

Parent Bulletin

Secondary



Goresbrook School
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning

Dear parent/carers,

This week we have welcomed back small numbers of Year 10 students. It has been a real pleasure to have them back in school, learning and working hard. I have been incredibly impressed with how maturely students have responded to social distancing expectations and how keen and eager they have been to maximise their time in school and learn as much as possible. Well done Year 10!

Year 7, 8 and 9 students have also done an impressive job this week maintaining high standards of work completion at home. With just over four weeks until the end of this academic year, it is important students keep going and don't lose motivation. This, I know, is sometimes easier said than done, and we'll be working hard over the next few weeks to get in touch with students to try to encourage them to complete all their lessons to a good standard. If you are able to support your child by checking the work they have done and offering them lots of praise when they have worked hard, it would be greatly appreciated.

The last few months have been a challenging time for many of us, not least, young people. If you are worried about your child, please don't hesitate to get in touch with your child's Head of Year or Miss Reading. We will do what we can to offer support remotely. Please also encourage your child to get active. A daily walk, run, or using an online exercise class will be of great benefit. Exercise is proven to not only have a significant impact on a person's physical health but also their mental health and wellbeing. Mr Davis has launched a new CCE programme this half term and this too provides a great opportunity for students to engage in some physical activity. There are further details of this in today's newsletter.

Have a lovely, restful weekend.

Megan Harris

Principal- Secondary



French Support



We'd highly recommend this brilliant website, where pupils can listen to a story in French, while reading the English translation: <https://www.thefrenchexperiment.com/stories>. This is a great way for students to improve their French listening and comprehension skills while at home. There are some familiar children's stories which the whole family can enjoy together! We'd love to hear from students who have used this and the new vocabulary they have learnt.



Ms Bernard & Ms Woolfson

French teachers



Reporting Attendance (Year 10 students)

Please inform us if your child is not in school by 9am by emailing secondaryattendance@goresbrookschoo.org.uk

If your child or any member of the household displays COVID-19 related symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19 please do not send your child to school. Instead, in line with government guidance, self-isolate for 14 days. Please email both secondary attendance on secondaryattendance@goresbrookschoo.org.uk and Miss Harris on Me-gan.Harris@goresbrookschoo.org.uk to notify us.

Shelley Hardy

Attendance and Welfare Officer

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Dear Parents and Carers,

During this time away from school, we would like to encourage all students and their families to read together for 30 minutes every day.



Reading age and ability is proven to be one of the biggest indicators of success, income and happiness in later life – i.e. the more literate and well read you are, the happier and more successful you will be. It is of paramount importance that our students are taking every opportunity to develop and extend themselves and the most effective way of doing this is reading. Reading exposes us to perspectives, ideas, language and worlds that we might not otherwise encounter - broadening our horizons and serving to benefit every other area of study. This is why we want to encourage reading together as a family to foster a love of reading – whether it's books, articles, newspapers, magazines, poetry – all reading is beneficial.



For our young people - Oscar Wilde once said: **'It's what you read when you don't have to that will determine what you will be'** – i.e. when nobody is forcing you to do it in school, that's when you realise the kind of person you will be as you grow and go into college, university and adult life.

Right now, take use of the time indoors to expand your mind, grow as a person, learn new information, develop empathy and get lost in the magical worlds of books and reading.

There are numerous resources you can use to do this such as **'Audible'** (free for children during lockdown), **'The Day'** for current affairs made accessible for students, **'Read Any Book'** – a website with hundreds of free titles or reading **library books** taken by students before we broke up from school.

Parents and carers - please don't hesitate to contact me, your child's English teacher or their Coach if you need recommendations or ideas of how to get your child reading – we are more than happy to support.

Many thanks in advance for your support and we look forward to hearing what students have been reading when they return to school,

Laura Johnson

Head of English



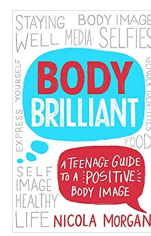
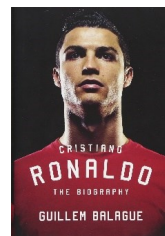
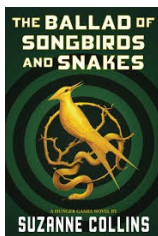
If students are still struggling with operating Microsoft Teams, Word or OneNote, please ask them to our IT team so we can solve this as soon as possible.

