

LGS Headlines

29 January 2021



Dear Parents

A significant item of news this week was the Prime Minister's statement about the possible timescale for the reopening of schools.

In view of the current levels of community infection, the Government has confirmed that it will not be possible to reopen schools immediately after the February half term break. Instead, remote learning will continue until at least 8th March, and schools will be given two weeks notice to enable them to prepare to re-open.

We therefore now face at least another four weeks of remote learning for everyone, and it is likely that there will be a phased return into school after that date. It is important to remember that the Prime Minister said that schools will return from 8th March, not on 8th March. We do not know any more at this stage but will of course update you when there is any further clarity about the timescales.

In the meantime, we continue refining our remote learning provision. We hope that the revised timings of the school day have been helpful and supportive. The students are continuing to engage exceptionally well across all age groups and are responding enthusiastically to the range of activities they are being asked to do, whether independently or as part of live lessons together. A number of pages of this newsletter give you some indication of the breadth of learning taking place.

I would like to congratulate the 29 students in Year 13 who have received the results of their Extended Project Qualification, or EPQ. The EPQ involves students researching an area of specialised interest beyond A Level specifications, submitting a 5000 word report and making a presentation on their work. We were delighted that 24 of the 29 entries were graded A* or A. Well done to all the students involved!

Looking ahead to the GCSE and A Level outcomes for this year, the DfE/Ofqual consultation has now closed and we await the results. In addition to those from schools, I understand that the DfE have received responses from around 50,000 individual students across the country, which is very encouraging.

The current situation continues to be tough for everyone and we continue to think especially of those who have been impacted hard by personal or family experience of Covid. Thank you for the support you are providing to your sons and daughters, and for the positive feedback you have given to us.

Mr J Constable - Headteacher

The best way to contact us during the school closure period is to email school@lgs.slough.sch.uk.

Your query will be passed on to the most appropriate member of staff.

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Please visit our website at

www.lgs.slough.sch.uk

Follow us on Twitter @lgs_news



Reminders

Current timings of the online school day....

8:20 to 8:40	8:40 to 8:50	8:50 to 9:45	9:45 to 10:00	10:00 to 10:55	10:55 to 11:10	11:10 to 12:05	12:05 to 12:20	12:20 to 13.15	13.15 to 14.15	14:15 to 15:10
Morning reg	Break	Period 1	Break	Period 2	Break	Period 3	Break	Period 4	Lunch	Period 5

Critical worker provision

DfE guidance is still that parents and carers who are critical workers should keep their children at home if they can.

However, if any parent requires critical worker supervision for their son or daughter during the school closure period they should contact us via school@lgs.slough.sch.uk.

Online safety

During the 'stay at home' restrictions there has been an understandable rise in the level of online gaming. The majority of online games are safe for children and young people to engage with. However, we all recognize that there are some that pose more risks.

It is good practice for parents to:

- ⇒ have **open and regular conversations** with their child/children about which games or social media platform they may be using;
- ⇒ **monitor** what games they are playing;
- ⇒ use **parental controls** where appropriate;
- ⇒ check **privacy settings** are set to private;
- ⇒ ensure that their child/children really do know who their '**friends**' are – many of these games/apps/social media allow for online chat with friends;
- ⇒ make sure their child/children do not have access to parents' **credit facilities** as many games/ Apps encourage in game purchases
- ⇒ ask them to **report any inappropriate content or behaviour** to a trusted adult (parent, teacher etc) and/or to the gaming platform directly.

For further help and support please see the school website, or go to sources of advice and guidance online such as www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/

If you have concerns in connection with any possible safeguarding issues, please contact the safeguarding team using the confidential email address safeguarding@lgs.slough.sch.uk.

LGS Safeguarding Team



Updates



AQUARO

Aquaro is our school's Year 12 **Young Enterprise** team. We provide biodegradable water bottles made of wheat - we aim to help the local community by reducing plastic waste, one bottle at a time!

