

Family Bulletin– 26 June 2020

Black Lives Matter

There has been a great deal written about BLM and there can be no doubt that we find ourselves at a watershed moment in terms of how we as a nation embrace the truth of our past, in order to shape our future as a multicultural country. Education lies at the heart of this and going forward, we at Ernest Bevin intend to ensure that all aspects of our curriculum, our pastoral structure and our values genuinely reflect what matters for the lives of all our BAME children. This week the governing board had a full meeting for all members and the first item on the agenda was how we as a school should respond at this important juncture. We wanted to consider how we should ensure that we add our voice to those of everyone else who is disturbed and angered by events we have seen, both here and abroad. Education in this country has worked hard to address many of these thorny problems, but we can never imagine for a moment that they have been resolved. They have not and it is vital that we as educators enable our children to understand the multicultural history of Britain's past, in order that they have a say in their future. The governing board was absolutely clear about its support for the strategy set out by Mr Adrian Clarke at the meeting, beginning with making BLM a standing item on the governing board agenda. As we determine outcomes for the areas mentioned above we will share them with you.

We are proud that a member of our staff is recognised as a national voice on this issue; Bevin was delighted to see Mr Clarke chosen to speak on the panel of a recent debate chaired by the broadcaster and journalist Samira Ahmed at Jesus College Cambridge. You can watch the debate here: (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vi1lrwSB70k>)

Ann Keane Mayer

Years 10 and 12 back in the classroom

We are delighted by the response from Year 10 and 12 students who have been invited back into College this week; following very good attendance to last week's 1-to-1 interviews for every student in the year groups, 84% of Year 10 and 73% of Year 12 took the opportunity of attending classes. Year 10 students had sessions in maths, English, science and history or geography whilst Year 12 spent time on each of their subjects. The atmosphere was great, very positive, with students admitting to having missed the College, and even their teachers!

We are really looking forward to seeing the rest of the students from other Year groups once we are in a position to reopen more widely. In the meantime, Years 7 to 9 remain at home working on Canvas. Students in Years 10 and 12 have online learning to supplement their time in College and Years 11 and 13 have access to bridging work which will support them in preparing for their next steps.

At this stage there is no definite news about how schools will look in September. We are of course keeping up to date with developments and making contingency plans, and will share information as soon as we have it.

Live Lessons

We have made a great start to running live lessons to a school-wide timetable and attendance is encouraging. We will continue to review and adjust the provision as we gain confidence and experience of this way of working.

We request that students join the class using their full name – first name and surname, and use the chat function (if made available) to ask and answer questions about the work only. We are also re-issuing some guidance regarding online safety alongside this bulletin.

Julie Connell

The College has had some sad and shocking news; Julie Connell who was the Principal's Personal Assistant, died suddenly at the beginning of the month. Julie had worked at the College for 18 years and was a much loved and valued colleague. We were proud to have some part in her funeral this week; the cortege drove past the College and staff and students were able to come out and pay their respects. Best wishes and condolences to her family.



Times of the College day

Families have been sent a separate letter outlining changes to the College day from September.

Messages from the police

Wandsworth School Police Service are planning their annual summer scheme. This offers a range of great value activities for students during the holiday. This will be based at St Cecilia's School, and is of course subject to Covid related restrictions. A flyer is below.

The police have also asked us to make families aware of a spate of thefts of electric scooters and bikes in the borough. Please take care. Here are some links to help keep property secure:

<http://www.immobilise.com/>

<http://www.bikeregister.com/>

Your contact details

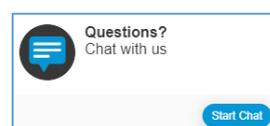
During the closure it is more important than ever that we hold up to date contact details for all families. If phone number or emails have changed, please let us have them. Current guidance is that we should hold at least three phone numbers for the family of each student. Please email collegeclosure@ernestbevin.london

Free School Meals

The EDENRED system is now delivering free meal vouchers fairly smoothly. If you are eligible and have not received your voucher or if your circumstances have changed and your family are now entitled, please send an email to collegeclosure@ernestbevin.london.

Need help with home learning?

If you can't log on to Canvas, go to our website <https://ernestbevin.london/> and get help from the live chat support button.



If you want to know how Canvas works, watch this video for students: <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-18585-getting-started-with-canvas-as-a-student> and visit the Support pages here: <https://ernestbevin.instructure.com/courses/2176>

If you have a question about work in a particular subject, contact the teacher using the email function on Canvas (click on )

Still need help? Use our live chat on our website or email collegeclosure@ernestbevin.london

Need more learning resources? Try the Oak National Academy (<https://www.thenational.academy/>) and BBC Bitesize Daily (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>).



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