

Parent Bulletin

Secondary



Dear parents/carers,

As we begin the seventh week since school closures came into place, I have been reflecting on everything our fantastic students have managed to achieve. I have been so impressed with their hard work, commitment and dedication. They really are a credit to both the school and yourselves as parents/carers.

Many students have had to learn how to use new pieces of technology and software. They have had to remain self-motivated each day in order to learn new content. On occasions, students haven't understood concepts being taught and they have independently had to try and tackle this by contacting their teachers or looking for other resources. We usually expect university students to have this skill set, not students that are much younger. The fact that students at Goresbrook have developed these skills is a reflection of their maturity and commitment. I am very proud of them.

As we move into the final two weeks of this half term, it is important students don't lose motivation. Please do encourage your child to keep going. They are doing a fantastic job. Hard work now will be money in the bank for them in later life.

Please be reminded that the 1st and 2nd June are Inset days so no work will be set for students. Remote lessons will begin again on the 3rd June.

Once again, thank you for your ongoing support as parents/carers. Without this, we simply wouldn't have so many of our students accessing the education we are providing.

Have a lovely week.

Kind regards,

Megan Harris,

Principal- Secondary

It has been another productive week at Goresbrook! We have seen some excellent examples of work engagement from students. As ever, we are really proud of them.

This week, we have been thinking about how we can provide feedback to students. We are still trying out different techniques to find the best option. For this to be effective, students need to ensure that are submitting their own work. In some cases, students are looking to websites and copying and pasting information. Whilst this is a proactive approach, it means that teachers are not able to give feedback based on what the student understands. The videos are designed to provide the information that links to the task. Some students are keen to complete the work and miss the video. In order to help us with this, can you ensure your child does the following:

- Watches the videos on Teams
- Pauses the videos to complete the tasks and rewinds if they need to hear the explanation again
- Uses their own knowledge to complete the tasks
- E-mails their teacher if they are stuck

Once again, thank you for continuing to work with us. It is making a real difference.

If you would like to thank a teacher or member of staff, do feel free to use this link

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=0flzgtak1Ee_PGCwkfBquJuPMacXTiFAoVd6Hx5NY0VUOVISQVIFVkJZVVzhBTUI4V0czV1dBUzZYQy4u

Once again, thank you for your support and please feel free to get in touch if we can help.



Miss Aziza Ajak

Vice Principal

Parent Bulletin

Secondary

Messages from
Heads of Year



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Year 7

Last week was a good week for year 7. Teachers focus moved from *quantity* of work to *quality* of work and I was pleased to see so many year 7 students getting awarded the new 'purple mark' on our work completion tracker. The 'purple mark' is given to students for exceptional work and going above and beyond - well done to those of you who received this.

We also saw an improvement in the work completion rate in year 7 after a slight drop last week, although this has improved I must emphasise the importance of students staying committed to their education whilst working remotely. It is essential that every piece of work is submitted each day to ensure that students keep up-to-date with their learning and do not fall behind. I am really grateful for the support and encouragement that parents are providing during this difficult time, it makes a huge difference.

Stay committed.

Miss Rose - Head of Year 7

Year 9

Well Done year 9 for adjusting to the new norm of learning. It has been pleasing to see so many students being 100% heroes and completing all of their work and meeting deadlines set. A reminder to all students that once they have completed a piece of work, they should be pressing the 'Turn In' button to ensure their work is successfully submitted.

Moving forward into the coming weeks, I want all year 9s to focus on the quality of work that is being produced. Students should be submitting work and tasks which are of the highest of standards. If a student is unsure how to complete a task they can email that subject teacher directly for help.

Stay safe!

Mr H Sesay—Head of Year 9

Year 8

I just wanted to say another thank you to all students in year 8 who have consistently completed high quality work. This will really pay off when we eventually return back to school! As we move towards year 9 and GCSEs all the skills that you are using now will be especially handy when studying in the future.