Unlike plastic water bottles, our bottle has no negative impacts on the environment. It is made of solely biodegradable biomaterials, with 0% plastic or PVC!

If you are interested in finding out more and would like to make a long lasting impact on the local environment contact us:

Our Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/aquarobottles/>

Our product site: <https://www.ye-tradingstation.org.uk/product/>

Young Health Champions

Our Year 13 Young Health Champions have been working really hard throughout the year towards their Royal Society for Public Health level 2 qualification.

Navin Vithana, Harleen Kaur, Samreen Matiana and Kirthana Balachandran have been involved in a number of projects led by Slough community action group Aik Saath.

The Young Health Champions are trained in how to increase awareness of healthy lifestyles (including mental health) and encourage involvement in activities to promote good health across the local community and education settings.

They have been involved in projects in Slough such as mystery customer, attending listening and feedback sessions for young people's services and volunteering to assist with the first Covid vaccines for the over 80s.

The YHCs have been able to utilise their skills in school by creating newsletters around mental health and wellbeing, giving assemblies to raise mental health awareness and have provided support to our key stage three students who have needed help with low level anxiety.

Following a recruitment process which saw over 30 students apply, four Year 12 students have been selected to work on the programme this year. Congratulations to:

Sameer Gonuguntla

Avnika Heer

Emma Bassimeh

Raksha Ganeshwaran

The new group starts at the beginning of February and will initially work alongside our Year 13 YHCs in school. We look forward to welcoming them to the Young Health Champion team!



together as one

young people
leading change

Ms Burns
Behaviour & Welfare Practitioner



Tackling domestic abuse

How to get help if someone you know is a victim of domestic abuse

We know that the coronavirus pandemic has led to a rise in cases of domestic abuse. This is not always physical violence. It can also include coercive control and 'gaslighting', threats and intimidation, economic or financial, emotional or sexual abuse.

If anyone is experiencing domestic abuse and needs immediate help, they can use the national codework scheme and **ask for 'ANI'** in a participating pharmacy.

'ANI' stands for **Action Needed Immediately** but also sounds like the name Annie.

If a pharmacy has the **'Ask for ANI'** logo on display, it means they're ready to help. They will offer a private space, provide a phone and ask if the person needs support from the police or other domestic abuse support services.

Further advice and guidance on how to obtain help can be found online at....

www.gov.uk/guidance/domestic-abuse-how-to-get-help#coronavirus-covid-19-and-domestic-abuse

HM Government

IF YOU NEED IMMEDIATE HELP

ASK FOR ANI

OR

SAFE SPACES

OUR CONSULTATION ROOM IS OPEN

IF YOU NEED A SAFE SPACE

IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING DOMESTIC ABUSE WE ARE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU.

Ask to use the Safe Space or ask for ANI at the healthcare counter.



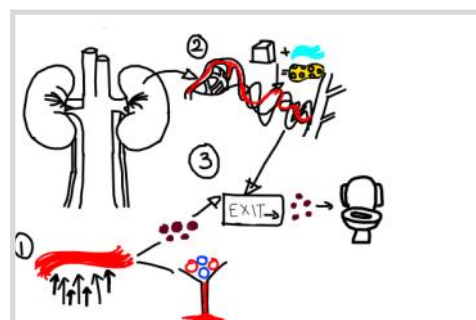
Remote learning during school closure

More comments and examples from our staff this week.....



"Unable to go into school to mix up wallpaper paste, I played a video of an experiment instead to 7H while they did all the timings from home. They then used their results to draw conclusions about the impact of different shapes on drag."

