



PASTORAL NEWSLETTER

DEPUTY HEADTEACHER: **MRS C SMITH**

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THE MERCIAN TRUST

ASPIRE

Thought for the Week

Be sure to taste your words before you spit them out

Go Purple

Black Country Women's Aid 2020



Your donation changes lives.

“ Thank you for your help support for me and my children. I wouldn't be where I was now if it wasn't for you! ”



www.blackcountrywomensaid.co.uk

Go Purple 2020

A massive THANK YOU to all staff, students and parents who donated money to support Black Country Women's Aid. The response was fantastic and we raised the following:

Year 7 - £232.10

Year 8 - £214.45

Year 9 - £233.05

Year 10 - £306.57

Year 11 - £267.72

Making a grand total of **£1,253.72**. Well done all!

Sanitary Products

A reminder that FREE sanitary products are available to girls in ALL year groups. Please ask your child to pop to the PE department, their head of year or Mrs Harris in M202 and they will happily provide them.

Shire Oak Academy library needs your help!

Firstly, if your child has any of our library books at home that they need to return to us, could you please get them to return the books to the library, so they can go back onto the shelves? Due to COVID rules, any books returned need to be quarantined and disinfected for 72 hours before they can be loaned to new students.

Do you have any unwanted books to donate to the Shire Oak Academy library? You will be clearing space and helping to fill the gaps that quarantining books has caused - while they are being disinfected, we have fewer books to lend to students!

If you'd like to contact us about donating books, please email Mrs Gilbert, librarian, on gilbert.n@shireoakacademy.co.uk

Thank you!

#Parents! Exams regulator @ofqual is holding online focus groups in November. They want to hear from parents of Y11 and Y13 students for their views on arrangements for grading #exams2021. Email OfqualFocusGroups@ofqual.gov.uk for details or to take part.



Unfortunately, due to the recent Government announcement we have had to close our stores until the 2nd December in line with Government guidelines. Clive Mark will still operate its business on a reduced team ensuring online orders and wholesale orders are processed.

All our customers can still log onto the website and place orders in the normal way: Clivemark.co.uk

If we see an increase in demand during this time, we will look to put in place a click and collect service either from the store or our warehouse facility. However, during these difficult times, we

would urge parents to use the online ordering facility to minimise movement and restrict the amount of people having to travel. If a click and collect service is a preferable method for our parents then we will allocate time slots and days when this will be available.

If you have an order that you would prefer to collect please email sales@clivemark.co.uk and we will give instructions on how you can do this.

We thank you for your continued support through this difficult year.

Face Coverings

A reminder that students (with the exception of those who are exempt) should be wearing masks in all communal areas and corridors. We ask that students wear their masks as soon as they are on the Academy site.

[Please click here to view the latest guidance](#)

Public Health England advice that students walking to school in groups should also be wearing masks. During the period of the second lockdown, students are being asked not to talk in big groups.

We would ask all parents / carers to ensure that their child has a clean mask every day.



Pupil Safety and Dark Nights

The clocks have now gone back an hour and summer time has ended. Road traffic collisions increase by 20% in the fortnight after the time change. Sadly, some of those collisions will involve child pedestrians and cyclists. Children under-16 are one of the most vulnerable groups of road users.

The latest available government statistics (2015)* show that 58% of children who die or are seriously injured in a road collision are involved in incidents between 3 and 7pm. From next Sunday, much of those will happen in darkness.

Whilst younger children are at risk, the data shows that 11 - 15 year olds are actually at more at risk from accidents that kill or result in serious injury.

The resources below will help remind children, especially teenagers, about road safety and safe cycling:

[Teaching Road Safety: A Guide for Parents](#)

[Safety First – Cycling at Night](#)

[Keeping children safe during lockdown and beyond - Parents' pack](#)

[Facts on Child Casualties \(June 2015\)](#)



Help to Make Tummies Full

Some of our parents have joined a local group who are helping families who haven't got much. They are currently working in the Clayhanger, Brownhills, Aldridge and Walsall Wood areas.

If you need any help, or feel that you are able to contribute, please [click here](#) to find out more.



COVID-19

If your child should test positive for covid, please report this to us ASAP via the link on the home page of our website.

PSHE

In PSHE lessons this half term, students will be learning about the following:

Year 7: Developing skills and aspirations through an enterprise project.

Year 8: Community and careers, particularly focusing on workplace behaviours and values, diversity and inclusion in the workplace.