A reminder that we will be having a big push on quality of work and your teachers will be marking this as PURPLE on the tracker.

We will continue to aim to have fantastic completion and quality rates for the next two weeks!

Have a good week!

Mr A Osei-Miller—Head of Year 8

Student help

If students are still struggling with operating Microsoft Teams, Word or OneNote, please ask them to our IT team so we can solve this as soon as possible.

Student.support@goresbrookschoo.org.uk

Year 10

Year 10 had another outstanding week of work completion last week with pupils pushing harder than ever to ensure their continued progress. Not only have the completion rates increased this week, but we also saw a tremendous improvement on the quality of the work produced. Students are taking remote learning in their stride and fully capitalising on the work available to them, thank you for your continued support in ensuring this happens.

In the coaching competition, Rosa extended their lead at the top after a fabulous week of work completion. In her interview, Miss Pattle said:

'As the coach of Rosa, I have been hugely impressed by the diligence, determination, and doggedness of the entire coaching group. Rosa have displayed professionalism when emailing their teachers (with polite and timely messages), and have been brilliant in keeping motivated, whilst learning remotely from home. I hope we will keep this momentum going until lockdown is over, and of course, once we are all back at school!'

They currently have 1870 points with K2 hot on their heels with 1795 - which coaching group will be leading by the end of this week? I hope to see you all on Monday afternoon in our assembly to find out.

Mr A Davis - Head of Year 10

Parent Bulletin

Secondary



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Career of the week: Financial officer, finance clerk, treasurer

Finance officers help to manage the finances of an organisation by keeping track of its income and controlling its spending.

Average Salary (per year) £18,500 Starter to £40,000 Experienced

How to become a finance officer

You can get into this job through:

- a university course
- a college course
- an apprenticeship
- working towards this role applying directly

College

You may find it useful to do a college course, which could help you get a trainee job with a financial firm. Courses include:

- Level 2 Certificate in Bookkeeping
- Level 2 Certificate in Accounting
- Level 3 Certificate in Financial Studies

Entry requirements

Entry requirements for these courses vary.

What it takes

Skills and knowledge

You'll need:

- knowledge of economics and accounting
- business management skills
- maths knowledge
- analytical thinking skills
- financial management skills
- leadership skills
- the ability to use your initiative
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- to be able to carry out basic tasks on a computer or hand-held device

Career path and progression

With experience, you could become a senior finance officer or finance manager, or train to become an accountant.

University

Some employers may ask for a relevant degree in a subject like:

- Finance
- Accounting
- Business Studies

Entry requirements

You'll usually need:

2 to 3 A levels, or equivalent, for a degree



Apprenticeship

You can get into this job through an assistant accountant advanced apprenticeship.

Entry requirements

You'll usually need:

5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) or equivalent, including English and maths, for an advanced apprenticeship

Work

You could start out as a finance assistant or accounts assistant and then work your way into this role after getting experience.

Direct application

If you want to apply directly for jobs you'll usually need GCSEs, including maths and English.

What you'll do

Day-to-day tasks

Your day-to-day duties could include:

- recording financial transactions on computer systems
- producing financial forecasts
- dealing with payroll, invoices, expenses and VAT
- carrying out financial audits
- creating monthly, quarterly and annual budget reports
- presenting report findings to finance managers

Working environment

You could work in an office.

Parent Bulletin

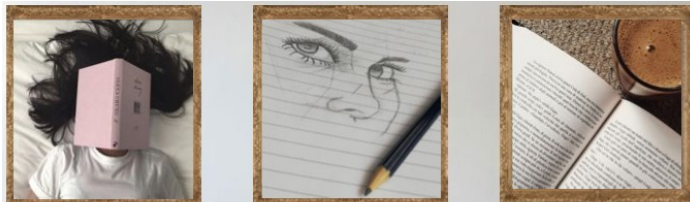
Secondary



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Winner of Goresbrook school Easter Holiday Competition

Well done Kim on your superb entry. You have really captured what it feels like and how you are keeping yourself occupied during your time in isolation.



