

Parental Newsletter 22/5/2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you have all had a good final week of home learning before half term. It has been great to see students engaging again above and beyond the academic curriculum with our skills day and mental health week activities.

As you are aware we are proposing to extend our opening to include Y10 on the first Wednesday after half term. Planning continues on this front to make sure it is carried out with the health and safety of all those in our community as the number one priority. This next step in leaving lockdown, with suitable measures in place, was always going to feel right for some and of concern to others. We have of course already had in the region of 8-15 students at school every day since lockdown began.

What we propose is expanding that number using a model that has more students in school but in their own socially isolated bubbles. It will allow us to better understand the impact home learning and lockdown have had so we can improve our provision for all and hopefully over time return more students to face to face contact with their teachers in classrooms. Similar to when we went into lockdown I am confident that as a school we have the ability to respond rapidly if there is any indication it is negatively affecting our road to recovery as a society.

Today we said goodbye in our virtual staffroom to Mrs Ridsdale leaves who has gained a fantastic promotion leading the careers team across all the GB MET campuses in Brighton, Worthing and in-between. She has been an incredible colleague growing our library from its small beginnings into a vibrant and busy hub, developing our highly rated careers provision from scratch and offering excellent individual advice, support and mentoring to students. She will be sadly missed but our loss is a gain for those of our Y11's going on to study at the MET and I am sure she will continue to pop in and support us.

Thank you to everybody who gave us feedback through our surveys this week. We have included some of the headlines in this newsletter. What we know is that consistency and routine for home learning is important but also finding ways to vary and break it up from time to time helps enormously. We will continue to build these opportunities into our provision next half of term. Everybody deserves a break and I hope next week is a restful and relaxing time for you and the family.

Best wishes and stay safe

Mr Whitehead

School News:

Bob – Best of Bohunt

Hi there! I've had such a busy week in the Bob-household looking over all the photos, stories and creations that you have shared with me. This week I shared my second Weekly Bob which can be found here:

<https://www.bohuntworthing.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/BOB-ISSUE-2.pdf>

While half term is a chance to rest and relax, for me it's the chance to catch up with all the exciting things the holiday offers everyone so please keep sharing with me with all your stories and photos

Wishing everyone a relaxing half term,

Bob

Best of Bohunt

National Skills Day responses- 20th May

Mr Pearson has spent some time going through all the responses we received for National Skills Day, and has been overwhelmed by the range of talents on show amongst our student body. Skills ranged from poetry to performance, trampolining to throwing axes, magic to MIG welding, building planters to baking bread, coding games to crafting pots. One parent even responded with a handy tutorial on how to make string from stinging nettles! Some pictorial submissions are below and in our next parent newsletter we will publish a cut of our best video efforts.



From left to right: Olivia repaints furniture, Dulcie bakes bread, Josh MIG welding, Elodie's artwork

Bohunt Worthing adopt Broadwater ward

I am pleased to announce that BSW has adopted the Broadwater ward at Worthing hospital and a group of students across the year groups have been supporting the patients by sending them messages to lift their spirits in these challenging times. Please see below a message for Mr White who was responsible for coordinating the student responses.

Well done to the Student Council for their work with the 'Adopt a Ward' scheme which has led to BSW being twinned with the Broadwater Ward of Worthing Hospital. Student Council members sent in a variety of 'thinking of you' written and video messages which were gratefully received by the patients of Broadwater Ward. It was lovely to receive this reply from the Ward Manager;

"Thank you so much for your email and messages from your students. They mean such a lot. Please do thank Ben, Emma, Benita, Max, Fyn, Jayden, Ruby and Antoni for their time in thinking of someone else. They are very special students to be able to think of others in need and I know the patients will really appreciate this. I hope that you all stay well and a big thanks once again to you and your school. I can't begin to tell you how many patients will benefit from such kindness".

Stay tuned after half-term when more information will be shared in PSRE lessons about how students in all year groups can get involved in the 'Adopt a Ward' scheme!

Year 10 return to school

The overview model for Y10 has been shared with all parents this week. We will finalise our risk assessments, responses to feedback, alterations to the classrooms and agree the protocols for drop off/pick up, behaviour expectations and our provision etc. over half term. This detail will then be shared with you before our first day. Please be assured that if the national picture changes we will continue to be responsive.

