



# St Robert of Newminster

Catholic School and Sixth Form College

6<sup>th</sup> July 2020

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



### School Dates

Tuesday 1/9/20 –  
Staff Inset Day  
(school closed to  
pupils)

Wednesday 2/9/20 –  
Staff Inset Day  
(school closed to  
pupils except Year 7  
cohort)

Wednesday 2/9/20 –  
Year 7 Transition  
Day

Thursday 3/9/20 –  
Key Stage 3 and Year  
12 return to school

Friday 4/9/20 – Year  
7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13  
return to school

Further details  
regarding September  
will be released this  
week. Please check  
the school website  
regularly for  
information and  
further updates.

<https://www.strobertofnewminster.co.uk/>

Dear Parents/Carers, Students and Friends of the School

Hello and welcome to our final newsletter of the year. As we approach the summer break we extend our continued thanks to all the students and parents who have supported our school during these unprecedented times. We give a special thank you to the pupils whose parents are key workers and have been in school every day over the past 3 months. They have conducted themselves admirably and been a real credit to the St Robert's community. We look forward to welcoming back our whole student body in September and pray for their health and continued success. Stay safe and enjoy the summer break.

### A Message of Thanks

As we draw to the end of an unusual academic year, we look back with gratitude upon the service that all within the school have provided our young people. We give thanks to the Heads of Department who have steered their teams through the challenges of the school year. We recognise the tireless effort provided from our pastoral teams within lower school and the Sixth Form. We thank our teaching staff who on a daily basis offer unwavering support to all pupils and often go above and beyond to ensure all pupils have the opportunity to fulfil their potential.

We offer particular thanks to all those staff that have given much of their own time to provide enriching opportunities for our pupils. The countless hours spent on school trips and retreats both at home and abroad are testament to their dedication and willingness to provide a rounded Catholic Education to all those in our care.

We give thanks to all the support staff within our school. The work that they carry out on a daily basis is vital to the success that our students have and will achieve.

At the end of the school year it is important to look back and reflect but also crucial to look ahead. Use this holiday for rest and relaxation, to spend time with those closest to you and to recharge your batteries for September. When we return in September we will be ready for the challenge ahead and we will, as ever, provide our students with an outstanding educational experience.

Have a peaceful summer break

### A Prayer for Our School

Dear Father,

Thank you for all those women and men who have given their talents to educating our young people. Through the challenges they encounter each day, lead them to an ever deeper appreciation of the sacred duty to which you have called them.

We give thanks for the invaluable work of all those who contribute to the efficient running of our school; support staff, kitchen staff, maintenance staff, governors and our chaplain. We thank them for their hard work and dedication and we pray that they may continue to work in support of our school.

Thank you for all those who lead our school. May they be people of integrity so that they can be witnesses as well as teachers. We pray that our school will continue to be a place where our young people can experience God's love in their lives.

Thank you for our whole school. Help us to pray without ceasing, to work without wavering and to give without grudging in order to ensure the future of Catholic education for all of our pupils.

We make this prayer through your Son, Jesus Christ, our teacher and our Lord,

Amen.



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email: [school@strobertofnewminster.co.uk](mailto:school@strobertofnewminster.co.uk)

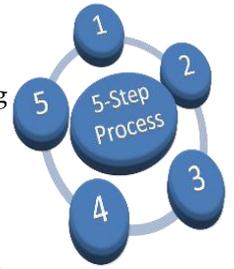
## Mental Health and Well-Being

NHS England have identified 5 steps that both young people and their parents can do to support their mental health and well-being. Trying these things could help you feel more positive and able to get the most out of the time when you are at home rather than school. It is really important that you pay attention to your well-being and the well-being of those around you. There are also a number of useful websites which provide support in this area:

[www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com) this is a free, confidential, online mental health service for children and young people

<https://www.camhs-resources.co.uk/>

This site was created for young people, carers and professionals to pool together lots of helpful resources from across the internet that are available to help support your mental health and well-being.