Mrs Close



"My Year 10s today were drawing a summary of how the kidney works on the whiteboard app while working in breakout rooms on Teams. This is an example of the work produced" **Mr Pacha**



"I wanted to share with you some work my Year 7s completed this week, which showed some friendly competitiveness amongst the year group! We had a lesson on exploring forces and motion with a focus on learning how a glider flies. Following a video on how gliders work, students used their knowledge of forces to make their own plane, ensuring that it stayed up for as long as possible. Students improved their designs and flight times and provided lots of photos and videos." **Mrs Assari**

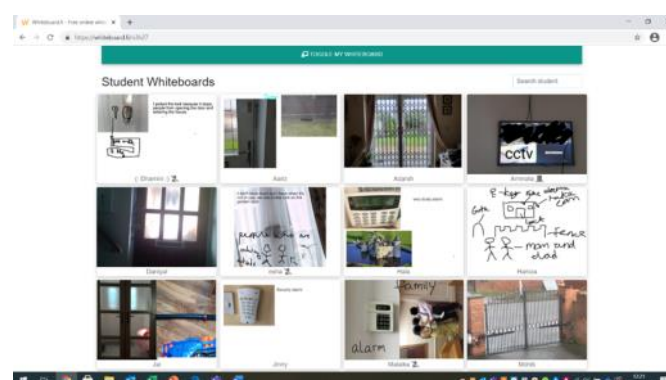
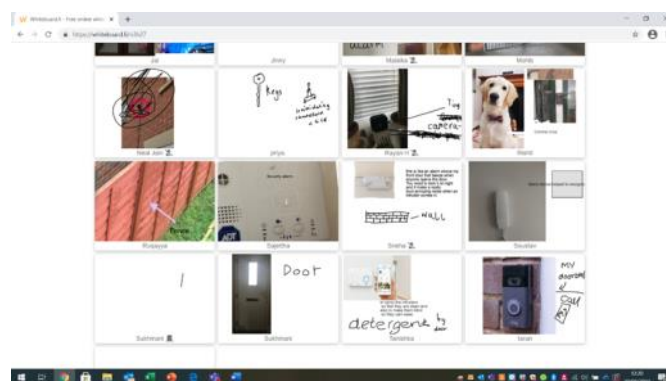
"I have set all of Year 8 and Year 9 a 'loo roll challenge' where they have to make a continuous video of them passing a loo roll across the screen to each other in the most creative way they can think of (keepy uppys, cartwheels, etc.). I am waiting to see what they produce!"

Miss Thompson

"In Year 7 History we are moving on to medieval castles and by way of introduction, 7H were asked to think about ways in which we protect our houses/land today from intruders. They were given 5 minutes to run around their houses, finding/taking photos of as many security features as possible."

They came up with lots of good ideas, from simple hedges and fences to high-tech door entry systems, and we were particularly pleased to see Rishit's 'guard dog' making an appearance! This led on to us thinking about Motte and Bailey castles, and next week we will see how these developed into stronger, more long-lasting structures..."

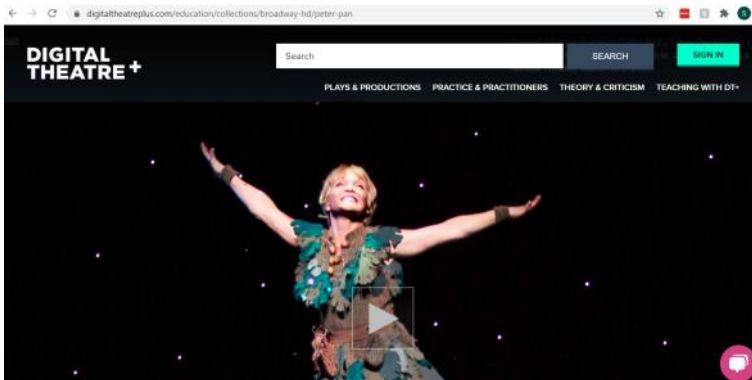
Miss Mawdsley





Remote learning during school closure

More comments and examples from our staff this week.....



"Year 7 have been engaging with our Digital Theatre forum and working on their skills in interpreting and evaluating live theatre. They have just finished watching 'Peter Pan' the musical Broadway production.

I have attached a couple of examples their initial thoughts from Aayan and Retaaj!"

