

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope this message finds you and your families well. We hope you and your child have managed to enjoy the dramatic weather of the past few days and that it has not caused too much disruption.

Many thanks to all of you who have taken the time to complete the feedback form on your child's learning experiences from this term. We have already received a lot of constructive feedback, which has shaped some of our remote learning plans for next term. If you are yet to complete form but would still like to tell us your thoughts, you have until Thursday, 11th February to submit them via the following link:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=TxWpPkWAgE264qMS1YZuE6FRyXGre_tHnltX6RZchJUNFM3OVIWVzMzTkdURIRWODRFSjFSWFJYVi4u

As we near the end of this challenging term, we would like to explain the additional elements that will be added to our remote learning package.

- Mentoring will take place at least twice a week for all students in Years 7-11. The sessions will be used as an informal opportunity for the students to see one another and share their experiences. It will be possible to input into the mentor group discussions either by using a camera and microphone or by adding comments to the Teams chat.
- As a result of the successful sessions from last week, year group and house assemblies will take place regularly over the coming weeks.
- For Years 7-9, live sessions will take place once a week for English, maths and science. In addition, fortnightly live sessions will be offered by humanities, PE and foundation subject staff, including all Year 9 preference subjects.
- Year 7 and 8, Pillars sessions will offer a range of interactive activities across our Academic, Performing Arts, Practical and Sport Pillars and will allow students to choose what to take part in each week.
- For Years 10 and 11, live sessions will be increased and will take place weekly for all curriculum subjects.
- Teacher input into the live subject sessions will be recorded for all those students who are unable to attend at the specified time or would like to review the content later.

As mentioned in previous messages, it is important to remember that these live sessions will take place during timetabled lessons, timings of which will be shared by staff in advance. For those who do not wish to or cannot take part in these sessions, there is no obligation to do so as they form part of our learning menu. We recognise, from the parental feedback we have so far received, that the individual experiences and needs of our students are very varied. As such, we feel it's important to offer flexibility with our approach to our students' learning.

We were so pleased to see so many of our students during our minibus tour last week and thank all those who came out to catch up with our staff. We were particularly pleased that some students took advantage of the lending library and would encourage anyone who is looking for some half-term reading material to see us when we visit your local area (please see our website or social media accounts for details). If you have any additional ideas for essential items which could be added to our minibuses, please email Mrs Butler on vbutler@canterbury.kent.sch.uk

We have also had a very positive response to our Youth and Extended Services Team's half-term activity programme, with many sessions nearing their capacity. Thank you to all those who have already signed up for something creative. If you did not receive the details of this provision from our

message of 8th February, please contact Adam Fairbrass on afairbrass@canterbury.kent.sch.uk to request additional information.

We would also like to take this opportunity, once again, to thank you for your continuing support, both of your children, our students, and of our wider school community at this challenging time. We continue to be in awe of the perseverance, positivity and pizzazz that our school community displays on a daily basis, some snippets of which will be shared by Mr Watson in the Pillars of Excellence newsletter, which will be sent to you on Friday.

We wish you all a healthy and happy half term,

Angela Banbery
Head of Middle School

James Brooke
Head of Senior School