

LGS Headlines

22 January 2021



Dear Parents

We are now midway through the first half of the Spring term, and remote learning has settled into a rhythm and routine. Attendance online remains excellent, and staff have commented on the high levels of engagement from students across all the year groups.

In this edition of LGS Headlines, members of staff have again provided some examples to illustrate some of the things going on in lessons as we continue to experiment with new online techniques.

Following feedback from staff and students we have made some adjustments to the timings of the school day. These have already been sent to the students, and are summarised on the next page. Essentially we have removed the staggered timings of break and lunch for different year groups, and have put slightly longer gaps between lessons to allow everyone to have proper screen breaks. The changes take effect from Monday 25th January.

Last week I sent parents and students in Years 11, 12 and 13 details of the DfE consultation on the arrangements for awarding GCSE, AS and A Level grades this year. As a school we will be responding, but we would encourage you and your sons and daughters to do so as well if you have strong views.

As yet we have no indication of when schools will reopen fully. We know that remote learning is in place until at least February half term and the Department for Education has indicated that schools will be given two weeks' notice before students are expected to return to school. We will of course inform you when we know anything more.

With our continued best wishes to you and your families.

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.

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.

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Please visit our website at

www.lgs.slough.sch.uk

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Updates

Changes to the timings of the school day

Following feedback from staff and students we are making some changes to the timings of the school day, starting from Monday 25th January.

The key changes are:

- ⇒ We have removed the 'staggered' periods / split timetable so that students in all year groups will have their lessons at the same time.
- ⇒ We have created 15 minute breaks between all lessons and a 10 minute break after the morning registration.
- ⇒ Lessons are shortened to 55 minutes to facilitate this.

The new timings are shown below...

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

Taking breaks is important...

The additional breaks have been added to enable staff and students to have a break from "screen time" and time for movement/exercise during the day. We know that spending 5 hours a day in online lessons can be tiring and being rooted to a desk for long periods is unhealthy.

As well as taking regular daily exercise outside school hours we would encourage students to use the breaks between lessons to exercise at home and have a break from looking at their devices. At the very least they should be getting up and moving around as they would between 'normal lessons' in school.

The 20:20:20 rule...

In addition to taking breaks, students are encouraged to adopt the **20:20:20 rule** to protect their eyesight – every **20 minutes**, spend **20 seconds** focusing on something **20 feet** (about 6m) away.

You can read more here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-55620100>.

There are various apps and timers students can download to prompt them during the day.

Other changes

- ⇒ Occasionally, morning registration may be cancelled to enable Phase Leaders to meet their tutor teams. Students will be told if this is going to happen; otherwise, they should attend registration as normal.
- ⇒ Period 5 lessons on Wednesday 27th January are cancelled to provide time for staff training. Rather than attend their period 5 lesson students will be set an alternative activity to complete independently. We also plan to set a further lesson aside for alternative activities in the weeks beginning 1st and 8th February.



Opportunities

For Year 11, 12 & 13 students

The launch event for the SEGRO Work Ready Club took place in December, and hopefully some students were able to join this event. If they missed it and would like to catch up on the session, it is available here:

<https://vimeo.com/488502319/a2eff15006>

The first proper meeting will be taking place on Wednesday 27th January at 4.30pm. The theme for the meeting is Personal Branding and is being supported by the hotel group, IHG.

During the meeting students will have the opportunity to:

- Understand what personal branding means
- Learn why it is important to create their own personal brand
- Start creating their own personal brand

The Work Ready Club is FREE to all young people aged 16-19 in the Slough area.



The Work Ready Club

Brought to you by **Learning to Work**

The Work Ready Club

The first ever virtual monthly networking opportunity for young people aged 16-19 in Slough.

Bringing the world of work to life.

The Work Ready Club is a great way to meet a new network of business people and peers who can share their experience with you and help you develop the skills and the confidence to make your first steps in the workplace. All you need to join is access to the internet.