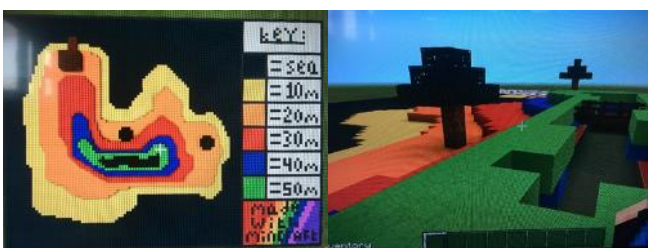
Mrs Andrijasevic

"The production was very entertaining, and it had a lot of new elements of drama that I had never seen before like a smoke machine and a harness that was used for the flying. The actors had very good use of facial expressions and they used that to express how they felt when saying their lines. Also, they were very confident about what they were doing and didn't stutter in between their lines. The people behind the scenes of the program did a very good job with the lighting and the sound effects and using the harness carefully and effectively. Also, I liked how the actors engaged the audience into the play. For example, when Tinkerbell drank Captain Hook's poison to save his life, Peter Pan held Tinkerbell in his hands and told the audience to clap to make Tinkerbell feel better. Overall, the production was amazing, and I think that this Broadway production was the hit of the decade.

"I believe that the performance was excellent and I definitely learnt a lot from it such as different techniques and skills used by the actors. Regarding the dances, there was great synchronisation and great choreography - it was a wonderful way of telling different parts of the story. I particularly liked Tiger Lilly's tribal dance as it was really elegant and graceful. As well as this, I think that the design of the costumes also took a huge part in the performance as costumes can really tell someone about a character's personality. An example of this is the lost boys' costumes as it shows that they don't have parents to take care of them and clean/dress them 'properly' and that they live in nature."



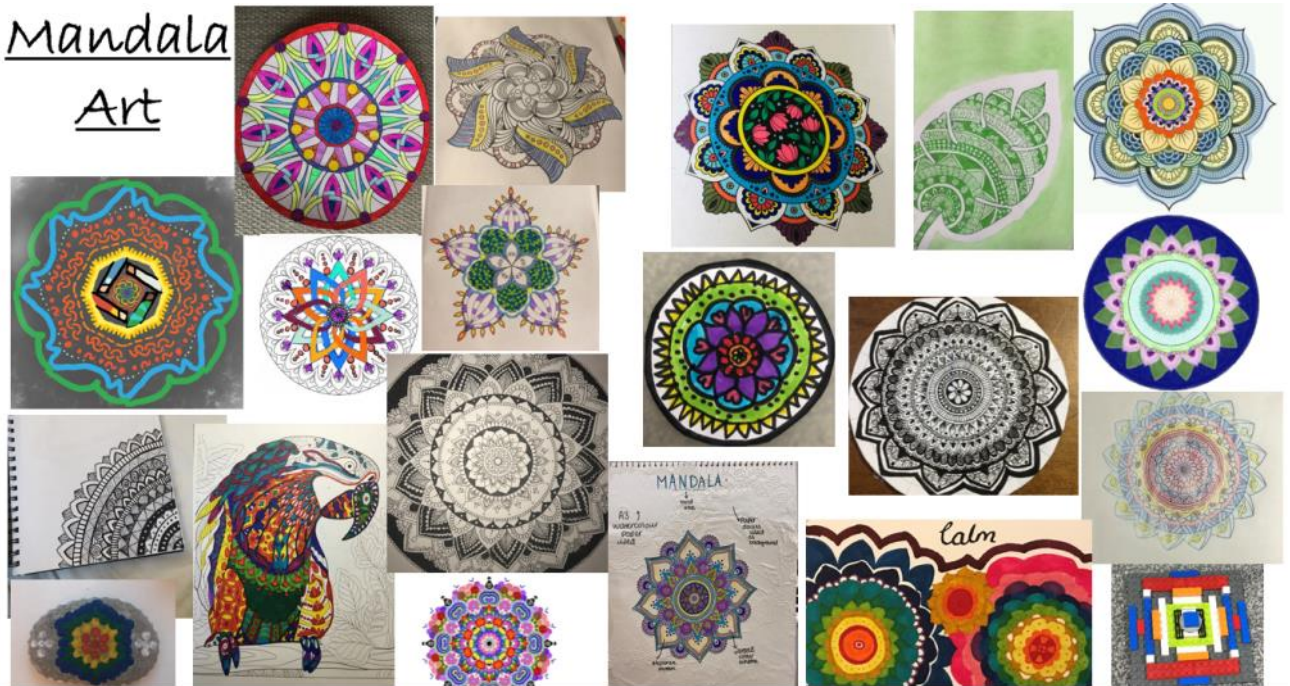
"When we teach contour lines in year 7 Geography we always get the students to make contour islands. This year I still set the task as HW and gave them the option to use Minecraft as well if they could not source the materials to make a physical model. Students had to include a clear key that shows the height of the land on their models, and that can be seen in 3D. They came up with some impressive results...!" **Mr Aplin**



