

Good morning, Year 7,

This week is the first week of your live lessons. I'm sure that you are keen and excited! Please note that work will no longer be set on SMHW once you have had a Teams lesson for that subject, it will all move over to Teams. You will have one lesson a week and additional learning resources. This week is your core subjects; English, Maths and Science and next week, more subjects will be added.

I also want to make you aware that your lessons will not appear on your calendar until your teacher has invited you. Teachers usually send their invites a day before the lesson. So please don't panic if it's Monday and you can't see your lessons for Friday. **Please refer to my newsletter from last week for details on accessing Teams and always consult your weekly checklist for guidance.**

In the lessons, you will be expected to turn off your mic and camera. You can access lessons from your phone and there will be a support teacher in all of your lessons to help you see the PowerPoint slides. Please don't worry about anything. Once you start the lessons, you'll love them. Think back to how nervous you were when you started secondary school and how quickly you adapted. You also adapted extremely well to this new way of working via SMHW so I'm sure you will all be fine. I will also be popping into all of your lessons to make sure everything is going well.

I started teaching my first lesson on Teams last week and it was a little strange. Obviously, I miss all of my students so it was nice to be able to communicate with them after so long.

Thank you to those students that have submitted work for Black Lives Matter. It's important that we continue to learn and understand systemic racism in society. Black Lives Matter isn't saying that nobody else's lives matter but black people's. It's saying that all lives are supposed to matter but currently black people's lives don't. So it's a cry for help, saying, "Our lives matter too!" It's important to know that racism isn't simply the act of saying unkind things to another person based on their race. Racism is a complex system about power – and those without the power are the victims of racism.

I look forward to receiving more work from you regarding this and anything else you might be getting up to. As always, I like to know what challenges you have undertaken. The weather hasn't been so nice the past week so I assume that you have all stayed indoors. Have you learned to cook any more delicious dishes? Is anybody a YouTube sensation yet? Has anybody built a really tall tower using only 6 sheets of newspaper and then then balanced a small toy on that tower? Any fun and interesting things you have done, let me know.



Executive Principal – Mr Andy Booth

Associate Principal – Ms Catrin Green

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My 6-year-old niece is currently staying with me for the week, as my sister's house is being redecorated and she needs the space. I have had her stay with me a few times before but it's usually only for the weekend. A week will be a new challenge for me. Let's see how I get on – I will let you know, next week, if I have survived. We're planning to buy some goldfish today (if the pet shops are open).

I won't keep you too long but please remember that I am always here to help. Also, look out for your mentor's email on Friday morning.

Take care.

Ms Ogundele

**Year 7 Family Leader**



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