Year 9: Setting goals particularly focusing on twenty first century careers and personal action planning.

Year 10: Financial decision making particularly focusing on gambling.

Year 11: Next steps particularly focusing on the journey to your career, adaptability and leadership.

It would be great if you could speak to your children about what they have been learning in PSHE and if you have any questions/comments then please get in touch via email:

harris.n@shireoakacademy.co.uk

Gambling

The Young Gamers and Gamblers Education Trust (YGAM) is a national charity with a social purpose to inform, educate and safeguard young and vulnerable people, helping them build resilience and understand the potential harms caused by gambling and gaming.

Parents can often feel overwhelmed in a world of constantly advancing technology and YGAM is keen to provide simple, usable resources to help parents have honest and open conversations with their children around the topics of gaming and gambling.

There are supposed to be protections in place to keep children away from the risk of gambling. However, the way that online apps and games work, give rise to behaviours that might groom children towards gambling.

In late 2019, the Gambling Commission published a report investigating the impact of gambling on 11-16 year olds in Great Britain. The report singled out the loot box as an example of the blurring of gaming and gambling, finding that 44% of young people who are familiar with in-game items had paid money to open loot boxes in-game. Loot boxes can be bought within a game, and contain a random selection of items.

The Young Gamers and Gamblers Education Trust (YGAM) has resources for parents and teachers and can be found here: <https://parents.ygam.org/about-ygam-parent-hub/>

Year 7 Flu Nasal Spray Vaccine - 20th November 2020

There are still a few consent forms that have not been returned. Please could you complete the consent form ASAP, even if the vaccine is declined. Students need to hand in to their consent form to their Form Tutor. If you require a replacement form, please let me know and I can email one to you.

Thank you
Miss Box - First Aid

I Don't Have to be Perfect, I Can...

- ...Be good enough
- ...Be kind to myself
- ...Try my hardest
- ...Worry about the things that I can control
- ...Accept the things that I can't control
- ...Try new things even if there's a chance I might fail
- ...Be satisfied with my effort
- ...Love myself if I fail
- ...Love myself if I succeed
- ...Know others will still love me if I fail
- ...Know that my mistakes and failures don't define me
- ...Know that my success isn't the reason people love me
- ...Still be proud of myself
- ...Accept the mistakes of others
- ...Know that I may just not be good enough...YET!
- ...Know that other people are better than me at some things
- ...Know that I'm better at other people at some things
- ...Make mistakes (just like everyone else does!)
- ...Lose and still have fun
- ...Not be afraid to fail
- ...Realize that NOBODY's perfect!



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For more resources, visit www.myemarks.com. Watercolor speech bubbles by Pixel Garden.
teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Pixel-Garden-Designs

Form Champions

Our Form Champions are the students who have achieved the most house points in their form each week.
Well done to all.

7F1	Lillian Finney	9N3	Tia Jenkins
7F2	Alaana Steele	9R1	Lola James
7F3	Tyler Stackhouse-Tapper	10F1	Jessica Stanesby
7D1	Ellie Watson	10F2	Jack Travis
7D2	Arthur Broughton	10F3	Zoe Tolley
7D3	Evelyn Haddock	10F4	Sam Poppitt
7N1	Millie-Su Spendlove-Russell	10D1	Ben Hunt
7N2	Erin Follows	10D2	Charlie Kennedy
7N3	Daniel Clarke	10D3	Brandon Foster
8F1	Niave Holland	10N1	Liam Hubery
8F2	Kasey Wood-Cannon	10N2	Ellie-Mae Betteley
8F3	Theo Smith	10N3	Bradley Browne
8D1	Will Smith	10R1	Jack Morris
8D2	Kelsey Watkiss	10R2	Trinity Barnes
8D3	Richard Gillion	11E1	Jaiden Gough
8N1	Reede Grosvenor	11E2	Ochen-Rae Riggan
8N2	Ashton Doherty	11E3	Anna Sheen
8N3	Angel Hall	11M1	Ethan Jenkins
9F1	Grace Simmons	11M2	Kieran Lloyd
9F2	Amy Walker	11M3	Logan Weeks
9F3	Malik Ali	11R1	Georgia White
9D1	Eve Taylor	11R2	Owen Bryan
9D2	Olivia Hall	11S1	Eva Parker
9D3	Addison Plested	11S2	Erin Hull
9N1	Joseph Clews-Rounds	11S3	Ashleigh Butler
9N2	Henry Phillips		