Supported by **SEGRO**

Join us for our first meeting with the hotel group IHG to:

- Understand what personal branding means
- Learn why it is important to create your own personal brand
- Start creating your own personal brand



Meeting 1
Wednesday 27th January at 4.30pm

Personal Branding
with IHG

Meetings will take place every month throughout 2021.

If you can't make a meeting, you can listen again at a time that suits you.

To find out more and to sign up to join us next week, visit www.learningtowork.org.uk



Opportunities

For Year 9 students

Year 9 have had a launch presentation for the annual national careers competition, 'Step into the NHS'.

Students are invited to participate, individually or in teams of up to four, to research careers available in the NHS and select one for the project. There is a fantastic 'Map your career' tool on the website to use as a starting point. Students then use their knowledge gained, their creativity and their technology skills, to produce both a job description and finally a job advertisement that will appeal to a target audience of their peers.

Students have received all of the research and application information already, and Miss Northcott (Careers Leader) is happy to help them at any stage of the process.

Find out more at <https://www.stepintothensh.nhs.uk/>

NHS

STEP INTO THE NHS

Home Careers Work experience NHS Jobs Apprenticeships Teachers

350 Careers. One NHS.
Your future.

Map your career

Find out more about the 350+ careers in the NHS

Novel Voices project

A number of selected Year 9 student will be taking part in the Novel Voices project, part of the BBC *Novels That Shaped Our World* campaign. The novel our students chose is 'Noughts and Crosses' by Malorie Blackman. Having read the text, students will take part in an online creative writing workshop and then they will be invited to produce their response to the text. Online celebration and showcasing of the work, both locally and nationally, is planned for the summer term.

Thank you to the English Department and Ms Shine, our librarian, for organizing this.

ARTS

THE NOVELS THAT SHAPED OUR WORLD

Home Novels That Shaped Our World 100 Themes Books

Explore the list of 100 Novels That Shaped Our World

5 November 2019

Stories have the power to change us. We asked a panel of leading writers, curators and critics to choose 100 genre-busting novels that have had an impact on their lives, and this is the result. These English language novels, written over the last 300 years, range from children's classics to popular



Remote learning during school closure

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

"Art students in year 11, 12 and 13 have been starting each lesson with a quick 10 minute drawing exploring a range of different drawing techniques. Methods used have included pen and wash, scribble drawing, drawing with multiple pens at once and "upside down" drawing. These activities help to broaden and extend students' drawing skills and act as a "warm up" for more sustained pieces of work."

Ms Stanton



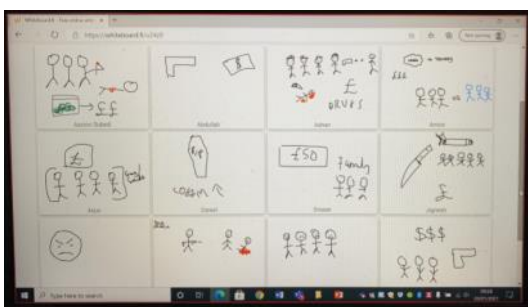
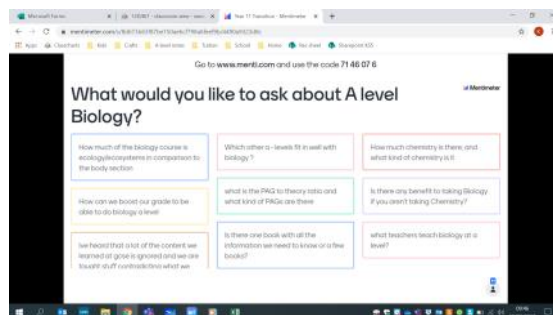


Remote learning during school closure

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

"In the absence of our normal transition day activities, I added Year 12 students to my year 11 GCSE Biology class. They went into breakout rooms so they could have small group discussions of what doing A level Biology involved, and then used menti.com to find out what else they still wanted to know."

