

TRANSITION FROM YEAR 11 TO SIXTH FORM

FRIDAY 12TH JUNE 2020 -ISSUE 6



#STAYSAFE

What a difference a week makes when we look at how the weather has changed. In the same way, in these challenging times, we have adapted to different circumstances and new challenges As Year 11, keep exploring new knowledge and skills using the many super-curricular opportunities I have shared with you in previous bulletins. Start planning for your choices at and after sixth form and make this a part of the many goals you have set out to achieve. Remember that small steps are also large triumphs. Do not feel alone, feel overwhelmed or worry as we are all in it together. Staff, parents/carers and you. Higham Lane Sixth Form wants to be part of your success story.

FASCINATING FACTS ABOUT LANGUAGE

BY THE NUMBERS

There are over **7,000** languages worldwide.

Only 23 languages account for more than half of the world's population.

2,400 of the world's languages are currently in danger of becoming extinct.

Papua New Guinea has the most languages, at **840**.

At least half of the world's population is bilingual.

Many linguists believe that language originated around 100,000 BC.

Spanish is the 2nd most spoken language in the world.

The English language contains the most words, with over **250,000**.

ABOUT THE ALPHABET

74 Cambodia has the longest alphabet with 74 characters.

The word "alphabet" is formed from the first two letters of the Greek alphabet - alpha and beta.

11 The Papuan language of Rotokas only has 11 letters in its alphabet.

CULTURAL FACTS

There are over 200 artificial languages created for books, movies, and TV shows.

The culinary and ballet worlds use mostly French words and terms.

The Bible is the most translated book, followed by Pinocchio.

The Pope tweets in nine languages, but his Spanish account has the most followers.

The first printed book was written in German.

The average person only uses a few hundred words in daily conversation.

Physical contact during a conversation is completely normal when speaking Spanish.

LANGUAGE IN EUROPE

The language of "La Gomera" spoken off the coast of Spain consists entirely of whistles.

There are about 24 official languages spoken throughout the European Union.

French is the main foreign language taught in the UK.

Italy has many regional dialects, but the Florentine dialect was chosen as the national language.

Basque, a language spoken in the Pyrenees mountains, has no relation to any other known language.

German is the most spoken language in Europe.

20,000 Over 20,000 new French words are created each year.

German words can have three genders: masculine, feminine, and neuter.

LANGUAGE IN THE AMERICAS

Argentina has a lot of Welsh speakers, due to settlers inhabiting the Patagonia mountains.

The United States has no "official language". Most people just assume it's English.

About 30% of English words come from French.

Italian is a minority language in Brazil.

More than 15 million Americans are native French speakers.

Hawaiians have over 200 different words for "rain".

The U.S. has the second highest number of Spanish speakers, after Mexico.

LANGUAGE IN AFRICA

Botswana has a language that is made up of five primary "click" sounds.

South Africa has the most official languages with 11.

About 1% of all languages are from Africa and Asia combined.

Kinshasa, the capital of the Congo, is the world's second largest French speaking city.

LANGUAGE IN ASIA

People who speak Chinese use both sides of the brain; English only uses the left side.

Hindi didn't become the official language of India until 1965.

In Indonesian, "air" means "water".

Mandarin Chinese is the most spoken language in the world.

Japanese uses three different writing systems: Kanji, Katakana, and Hiragana.

你好

MORE FUN FACTS

The first language spoken in outer space was Russian.

Other than English, French is the only language that is taught in every country.

Learning a second language can improve the memory and slow the process of aging.

About one language becomes extinct every two weeks.

Cryptophasia is a language phenomenon that only twins can understand.

21 Twenty-one countries have Spanish as their official language.

300 Over 300 languages are spoken in London alone.

4000 Spanish contains about 4,000 Arabic words.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Higham Lane Sixth Form needs an 'anthem' to represent the times we are in.

How about,

We are family – Sister Sledge

or

Lean on me – Bill Withers

Send me your suggestions and we can have a sixth form vote.



SIXTH FORM INDUCTION AND ENROLMENT

We are making plans to share our Induction remotely from our website. I will share further information soon.

