

[Watch our music video here!](#)
[Thanks to Ms Walton for putting it together.](#)



HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Well done to everyone for another successful term. This is certainly not how we expected to spend our first summer together - sports day, year 7 camp and our school play will have to wait for another day - but it has undoubtedly been one where all of us have demonstrated our ability to thrive even in the most difficult circumstances. I am constantly blown away by how our community has rallied together. I hope that this level of support and engagement can be one of the things that we take with us as we start to return to a level of 'normality'.

Just a reminder to all our families that our school will remain closed for the majority of students for next half term. If you have not already, please do watch the [video explaining our plans](#). As this situation will be with us for the foreseeable future, it is more important than ever that we continue to work together to ensure that our children do not fall behind. After all, they only get one shot at their education.

- [Distance Learning](#) - four lessons are sent out every day. Please talk to your child about their learning and check they have completed all tasks.
- [Welfare Calls](#) - please pick up the phone! Let us know if there is a particular time that is convenient for us to call.
- [Enrichment](#) - encourage your child to get involved. Time away from screens is particularly beneficial.

Ms Wood

POETRY RECITATION COMPETITION

In the last two weeks, ten of our students entered the inaugural Swan Poetry Recitation Competition, showing tremendous ambition and dedication to get it together to record their poems and send them to Mrs Hinze despite the lockdown circumstances. Our LAMDA teacher, Robin Colyer, kindly agreed to judge the poems and has chosen the top 3. He has also recorded a lovely message and his own poetry reading.

We loved to see all of the entries, with a special mention to Ivan whose recitation was recorded from a mountain bike! You can watch all of the winning recitations by clicking on the links below, and you can also watch [Mr Colyer's judging video and brilliant performance of the poem Tinkerbelle by Hollie McNish here](#). Thank you also to parents/carers/siblings for your filming efforts!

- First Place - [Freya Leech](#)
- Second Place - [Aalian Malik](#)
- Third Place - [Morrigan Ogg](#)
- Highly Commended - [Ivan Savory](#), [Malik Badji-Zonta](#), [Matthew Jedraszczyk](#)

GETTING OUTSIDE!

We always love seeing and hearing what you have been getting up to at home. Now that lockdown restrictions are starting to ease a little, it's a great time to get outside and learn outdoors if you can. We have included some inspiration from Rosie Joyce and family. Please do keep sending in your pictures!



Making art from old packaging



A garden pond made from a bowl and foraged leaves. Can you spot the first inhabitant? (it's a frog!)



'Camping' in the rain using umbrellas as a tent

QUIZ WEEK - w/c 6TH JULY 2020

A reminder that we will be setting quizzes the week starting 6th July (the second to last week of term) to help us find out more about our students' progress. These quizzes will be completed online and will be instead of (not in addition to) lessons on particular days. The quizzes will be based on the content that has been covered this cycle. They will not require any additional preparation, apart from continuing to work hard on the distance learning tasks set over the next few weeks. Students will receive a score for each quiz and we will use this information to plan our teaching for September. Students will not be ranked or judged on their scores and we will not be producing a report.

SWAN AUDIO BOOK CLUB

It was so lovely to see the students who made it to the online discussion on Wednesday. We had a very interesting chat about Robinson Crusoe. We all agreed that it was an excellent choice for lockdown, in the way it made us think about isolation. Although our experience is in many ways completely unlike Crusoe's many years of solitude, in other ways it mirrored some of our own experiences about how we are re-evaluating what was perhaps once valuable in the real world, but not so valuable in lockdown. For example, Crusoe's reflections about money, which was once so valuable to him, but is rendered completely worthless on the island. The students also said it made them think hard about discomfiting words and concepts like 'savage' versus 'civilised', and they raised interesting points about Crusoe's complex relationship with Friday. They also reflected on the far less sentimental view of animals that Crusoe has! Finally, the students had really interesting thoughts on the conflicting feelings Crusoe has about his faith (which is both a comfort and a source of anxiety) and his continual regret about not having listened to his father's wisdom. Perhaps this will bring some hope to all us parents!

Our next book is The Near Witch by V.E.Schwab, chosen by Catriona Porter. [You can find it here.](#) We will aim to discuss this via Google Hangout on Wednesday 10th June, which is the second week after we return from half term. Mrs Hinze.

WORKOUT WEDNESDAY

It is so important to keep active for our physical and mental health. Mr MacNaughton has been leading a weekly 5K run with some of the students in school every Wednesday. He has also challenged our students to send him pictures of them exercising during lockdown. You can see some of their pictures on the pages below.