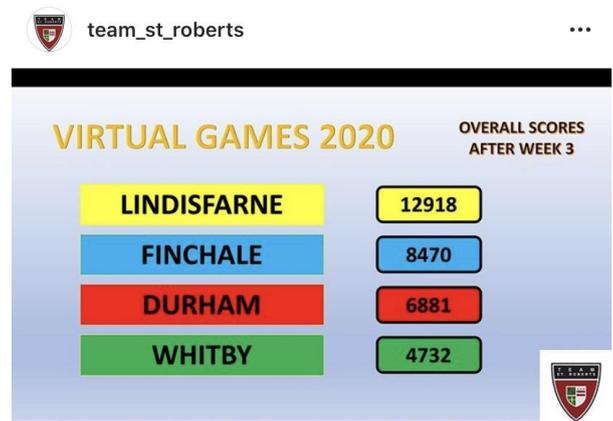


## Virtual Olympic Games

During the summer the Olympic Games were meant to take place in Japan. Unfortunately these games have been postponed until 2021. In response to this, Team St Robert's have put together their own virtual Olympic Games.

Pupils in each house have written their Virtual Games Oaths, took part in an Olympics Kahoot quiz as well as a variety of physical activities. Points are up for grabs and the totals are changing daily. We encourage a big effort from all pupils in the last week to try and take your house to Olympic glory. Find out more at Team St Robert's website:

<https://teamstrobarts.com/virtual-olympic-games/games-programme/>



## Keeping Safe over the summer

With the warmer weather, easing of lockdown and schools unlikely to open fully prior to September we want to remind all our young people about keeping safe. The points below are a guide to help keep our young people safe over the summer:

### 1. Go swimming at properly-supervised sites

We understand the temptation to want to go swimming at open water sites, especially during the hot weather. Things to consider when open water swimming, even on a hot day, are that the water might be a lot colder or deeper than you were expecting and there may be strong currents and underwater debris that you cannot see from the bank. Consider how you are going to get out of the water before you get in, and be honest about your swimming ability. Avoid swimming near weirs, both upstream and downstream, there may be strong underwater currents and hazards that you may not be aware of.

### 2. Stay alert

We can all help control the virus if we all stay alert. This means you must stay at home as much as possible, limit contact with other people (avoid congregating in large groups until the evidence suggests it is safe), keep your distance if you go out (2 metres apart where possible) and wash your hands regularly.



**NHS**

**Do not leave home if you or someone you live with has any of the following:**

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

[Check the NHS website if you have symptoms](#)

## Key Stage Three: Remote Activities Week

Many thanks for all of the work you have been doing to support your child's remote learning. It has been great to see so many of our Key Stage Three students working very hard and continuing to complete their online learning tasks at home.

### Remote Learning Update:

For the last week of term we are launching our Remote Activities Week for Key Stage Three students only. Students will be offered 50 challenges of varying degrees of difficulty to access across the week. We are challenging students to complete the tasks they are most interested in and submit evidence of each challenge via the links on the activities sheet. We are looking for quality over quantity and there will be year group prizes for the challenges submitted. The prizes will be posted out to the winners and runners up.

1. **Year 7:** 2x £25 vouchers and 5X £10 vouchers for runners up.
2. **Year 8:** 2x £25 vouchers and 5X £10 vouchers for runners up.
3. **Year 9:** 2x £25 vouchers and 5X £10 vouchers for runners up.

The Remote Activities Week challenges are collated in one document. It can be found by accessing the online work on our website as normal, then click the folder "Remote Activities Week". Inside this folder there will be a document with the 50 challenges and an additional set of instructions. We hope there is something that everyone will enjoy!

Many thanks for the support you have given our students in adapting to this new way of working throughout this challenging time. I hope you and your families can enjoy a restful summer break.

## PE Virtual Awards Ceremony

Across the course of this week the PE department will be handing out (virtually) awards to those students who have excelled in the different areas of the subject. The awards will come through the department Twitter and Instagram accounts.

There will be such awards as:

- Contribution to School Sports
- Achievement in Sport Awards



## Year 10 and year 12: September Ready

To ensure our students are well prepared for any potential return in September, teachers of each subject will be uploading one "September Ready" overview document that outlines the key work that should have been completed during the period of time the school has been closed. This will include those weeks when students have been in school, receiving *face to face* teaching. Within this overview document, it will outline when and where work should have been submitted for each subject. Please use these "September Ready" overview documents to check that work has been completed and submitted. If there are any gaps or areas, which need additional work please do endeavour to ensure these tasks are completed, ready for September.

Many thanks for the support you have given our students in adapting to this new way of working throughout this challenging time.

