



Friday, 15 January 2021

Dear Student!

I thought it was important to write to you directly, to congratulate you for establishing the same fantastic attitude to your 'remote' work, as we have come to expect in all your school work. It has been reassuring to receive so many positive comments from your parents about how you are doing, and how much so many of you are enjoying our new approach to home learning. Especially as we recognise that it asks so much of you all in terms of maturity and self-motivation. In lessons your conduct has been fantastic, thank you for respecting the use of 'Chat' and limiting this for work purposes only. Check Mrs Mitchell's bulletin for her Headteacher Recognition to see if you're included this week!

Your attendance has been fantastic, last week seeing 92% of you accessing all of your lessons remotely. We have reset forgotten passwords for the small number of students who required this. Attendance in assemblies is essential to ensure we share key information relevant to you all. These will always be via Teams and added to your calendars.

As you know you can see your live lessons directly in the calendar on the Teams app. Your lessons will normally follow your usual timetable, although we have adjusted some of these to accommodate changes to lessons on carousels. This should be obvious from your calendar, just follow the link. If there is no live lesson showing in the calendar, ensure you check ClassCharts, or have made a note of any specific instructions from your teacher for this.

Remember, you will have lessons on both ClassCharts and Teams, and although the majority of lessons will include live input from your teacher, this is blended learning, and so some will be work that has been set for you. Even in live lessons, it is essential that you have independent learning time as a substantive element.

We expect that you will complete and submit work online, just as we would expect you to hand your book in at school. By the end of next week all teachers should have received work you have submitted. Your parents will be informed of any concerns we have about engagement in lessons following this, so make sure you upload your work on time.

I know I am asking my classes to make notes, and have written answers, if you require any resources for this we have lots of stationary packs available for your parents to collect from the school entrance. With written work, stick to our standard procedures in school; Underline your Name, Date and Title; write clearly and use subtitles to organise your thoughts; keep your work together and in order in a folder or similar, so you have it for your teachers in a few weeks, and for yourselves to revise from for future assessments.

We are also asking teachers be mindful of your physical and mental wellbeing, as well as their own. Mr Devlin has asked that we all stick to the 20 20 20 rule, recommending that for every 20minutes on screen, we spend 20 seconds looking at something at least 20 feet away. You may also be given a couple of minutes break to walk around and ensure you are not remaining sedentary, and we will be speaking to your Student Leadership Team about this.

Continue to message your tutors and join the tutorial sessions they are setting up for you, they really are interested in how your day is going, and to help you as much as possible. Let someone know if you have any difficulties with access, workload, or how they are feeling. Please do not hesitate to contact someone at school via enquiry@holycarnton.org, or through the direct messaging on ClassCharts and on Teams. This is especially important if you are feeling down, or you are worried about anything at all.

Yours sincerely, look after yourselves and your families,

P Moran
Deputy Headteacher