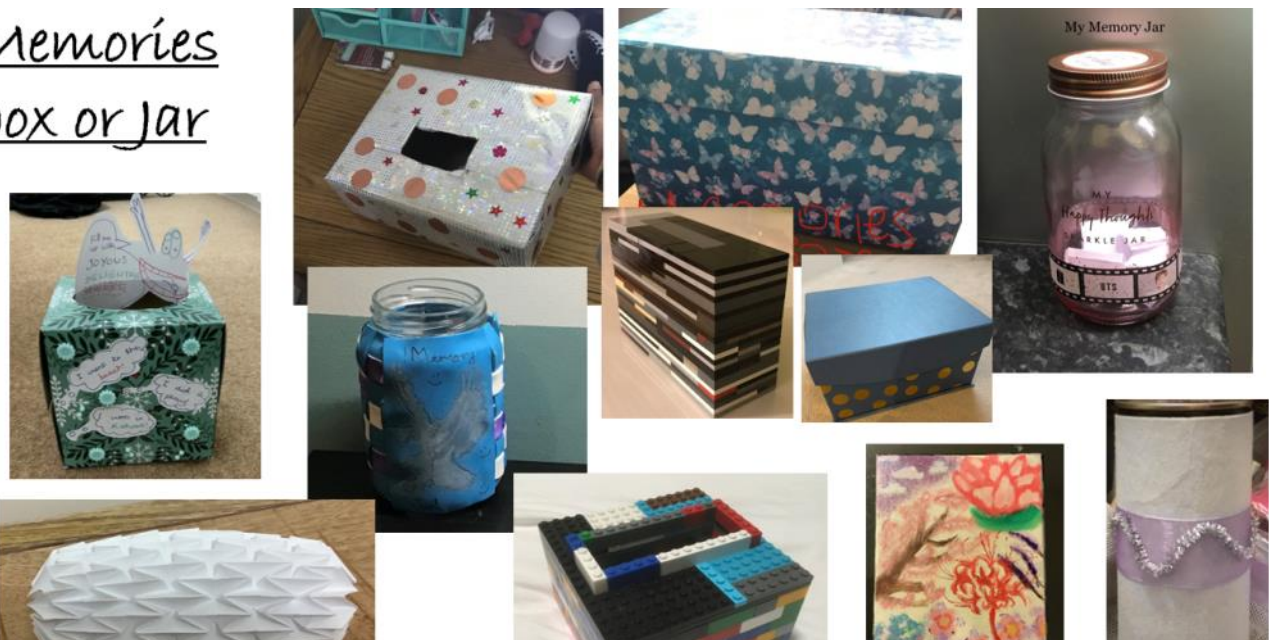


Mrs Toor

Mandala Art



Memories
box or jar





Remote learning during school closure

More comments and examples from our staff this week....

'Wellbeing Wednesday' work continued.....

Mrs Toor

Vision boards
for 2021



From Mrs Jenkins....



"Year 7 and 8 students have been taking the opportunity to complete some of their IDEA badges, and working towards their Bronze or Silver certificate."