Student.support@goresbrookschoo.org.uk

Dear parents and carers,

At Goresbrook School we strive to offer our students the best of everything. During lockdown, Goresbrook Library has been working constantly to acquire new and exciting reads for when our readers get back! Hundreds of new books have been added to our collection and we're very excited to see our students' faces when they come back to our library! In addition to this, we would kindly like to ask our students (and their carers/parents) to make sure they are aware of the location of the books they borrowed before lockdown so that they can find their way back to our library's shelves and meet their new friends first thing in September.

Some of our exciting new books include:





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Year 7

It has been a positive week for year 7, I have been really pleased to see the number of students receiving purple marks for their continued efforts. I have also been delighted to see so many students actively seeking feedback from their teacher to enable them to better their work. Well done year 7.



Last week, Ms Morris launched her art competition on 'Identity', I was really pleased to see so many year 7 students entering the competition and really proud to see Ethan in 7 Drakensberg win the whole-school competition. Ms Morris commented on Ethan's work as: "A design that is both personal and well-constructed. Well done Ethan's you have put thought into the composition, placing each element of your drawing carefully. I also think the artwork is successful as it conveys a clear message of things that are important to you and help to form part of your identity." Well done Ethan!

Miss Rose ,
Head of Year 7

Year 8

Good Morning Year 8

I hope you had a good weekend. In the past week we have seen a slight drop in competition rates but I am very hopeful that we will be back on track this week. It is really important that all Year 8 students are giving their all, 5 lessons a day, 5 days a week as this will prepare you all very well for Year 9. Year 8 should continue to read as much as possible over the next few weeks and over the summer holidays. Reading is a great way to take you all over the world while staying in the comfort of your home as well as building and adding to your knowledge. There are a number of competitions which are sent out weekly and all year 8's should be participating in these to try and earn coaching points.

Finally, the coaching competition is really starting to heat up, Emilius are hot on the heels of Kamet with 4 weeks to go! I would stress that now more than ever is the time where 100% fully green weeks will make the biggest difference and all students have a role to play in this. A huge appreciation to Matthew who achieved 5 purple marks on Monday and is the first student to achieve this. This is testament to what can happen with hard work!

Mr A Osei-Miller—Head of Year 8

Year 9

It has been good to see a large majority of students picking up where they left off last week and achieving Purple marks on the tracker this week. It is also essential that students are checking their emails at least three times a day to see important notices from their teachers. If any student is stuck on any piece of work, they should email their teachers immediately in order for the right support to be given to them.

In the coaching competition this week Viso took top spot back from Simien largely due to the high numbers of students attaining fully green weeks! Tune in next Wednesday at 1:30pm to see who will come out on top.....



Mr H Sesay—Head of Year 9



Year 10

After 12 weeks away, the school doors partially re-opened for small groups of Year 10 this week and I can safely say it has been my favourite week in a long time. Students returned full of enthusiasm and were ready to learn which resulted in fantastic progress over each day of the week.

In order to ensure that our sessions in school are as beneficial as possible, it is more important than ever that students complete **all** of their remote learning. Lessons in school will complement this online offer and therefore completion is a prerequisite to fully capitalising on the sessions.

I am so proud of the demonstration of our values that students have shown throughout this period so far, and I am very much looking forward to this continuing right up to summer!



Career of the week: Construction manager

Construction managers organise the work on building projects, making sure it's completed safely, within budget and on time. **Average salary (a year)** £27,000 Starter to £70,000 Experienced

University: You'll usually need a foundation degree, higher national diploma or degree accredited by the Chartered Institute of Building in a subject like:

- building studies or building engineering
- surveying or civil engineering
- construction engineering
- construction site management
- estimating

Courses are likely to include project management, economics, IT and accounts.

Entry requirements : You'll usually need:

- 1 or 2 A levels, or equivalent, for a foundation degree or higher national diploma
- 2 to 3 A levels, or equivalent, for a degree

Registration

You'll need a Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) card or equivalent to train and work on a construction site

Further information

You can find out more about becoming a construction manager from Go Construct and The Chartered Institute of Building.

What it takes : Skills and knowledge

You'll need:

- knowledge of building and construction
- maths knowledge
- the ability to organise your time and workload
- leadership skills
- knowledge of engineering science and technology
- business management skills
- the ability to use your initiative
- excellent verbal communication skills
- to be able to use a computer and the main software packages competently

Restrictions and requirements : You'll usually need a driving licence to travel to different sites.

Career path and progression

With experience, you could progress into contract management or consultancy. With further training, you could move into support services like health and safety and building inspection.

