Everyone, I hope you are all keeping safe and well. Things are a little crazy in my house with 3 boys to entertain and home school but it is lovely to be able to spend this time together. We are keeping busy by exploring where we live on our daily walks, having movie and board game nights as well as getting lots of exercise on the trampoline! I am also having time to garden and play swing ball with the boys. I am enjoying reading about your time at home so please keep me updated on Google classroom. Stay safe and take care.



Mr King-Mand: Hello Pix Brook Academy pupils, I hope you are all keeping well in these times we find ourselves in. I miss working with you all and of course teaching you DT and art. I also miss refereeing those competitive dodgeball games during break and lunchtimes. During the lockdown, I've tried to keep myself occupied and fit by cycling a lot, I sometimes go out by myself for long rides and sometimes with my middle daughter (as you can see from the picture). All this training would have great for the London to Brighton bike ride which I was going to do, but unfortunately that has been cancelled, so instead I can get out on my bike and just enjoy some of the lovely weather we have been getting. I hope you have all been keeping yourselves active one way or another.

I know some of you have been tuning in to watch the English Live lessons with Mrs King-Mand and she has even given our school a shout out! I'm sure you are getting as much enjoyment out of the lessons as Mrs King-Mand is having in delivering them. Keep tuning for more brilliant English lessons.

I look forward to seeing you all soon when I think I will be ready to take on the Tour De France.

Mr Brooks: I have been watching a lot of historical documentaries about the Picts, Saxons and Vikings. I also watched a great series called about life in Victorian Times. As well as trying my best to stay fit, I have been trying to eat in a healthier way. This usually means cooking from scratch so I have spent a lot of time in the kitchen trying to improve my cooking.



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♥ save lives