<https://idea.org.uk/about/learner>

Time Left:	0	Score:	1		
B	01011		01111	11100	10100
I	11011		10111	01100	10011
N		00101			
G	10101		10110	00110	
O	00111		11000	11101	

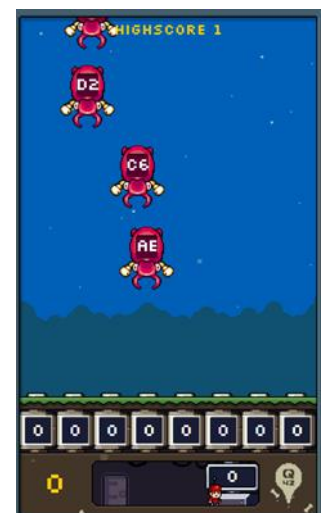
"Year 10 have taking part in class challenges by playing games to practice conversions with binary and hexadecimal."

Binary Bingo

<https://courses.cs.vt.edu/~cs1104/Bingo/bingo.kevin.html>

Flippy Bit and the Attack of the Hexadecimals

<https://flippybitandtheattackofthehexadecimalsfrombase16.com/>





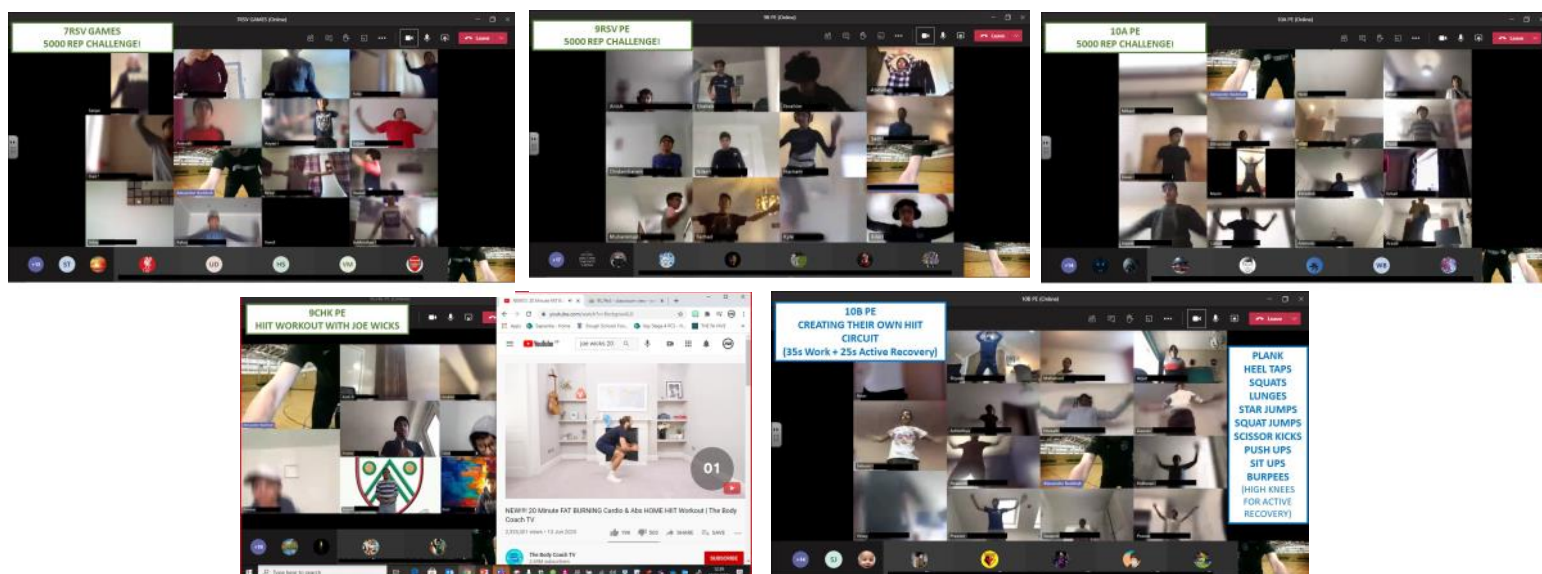
Remote learning during school closure

More comments and examples from our staff this week....

