

Dear all Year 8 students and Parents/Carers,

I hope this email finds you safe and well.

You should have started back with your distance learning by now and I hope that the time before Easter has meant that you have found your groove and are able to slip back into your learning routine. Remember to stick to the timetable (or your adapted version which works for you) and do not spend longer than the allocated time set, this way you will not feel overwhelmed.

Please note: *there have been reports from some students, parents and carers that they are having issues with seeing all work set on SMHW using the app. To ensure you aren't missing anything please log on to SMHW using an internet browser and check in your calendar for all work set.*

Thank you for those of you who over the Easter holidays sent me pictures of the moon. I have put these on a PowerPoint as an assembly for your and posted it on SMHW: <https://www.satchelone.com/homeworks/43463057>. I have outlined your next picture challenge below which is to email your attempts of an origami crane.

I hope you are all keeping healthy and active. Remember that Joe Wicks is still doing his daily "PE lesson" on youtube for all of the family to get involved with. At school we have been working with a project called "Gloves not Gunz" for the older year groups but as the school is closed, the project have been doing some online live workouts on Instagram. If any of you would like to get involved, you can find their workouts on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday evenings between 18:00 - 19:00 by Following @glovesnotgunz and @grappleganguk for the posts.

Now that Easter is out of the way, we are going to start the ball rolling with your GCSE options. Please keep your eyes and ears peeled for more information to come. Mr Hodges and I are working hard to try and get the information to you in an easy and user friendly way. I would ask that you all start to think about the options you may like to take. Remember to not just think about the "here and now" but look further to post-16 and careers.

I know that with lockdown being extended by another 3 weeks you may be feeling frustrated, but please remember that by staying at home you are protecting yourself and your family's health. It would be very easy to break the social distancing rules and guidelines, but by doing so you will be putting, not only yourselves, but many others at risk. Thank you and well done for your resilience through all of this. I am constantly proud of your maturity.

The House Leaders have decided to run some house competitions. These will be on SMHW. Points that are earned will go towards the House Cup that will be awarded as usual at the end of the Summer Term. I look forward to seeing which House is going to win!

I hope you have found the Lockdown 2020 time capsule document on SMHW. <https://www.satchelone.com/homeworks/43282584>. Whilst this is in no way compulsory, it would be a lovely thing to put together for future generations to see. You are living through something that will be huge within world history. Grab your slice of it and create a time capsule of pictures, letters, newspapers etc.

To keep your spirits up, I have come up with 7 challenges for 7 days of the week:

Day 1: Try and learn how to make an origami crane and email me a picture of your attempt: <https://www.thesprucecrafts.com/traditional-origami-crane-2540790>
“Traditionally, it was believed that if one folded 1000 origami cranes, one's wish would come true. It has also become a symbol of hope and healing during challenging times.”

Day 2: Actually learning the lyrics to the song that you think you know..... but then you kind of “la la” your way through it.

Day 3: Try and name a Disney character using all the letters of your name. (Remember you have classic Disney, as well as Marvel, Pixar and Star Wars!).

Day 4: Make up a family hand shake! This might sound cheesy but it is fun and will make you laugh (especially when you try to teach your parents/carers!).

Day 5: Try to upcycle something that you no longer use/wear.

Day 6: Continuous line fun – try to draw a picture of a member of your family BUT your pencil is not allowed to leave the paper!

Day 7: Design a new ball game and name the game! Remember to make the rules clear and so that it is easy to follow it is best not to have too many rules. This might even end up being a traditional game within your family for generations to come.

Keep going Year 8, be kind to yourselves. Sometimes difficult roads lead to beautiful destinations.

Best wishes,

Mrs Holt
Year 8 Family Leader