ERA Week - 22-26th June

We understand that students will be disappointed that the ERA week activities and trips had to be cancelled. However, following the success of our 'Virtual' ERA day we are currently finalising a programme for years 7-10 so that they still have a chance of an ERA week. After half term I will write to all parents outlining what students can expect from the week.

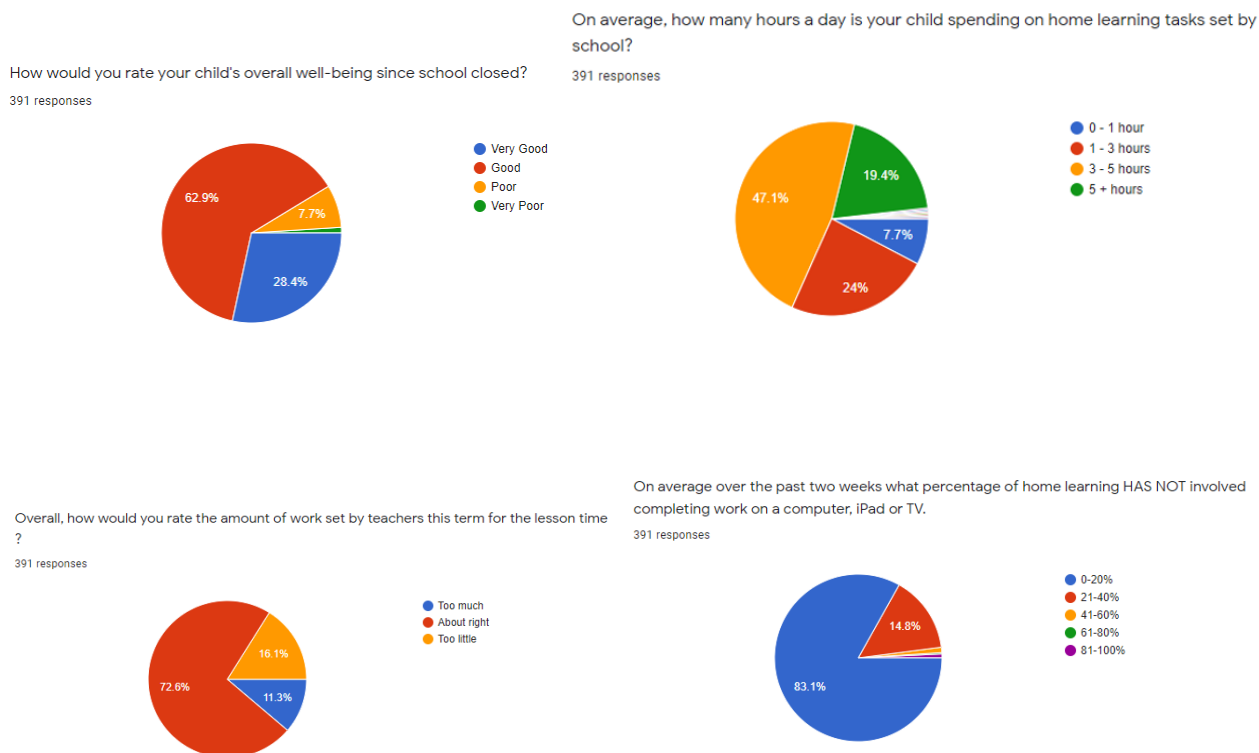
Home learning Years 7-10:

Once again, we would like to take this opportunity to thank parents for your continued efforts to support the remote delivery of our curriculum. I hope your child is starting to experience the delivery of content through