Mrs Dhillon



"In Year 12 Sociology we were looking at anti school subcultures and gangs and students had to draw any ideas they had when I mentioned the word, 'gang'. We used the whiteboards and students were encouraged to do some simple drawing and explain what they drew. There were some excellent ideas presented."

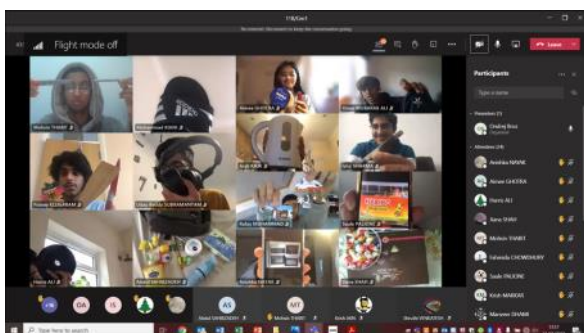
Mrs Morales-Costin

"I have only positive things to say about ALL my classes. So far, since lockdown started, I have had 100% attendance and excellent engagement in every class."

And a snippet from Year 13 French.....

We are reading an autobiographical novel called 'Un sac de billes' (A bag of marbles) about two little Jewish boys who live in Paris during WW2. It is charming and poignant, humorous and sad, and it is an absolute delight to read. Every year, the students who read it, love it. As we finished one lesson during which we had read a particularly moving scene, one of the girls said, "It's so sad, we're more than halfway through the book and I don't want it to end". That's what makes teaching so special!"

Mrs Francis

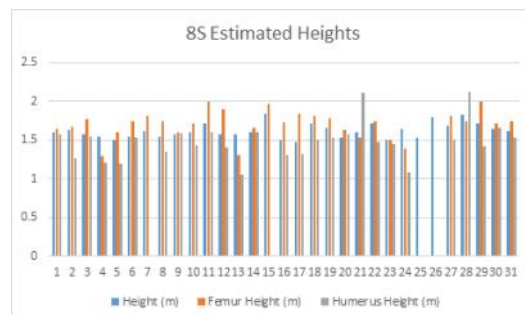


"I tried this week with a few of my classes to get them off the screen and moving but still engage with my subject in a slightly different way. I asked them to find as many products designed or made in Germany/Switzerland/Austria around their house and show them on the camera. They had 3 minutes to do so. It worked well and I got good engagement from everyone. One even wanted to put their German Shepherd dog on the camera...."

Mr Broz

"My year 8 class did a practical lesson this week where they measured their femur and humerus and estimated their heights from it. We collected some quite nice class data"