For those of you who are anxious about your GCSE results and entry to sixth form, I want to reassure you that we want students to have positive pathways and we are open to discussions and conversations at enrolment. It is important that we share impartial information, advice and guidance with you to help you make your choices.

SUBJECT TRANSITION TASKS

Our subject transition tasks are now on the website. We have already shared information about each subject and the wider reading you could be doing. Staff have enjoyed creating these and I hope you enjoy the tasks they have set.

WANT TO EXPLORE UNIVERSITIES?

Click on the link to register beforehand: <https://ukuniversitysearch.vfairs.com/>
It is aimed at Yr 12 and 13 but thought it may interest you too.

UK University Search Virtual Fair

Wednesday 17 June
12:00 – 18:00

Missing out on **Open Days**, or looking to explore all your **Clearing** and Adjustment options?



Our Virtual Fair is designed to help you explore all your options from the safety of home. You'll be able to chat directly with **over 80 different universities and colleges**, ask questions, download prospectuses, and find out lots of information. We'll be joined by universities including Cambridge, Liverpool, Manchester Met, and Newcastle (to name just a few!). You can also view **10 live webinars** throughout the day on topics such as Choosing a University, Securing a Place through Clearing, and Writing your Personal Statement.

CONNECTING WITH CURRENT STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITIES OF CAMBRIDGE, DURHAM AND OXFORD

They are a group of current students at The Universities of Cambridge, Durham and Oxford. They are very excited to be chatting with prospective Higham Lane Sixth Form students later this term about the application and preparation process to gaining a place in top universities. If any student or parent would like further and tailored advice they can be reached via their website www.thecambridgeandoxfordtutors.com. As a group, they cover a huge array of the degrees on offer at these Universities - so do not hesitate to reach out!

WHAT CAN YOU DO NOW?

NetSixthForm

It would be really beneficial for you to invest some time on these weekly tasks to fully prepare you for sixth form.

Year 11 Vimeo channel link is <https://vimeo.com/showcase/7013773>

Year 11 student password is netsixth11

THIS WEEK is about organisation. Sometimes organisation is overlooked yet it is an important ingredient to success. PowerPoint attached.

USEFUL LINKS TO SUPPORT YOUR HEALTH & WELLBEING

Reflection

Self-reflection is a process by which you come to an understanding of who you are, what your values are, and why you think and act the way you do. It is the process of rebuilding yourself to be the best version of you.

Your task for this week would be to take a few minutes from your day to reflect back on your life. Think about all the acts that you have done that makes you feel proud of yourself. For example, achieving well in your subjects or learning a new musical skill. Also think about what you could do better and change to improve and develop your skills.

Self-reflecting will lead to self-awareness which could be considered the base of our internal existence, by being self-aware we are more likely to make wise choices in the present and the future, which would make us pro-active as well as becoming a better version of ourselves. Reflecting back on our past is not just a memory, rather it is a lesson that we can use to learn from, which we can apply to our lives in the future to avoid repeating the same mistakes again. This could be considered a very good time to think about your future goals.

Ask yourself: “where am I now- where do I want to be- how can I get there- what do I need to do and who can help me”

Being able to formulate a plan when times are tough is a well-being issue. Planning to solve those things that we feel are currently getting on our way, to improve what we do or to reach a goal empowers us to feel in control over ourselves and our futures. This helps us see problems as a factor that we can solve rather than a barrier which is preventing us from moving on or feeling happy.

By no means do we expect you to decide what you will plan in detail but we ask of you and ourselves to have general plans in life, a goal that you are aiming for. This will help carve a path in life for you.

“A man who dares to waste one hour of time has not discovered the value of life”. Charles Darwin

Let's not be one of those people but the individuals that have a plan that looks to improve our future and lives.

NHS mindfulness - <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/mindfulness/>

NHS exercise - <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/exercise/>

Sing with Aga-[new videos released each Friday](#)



**LOOK OUT FOR ISSUE 7 ON
FRIDAY 19TH JUNE.**

Please contact me on
sixthform@highamlaneschool.co.uk
if you have any questions.

Till next week – stay safe.

Mr Hanif Ladha
Assistant Headteacher – Head of Sixth Form

Follow us on Twitter and Instagram!



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