"The photos show students across different PE classes taking part in

- ⇒ '5000 Rep Challenges' working as a class to complete 5000 reps of 5 different physical activities (Star jumps, Squats, Lunges, High knees, Squat jumps).
- ⇒ Live HIIT Workout with Joe Wicks.
- ⇒ 10B PE Creating their own HIIT workout as a group whilst learning about active recovery to promote a more efficient way of burning calories.

*The students have engaged with lessons really well so far and are definitely keeping me active! **Mr Badshah***



This week's PE remote learning challenge – Agility and Reaction time

The PE department have challenged students (and staff) to test their agility and reaction time in this week's activity. The ICT department have made the HomeCourt app available for students to download through the self-service apps on their iPads.

It's a great way to get moving and see who can get the highest score in LGS. **Mr Bartlett** set the bar with a high score of 488, which has already been smashed by a number of students.



From Mr Podbury....

Year 8s learning the 3-ball cascade juggling technique in their PE lessons this week.





Remote learning during school closure

More comments and examples from our staff this week.....

"Year 7 students have been creating title pages for their new project on Aboriginal Art."

Ms Stanton



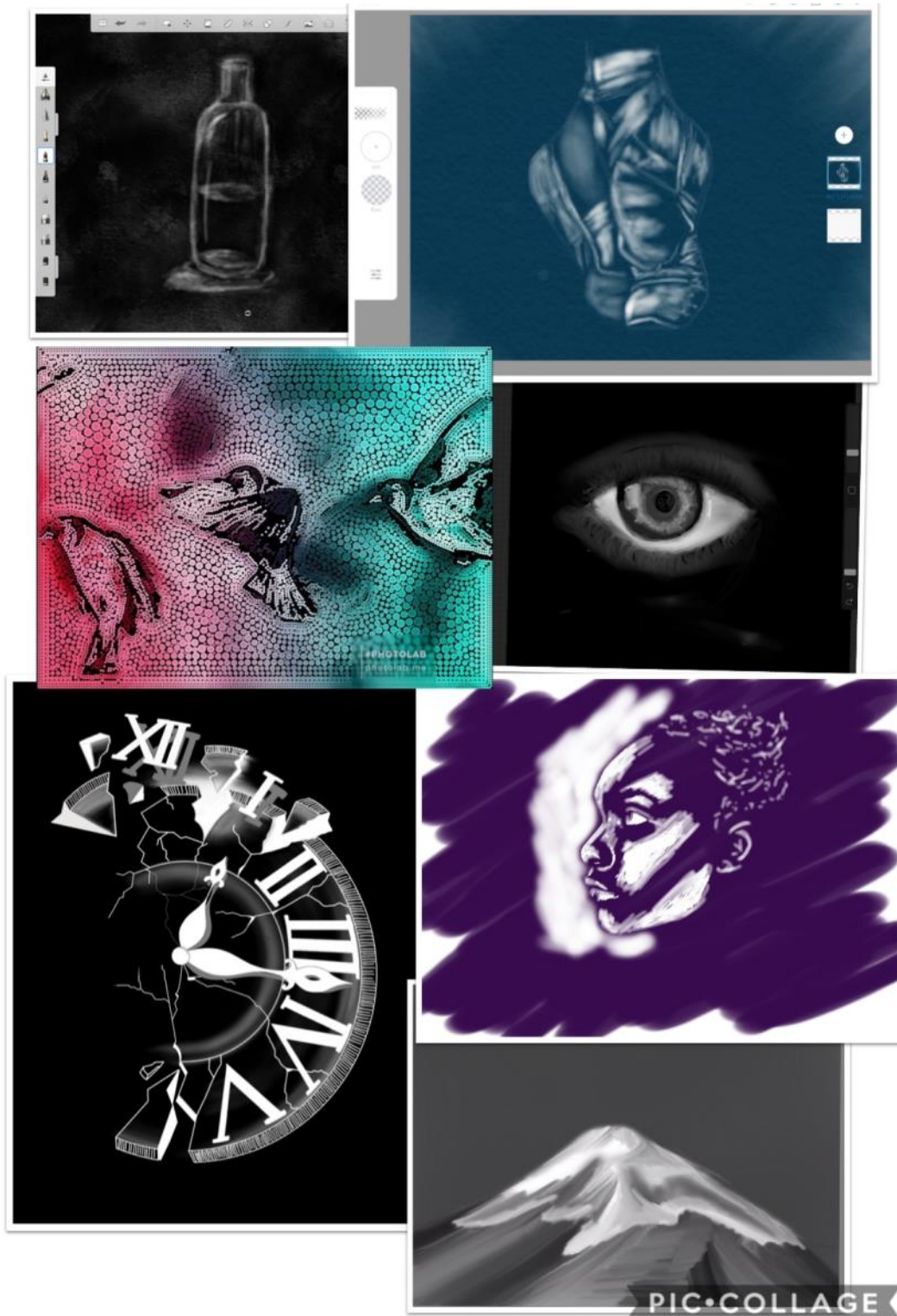


Remote learning during school closure

More comments and examples from our staff this week.....

"A-level art students have been exploring digital drawing techniques using their iPads. These include "subtractive" drawings which begin with a dark background. An image is created by adding the "light" tones to the picture."

Ms Stanton



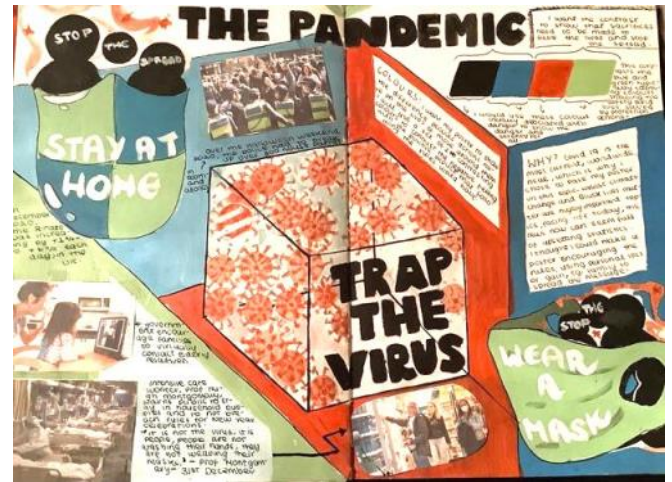