Miss D'Authreau





Remote learning during school closure

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

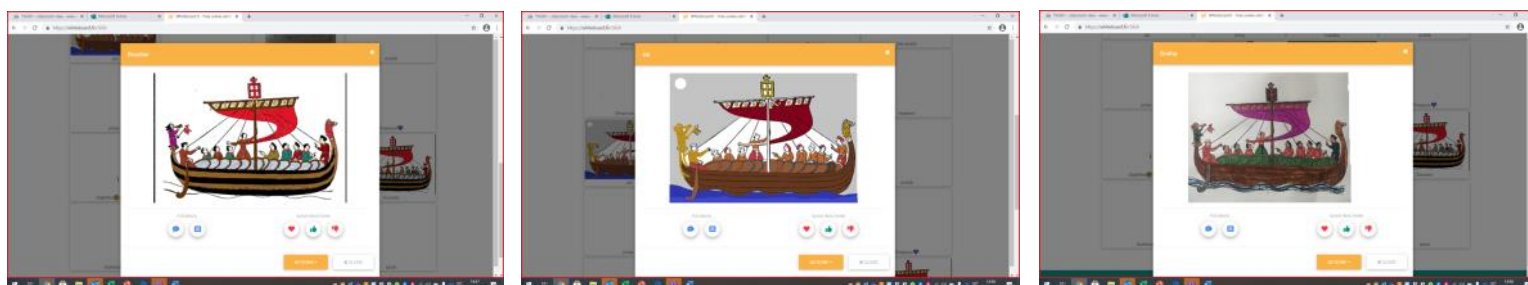
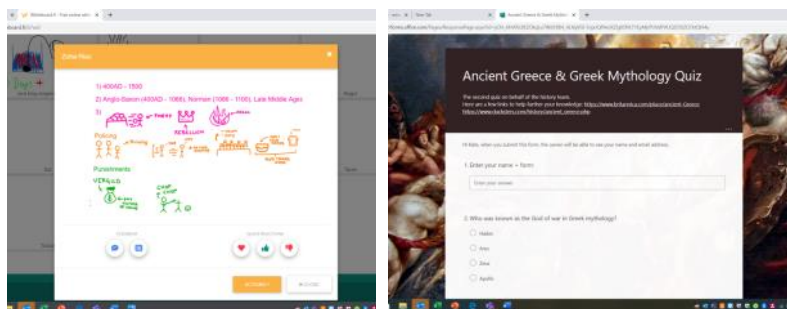
"A few things from the History department this week....

The first is a really nice example of Year 10s using *whiteboard.fi* at the start of the lesson to check understanding of crime and punishment work.

The second screenshot is the weekly history quiz circulated by Simarleen (and team!) to form tutors.

Finally, we have some colourful boats from Year 7 used as a stimulus for research work on the Bayeux Tapestry."

Miss Mawdsley

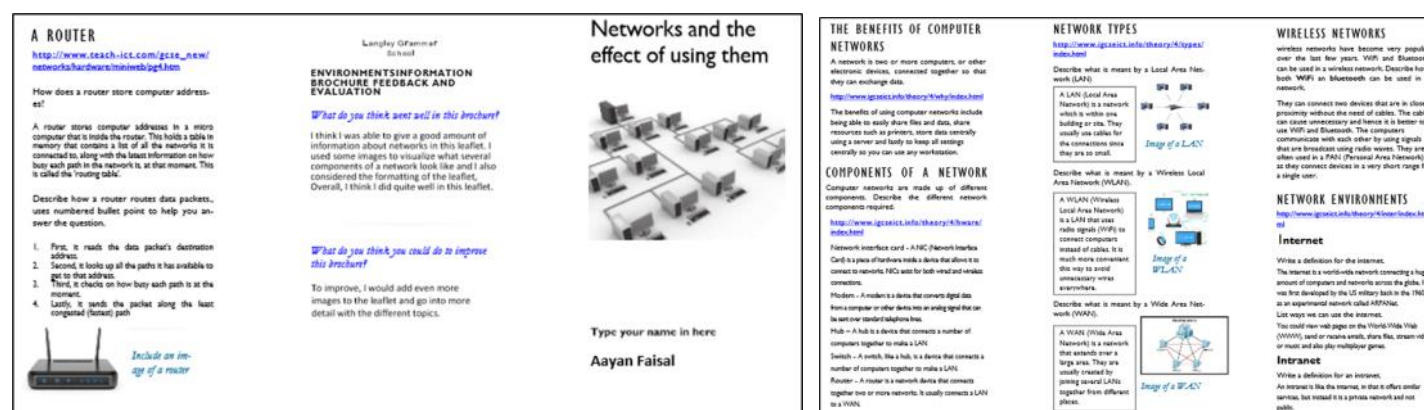


From Mrs Jenkins in the Computing department....

Year 7 have just completed name animation activities in the Hour of Code



Year 9 have been completing network information leaflet and are also using Code Combat learning to code through game play.





Remote learning during school closure

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

More fantastic examples from MS Stanton's Year 11, 12 and 13 Art students.....



PIC•COLLAGE