Goresbrook Gallery Open for Entries!

The theme for this week is light/shadow. There will be coaching points available entries and winning student.

Deadline: Email photo of work to Miss Morris by Tuesday 12th May by 6pm.

This weeks brief

Brief: Explore light and shadow through creating a drawing or photograph.

Deadline: Send to Miss Morris by Tuesday 12th May by 6pm

The word chiaroscuro is an Italian term which means 'light-dark'. The term describes artists that use highly contrasting (the difference between the lightest and darkest tone) tones within their work. It has been explored by artists over the centuries to create dramatic scenes and emphasise (make noticeable) particular sections of a work.



Miss Morris—Head of Art

WATCH MACBETH LIVE!

The Globe Theatre are putting on a performance of Macbeth that is being live streamed on **Monday 11th May at 7pm** for everyone to watch and enjoy! Don't miss this fantastic opportunity to watch the production especially designed for young people that will, not only support you with your GCSEs, but also provide amazing entertainment!



You can find it by following this link - <https://www.shakespearesglobe.com/learn/secondary-schools/playing-shakespeare-with-deutsche-bank/macbeth-2020-playing-shakespeare/> OR simply searching: 'The Globe, Macbeth, 2020'.

This opportunity is highly encouraged for all students as we study the play of 'Macbeth' as a GCSE text at Goresbrook.

Ms L Johnston,
Head of English

The School Library

This week's book recommendation from Miss Dimi:

'The Wind in the Willows' is a fun story about adventure and friendship. Follow Mr Rat, Mr Mole and Mr Badger in their attempts to show Mr Toad that there's more in life than luxury. A fun version of the book can be accessed here: https://readon.myon.co.uk/reader/index.html?a=gr_wwill_f16



"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." Dr. Seuss got it right here, and that is why at Goresbrook School we always remind and encourage our students to read for 20 minutes every day and do Accelerated Reader quizzes in order to better themselves and access as many places (either real or imaginary) as possible.



For more book recommendations and daily inspirations please follow us on twitter <https://twitter.com/GoresbrookScho1> for daily inspiration.

Miss Dimitra Charalampidou
School Librarian

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Hi everyone, this week I thought I would offer some tips around how to communicate with our adolescents. Lockdown has been tough for many of us. It isn't always easy to stay on good terms with each other during these uncertain times. With worry and stress comes changes to behaviours, not just in our children, but perhaps even in our own selves. Now is a good time to reflect on how we communicate with one another and if there is room for improvement. At school we teach the students about the Assertive Communication Model. We think it is a great way to resolve or even prevent conflicts and arguments. Give it a try.

Be Aware of Their Behavior

Adolescents often show their worries through their behavior rather than words. There are a lot of changes happening in their bodies and in the world and that can be really challenging for managing emotions.

What are they telling you through their behavior that they can't put into words?

Physical Signs

Signs of stress and anxiety to look for include headaches, stomach aches, or sleep problems, erratic breathing or holding the breath

Role Modelling

It's okay to not know, be nervous and have emotions. It is how we act on them or express them that teens need support with. So we need to show them how. Being self aware and finding the right time to talk things through rather than in the moment can really help.

Stop, Look, Listen

It's easy to forget our teens are still kids especially when they are taller than us sometimes. In the same way we would tend to a baby, sometimes they just need us to be attentive and reassuring to give them the right conditions to open up and start to share how they feel.

It is so important that we practise assertive communication with our teens. This will open the door to healthy discussion of feelings and needs rather than fall into blaming or a battle of wills. We are all humans and emotions are natural. Sharing them is hard.

When you _____ (state the behaviour) It makes me feel _____ (neglected, hurt, worried etc) So I would like _____ (name what you would like to change to meet your needs (and theirs too perhaps))

Lynne Northcott from Place2Be.