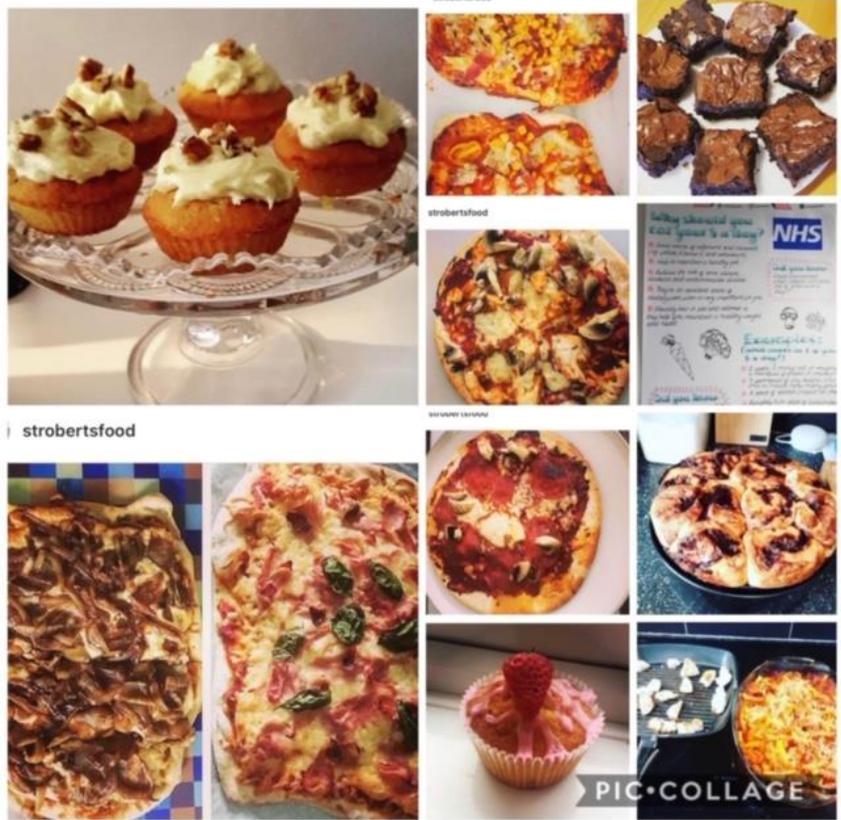
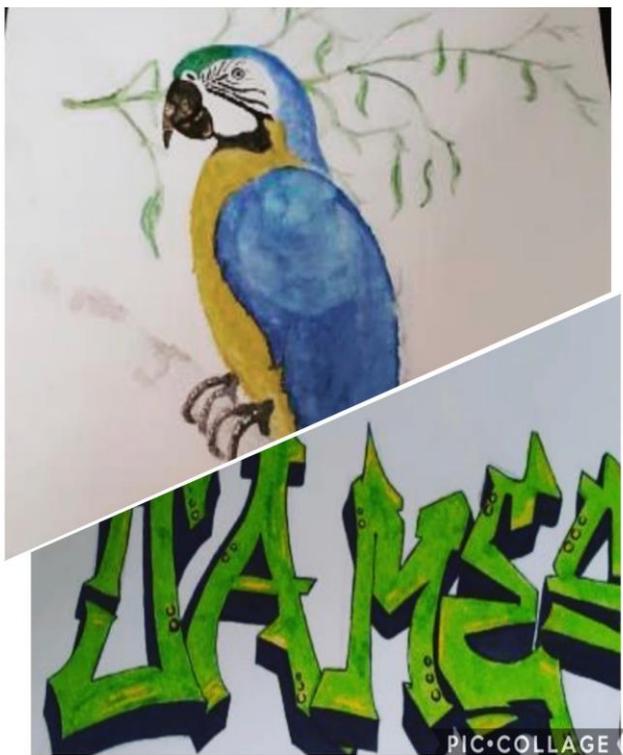
**Message from all Departments**

Thank you for the fantastic work you have completed over the past 100 days. We have been overwhelmed by the way in which our pupils have adapted to a different way of learning during the pandemic.

Each week, departments have received superb examples of student work which is testament to the support of our families and the resilience of our pupils.

We hope our KS3 pupils will enjoy our virtual activities week and we strongly encourage our Year 10 and Year 12 pupils to look at the materials that departments have set to help you feel 'September Ready'.

Have a wonderful summer



**strobetsgeography**

**Desert biome around the world**