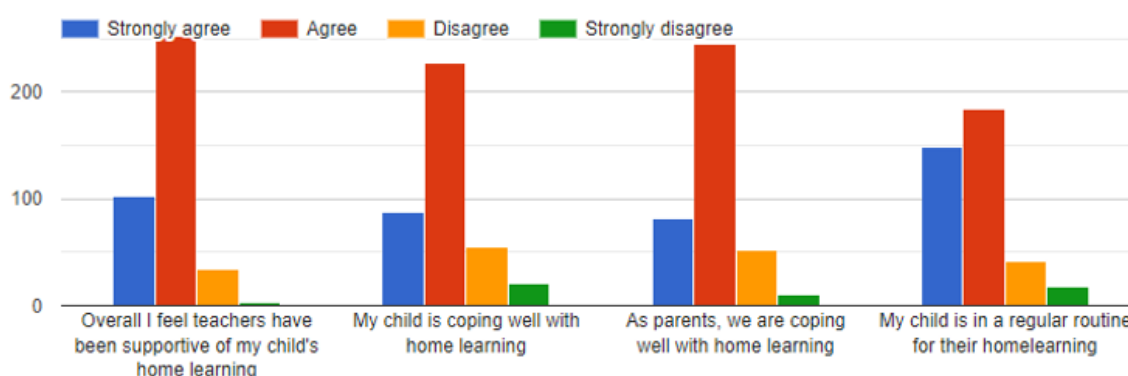
zoom and are vocal about being in a more interactive environment. We will continue to expand on this provision after half term.

Some students have also experienced their first online knowledge checks in various subjects. I would like to re-emphasise that these are not going to be used to make judgements about progress, but do offer an invaluable insight into the effectiveness of our online provisions.

Thank you to the parents who completed our online survey this week. Your feedback is appreciated and at the forefront of our considerations whilst reviewing and improving our online provision. Please see a brief outline of the headline figures below from the survey.



Please rate the following statements



The headlines show that over 70% of parents feel the amount of work being set is about right, with similar percentages of parents feeling there is slightly too much or too little content. In reaction to parental feedback suggesting that there is little work away from the iPad, we are pleased to again share with you that after half term, faculties will be on a weekly rota to deliver curriculum content that does not rely primarily on technology. Please see this schedule below.

Subject/ Faculty	Week Commencing
Humanities	1st June 2020
Performing Arts	8th June 2020
Science	15th June 2020
STEM	29th June 2020
Communications Faculty (English and Languages)	6th July 2020

Your feedback highlights that the majority of students are spending 3-5 hours a day on home schooling. Please be reassured that although this is less time than they would have in school, we are taking into account a slower delivery of curriculum content and are actively planning for catch-up weeks and consolidation of remote learning when students return to school. For our KS4 students we are in the fortunate position of running a 3 year KS4 which is not currently compromising your child's ability or timescale to cover all curriculum content.

We are aware that for a small group of parents and students home learning is a huge challenge. We would encourage any parent feeling the pressures of this to contact their child's tutor directly to raise any concerns. If the concern is based around a specific subject, then please contact their subject teacher via email. Email addresses are the first initial and surname followed by @bohuntworthing.com. I.e. Mr Joe Bloggs' email address would be jbloggs@bohuntworthing.com.

If you are unsure about your child's tutor, our full staff email list can be found here:
<https://www.bohuntworthing.com/about/staff-structure/>

Pastoral Support and Student Wellbeing:

This week was mental health awareness week and on Wednesday students enjoyed a 'Virtual' ERA day with a break from our usual timetabled lesson. Students were presented with a series of wellbeing, skills and creative activities for students to participate in. There was a high level of engagement and Mr Pearson now has hundreds of skills clips to look through, so well done to the students! Following on from the ERA day I wanted to share some feedback from the first round of the student survey.

- 92% of students reported positively that they understand the work being set
- 86% of students reported positively that they can get help from their teacher
- 86% of students reported positively that they can get help from their parents
- 78% of students reported positively that they are in a routine that allows them to learn
- 84% of students reported positively that they go outside for more than half an hour each day
- 85% of students reported positively that they know where to get help from if they are feeling low.

Thank you for your support in getting your son / daughter to complete the survey. Students will continue to complete the survey every two weeks and from this we can review the trends in the data and where we need to look at ways to intervene to ensure both the home learning and wellbeing of each individual student is being supported to the best of our ability.

As a reminder, if students ever feel adrift they can be encouraged to speak to their form tutor, subject teacher or get in touch with the pastoral team (pastoral@bohuntworthing.com) all of whom will be able to help.

We have received positive feedback for the below independent service run by the YMCA for mental health and wellbeing support in case you feel your child might benefit.

Additional Information:

New digital e-wellbeing service launched for 13-25 year olds

YMCA DownsLink Group have set up a digital wellbeing service for young people in Sussex and Surrey with the aim of young people being able to access the right support and information around their emotional health and wellbeing. Their website is available here: <https://e-wellbeing.co.uk/>