You can improve your career prospects by getting chartered status, through an industry body like The Chartered Institute of Building.

How to become a construction manager

You can get into this job through:

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

Apprenticeship

You may be able to complete a higher or degree apprenticeship in construction management, or design and construction management.

Entry requirements : You'll usually need

4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) and A levels, or equivalent, for a higher or degree apprenticeship

Work

You could move into this job if you're working as an estimator, building technician, surveyor or site supervisor and have several years' experience in the building industry.

Direct application

You may be able to apply directly if you've got several years' management experience in a related industry like civil engineering.

What you'll do : Day-to-day tasks

Your day-to-day activities may include:

- checking plans with architects, surveyors and engineers
- hiring staff and buying materials
- planning work schedules
- monitoring building progress and costs
- checking quality
- reporting to clients

maintaining and promoting health and safety

Working environment : You could work on a construction site or at a client's business.

Your working environment may be outdoors in all weathers, at height and you may spend nights away from home.

You may need to wear protective clothing.

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Loneliness Awareness Week: (15-19 June),



Loneliness is something that can affect any one of us at any point in our lives, but this issue has become more prominent during the coronavirus pandemic, making Loneliness Awareness Week more important than ever. Not being able to see family, friends and loved ones during this time has left many people at risk of feeling lonely and isolated. It is possible to feel lonely, even though we might be surrounded by other people. Here are some ideas you can help to feel less lonely or look out for others who might be.



- Reaching out to someone you haven't spoken to for years. Maybe an old school friend for a catch up or an old neighbour.
- Sending a postcard or handwritten letter to a friend or relative (or using online cards like Moonpig.com)
- Getting your children to do some art work, creative writing or make a short film and send it to friends or family.
- Join online forums or networks with people who share your interests and hobbies
- Going for a walk and making it a goal to say hello or smile at a stranger. Just this small action can lift our mood and help us feel less isolated.
- Write a letter to your future self or get creative with arts and crafts. Thinking ahead about goals you want to achieve or sharing a memory about what you have been going through during this lockdown.
- Physical activities – doing exercise helps lift our mood, prevent boredom and gives us a sense of purpose and achievement.
- Self-Care – Loneliness usually sets in when being alone feels uncomfortable for a number of reasons. When you feel this way, maybe try and take the opportunity to do something just for you and meet your own needs. Self-Pampering, reading a book or trying something new. When we fulfil in our own needs without needing other people all of the time, it can be very empowering.

<https://letstalkloneliness.co.uk/get-involved-in-loneliness-awareness-week-2020/>

Lynne Northcott from Place2Be.

Change Of Details

Have you recently moved? Changed your number? Changed your email address?

Please ensure you update us by emailing secondary office on Secondaryoffice@goresbrookschool.org

Remember to include your child's full name and year group.

Thank You Teachers

If you would like to give a special thanks to a teacher or member of staff, do feel free to use this link below.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=0flzgtak1Ee_PGCwkbBquJuPMAcXTiFAoVd6Hx5NY0VUOVISQVIFVkvZVVzhBTUI4V0czV1dBUzZYQy4u

Miss Aziza Ajak
Vice Principal



Co Curriculum Education

At Goresbrook school, we are proud to offer all students the opportunity to access Enrichment activities each week during our CCE lesson. At this time, all students participate in an activity of their choice with students from other year groups and it is a fantastic opportunity to see students learning outside of the normal classroom environment. The odd nature of this pandemic has obviously cut short this access to enrichment for this academic year and so students have been completing specific activities online for CCE. This has ranged from writing blogs to artwork and catering to fitness - it has been lovely to see the entries from students over last half-term!

As we move in to half-term 6, I am excited to launch the GBS Enrichment Passport on Microsoft Teams with all year groups. The passport offers students the opportunity to engage with assemblies, enrichment activities, leadership opportunities and TedTalks all built to continue developing our three school values at home. There are explanatory videos on Microsoft Teams for each activity and the passport itself takes students through each process.

Students have the opportunity to earn a bronze/silver/gold certificate, as well as a letter of commendation, for completing aspects of the passport which will be presented to them on their return to school. The passport is available as an assignment on Teams and offers a wide range of projects for students (and those they live with) to get stuck in to.

Maintaining participation levels in activities, such as those in the passport, plays a critical role in positively impacting on mental health through ensuring parts of normality remain. If you have the opportunity to read through the passport with your child, and potentially complete activities with them, then I am sure they will benefit greatly from the contents.

Mr Alex Davis

Enrichment Passport

