



Review

Issue 23 - Friday 3rd April 2020



Dear all,

I do hope you are all safe and well. By the time you receive this, we will be on Day 10 of school closure out of, possibly, 100, who knows! A big thank you to those parents and students who completed our survey. The results indicated that overall people are generally very happy with the way we are operating. Two key issues did emerge from the survey. They were:

Quantity of work being set is a lot and an hour's work set by the teacher is often taking longer than an hour for the students to complete at home (as there is no teacher input).

Where there are limited PCs and other devices in the household, the work is also taking a lot longer to do.

Both these issues inevitably are adding unnecessary stress to families at this time and we can also see that our current way of working is not sustainable. Therefore, we are committed to helping our children to remain engaged in their learning and to aid this we are proposing to move to a reduced timetable model for after Easter. Miss Phagura will send out more details but essentially, we will be moving away from setting five 1 x hour lessons a day.

Just a reminder that we start back our remote teaching from Tuesday 21st April as Monday 20th is an **IN-SET Day.** Therefore, to clarify, staff will not be setting work over the Easter break and will resume on Tuesday 21st April. I do hope that one positive aspect from this surreal Covid-19 experience is that families can enjoy spending some quality time together.

Later this week, we expect announcements on assessment arrangements for GCSEs and A levels.

Once we have this information, Mr M Rome, will update Year 11 and 13 students and their parents on our next steps. Please contact Mr Rome with any queries

MRome@robertbarclayacademy.co.uk

We were very proud of Mr G Rome this week, our Design and Technology teacher. He saw an opportunity to help the NHS and other frontline staff by making safety visors. These have been well received by the NHS and Mr Rome has now had requests from the Herts Constabulary.



Mr G Rome safety visors for the NHS

Finally, despite school closure, we still say farewell to staff. This Easter, we say goodbye and thank you to Mr McInerney who earlier this year secured a new job closer to his home in Bedford. Mr Mac (as he is known as) has been with the school for the past 5 years and has been an excellent member of staff. We wish him the very best of luck in his new job as Head of House. Mr G Rome will be the new Head of Year 7 upon our return after Easter.

“There is nothing wrong with change, if it is in the right direction.”

(Winston Churchill)

Enjoy Easter, but stay at home unless essential, and stay safe.

Ced de la Croix
Headteacher

Do you want to talk about...

Problems with friends
or family?

Alcohol or smoking?

Feeling sad or angry?

Bullying?

Relationships?

Changes to your body?

You can text your School Nurse for
confidential advice and support:
07480 635050

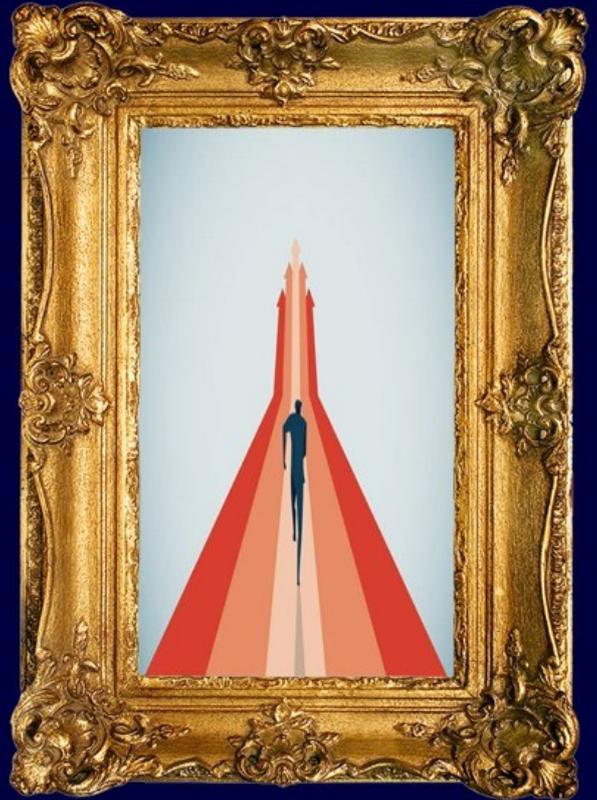
We do not usually inform your parents, teachers or anyone else if you contact the school nurse. We might inform someone if we were concerned about your safety, but we would usually speak to you first. Your messages are stored and can be seen by other healthcare staff who follow the same confidentiality rules. We aim to reply to you within one working day and you should get an immediate bounce back to confirm we received your text. Texts will not be seen outside of normal working hours. If you need help before you hear back from us, contact a member of school staff or your doctor. Our text number does not receive voice calls or MMS picture messages. We support messaging from UK mobile numbers only (which does not include messages sent from landlines, international mobile numbers and some 'number masking' mobile apps). Prevent the school nurse from sending messages to you by texting STOP to our number. Please respect your school's mobile phone policy. Messages are charged at your usual rate.



Feeling Confident & Building Self-esteem

What is 'self-esteem'?
Moreover, how can we improve our own self-esteem?

Can you think of a situation where your confidence has dropped and another where your confidence has been built up? What caused each situation?



STAY AT HOME 

PROTECT THE NHS



save lives

- Only go outside for food, health reasons or work (where this absolutely cannot be done from home)
- Stay 2 metres (6ft) away from other people
- Wash your hands as soon as you get home