Remote learning during school closure

More comments and examples from our staff this week....

"Students have been starting a new project in Year 7 (Aboriginal Art), researching chosen themes and producing plans for posters in Year 9, using creative apps on iPads in Year 13 working from own photographs, and continuing with starter warm up activities based on Portraiture in Year 10."

Ms Curtlin





Youth Parliament 'Make your Mark'

Make Your Mark is the UK's biggest annual youth ballot, supported by UK youth parliament, giving 11-18 year olds a chance to have their say and influence decision makers nationwide.

The UK parliament built a purposely built website for this year's Make Your Mark (MYM). With a delayed decision to actually run MYM in 2020, the number of voters taking part nationwide and locally was lower than usual.

However, Langley Grammar School students were represented among the 180,000 young people who voted in in Make Your Mark across the country.

The UK Youth Parliament will now support 3 national campaigns instead of the usual 2

- ⇒ Free University - "We should invest in the young people of today by providing free university. The alternative is that young people will suffer financial hardship and not reach their full potential."
- ⇒ Support Our Mental Health - "More money should be given for young people's mental health. We should be offered mental health support in schools and ensure that teachers know about mental health."
- ⇒ Take Action on the Climate Emergency: Stop Plastic Pollution - "If we do not take action now, it is predicted that waste plastics will outweigh fish in our oceans by 2050. Let's reduce single-use and non-essential plastics."

Slough's youth representatives will support these in addition to locally highlighted issues.

