

Dear Parents and Pupils,

I hope that you have had a good weekend, and been able to enjoy some of the good weather. I just wanted to wish you every success with the new term, which starts tomorrow. Tutors will be seeing their tutees at 8.45am to start the day, and it is important that the students are dressed and ready for that.

We very much hope that the remote learning should be fun and enjoyable, and if you are finding it too challenging or stressful, please let us know as soon as possible, so that we can help.

We are looking for four things:

- Academic progress
- Enrichment and co-curricular opportunities
- Pastoral care and support
- Physical fitness and mental wellbeing

Please check the MIS for Timetable and Calendar details.

For Year 11 and Upper 6th, work is being released to be completed by the 1st May, for those who wish to do this. We do have sufficient evidence to put together all the centre assessed grades, so there is no need to complete any particular piece of this work, but if you think it would be helpful, if your teacher recommends it, or if it is a subject that you are going on to study next year, then it is worth doing.

We are asking that everyone does some enrichment/co-curricular activities each day (use the ARE - All Round Education - site to help - more information is available at the end of this message). If you are doing anything that might be interesting or encouraging to others, please do share it (#FelstedatHome).

Thank you and please do remember the importance of looking out for one another, being positive in all online communications and offer support to those who need it.

We are aware that this term's bills included the full costs of exams for this coming summer, even though the exams are not taking place. At this point, the exam boards are stating that they will have to continue to charge the full rate, which these sums reflect. We are hopeful that they will reflect on this position, and make adjustments, and at that point, we will reimburse all those affected with the full sum saved.

The level of cost is being taken up by all the major representative bodies.

Keep well,

Chris Townsend

To all parents: message from Ms Purdy

As part of the 'Felsted at Home' launch we have gathered together a plethora of co-curricular options in order that Felstedians can continue their All Round Education during this period of distance learning. Students in both Senior and Prep schools will have access to an internal site providing a number of materials, links, and competitions to help them develop their skills and character. The site link will be distributed via tutors from Tuesday 21st April and will be accessible only through a Felsted.org email account; however, we hope that parents will be able to view the site with their children, support them in taking on some of the challenges and activities and even join in yourselves. Included in the site are ways to keep physically fit, activities to help develop important life skills, competitions to help discover and develop their creative side and a page dedicated to helping households relax and spend quality time together, we strongly recommend you encourage pupils to view this 'Relaxation and Wellbeing' page which offers some advice on staying safe online and looking after your mental health.

Tutors will assist students in selecting appropriate activities and encourage them to log and reflect upon their achievements via the Felsted Diploma in the Senior School and the relevant Felsted Leaders Scheme's in the Prep School. Please encourage pupils to check in regularly as more content and ideas will be added creating a platform for all ages to become involved in and maybe even discover new hobbies and interests. We encourage pupils to share their experiences with us via email or on the School twitter pages (please tag us @felstedschool or @felstedprep and use the #FelstedatHome) we would love to celebrate your achievements with the Felsted Community.

Best wishes,

Ms R J Purdy, Director of Co-Curricular (Senior)

#FelstedatHome

To all parents: message from Rev'd Little

Dear all,

I do hope you have had a good holiday, even if it has not been the holiday we were all looking forward to. Many of us will hardly feel rested at all - nurses, carers, doctors, cleaners, delivery drivers etc. have all been working hard. I am amazed at the incredible fortitude that the pupils have shown also. I hope you have managed to have some rest. It is an unsettling time, please do let me know if I can help with anything. This season has, despite the anxiety and sorrows, demonstrated our incredible capacity for kindnesses and appreciation of others. Let us pray that this is the new normal.

With this in mind, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped with the 'Felsted Treats for the NHS' campaign. We delivered over 400 chocolate treats and more than 100 cards to homeless shelters and our local hospitals. I think we encouraged many people who were working so hard this Easter.

Last night, the first Sunday after Easter, is the evening when many people zoom in on the story of the person known as Doubting Thomas. Thomas had questions and worries. The words of his friends, about a supernatural resurrection, seemed as crazy to him as the stories about a worldwide lockdown sounded to us just a few months ago.

Thomas's friends are trying to hold a houseparty. People are huddled together and the doors are locked. Social mistrust is everywhere. Doesn't this sound familiar and surprisingly modern? What happens next is wonderfully relevant for us also - 'Jesus stood with them & said 'Peace be with you'.

How tender those words must have been to Thomas. He undoubtedly still had questions but the encounter was life changing for him. 'Peace be with you', those words were remarkable back then and they are still precious today as we go into a new term, with all its new challenges and as we encounter a new normal. In the anxieties of the present may we find a peace that is truly with us.

Please be assured of my prayers for you and your families this term.

God bless,
Rev'd Nigel Little

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**C. J.
Townsend**

Headmaster