



Head's Up (... date)



Welcome to the fourth edition of Head's Up ...date!

Friday 29th January 2021



Year 11– DfE Consultation Closed

The DfE consultation period is now closed. We have been told that we will not receive any clarity from this process until after half term. So, we will not be holding a parents evening until clear guidance for pupils, parents/carers and schools has been provided. We will be sure to provide you with clear communication about how grades will be awarded this summer once we have it. For now we know that all pupils need to engage with their learning.



Year 9 Options Deadline

All choices should be made by Friday 5th February.

[Options Information](#)

Keeping up-to-date with communication!



Please can we remind you that during these times of remote learning, it is essential that pupils check their emails daily. Whilst most of our communication can go through Edulink, staff do also use email.

Pupils can access their emails by going to our website, selecting 'Resources' (top right), select 'Pupils' and then 'School email'. Thanks for supporting us with this.

Free school meals vouchers

Remember, if you have not claimed for free school meals in the past but now feel, due to a change in circumstances, that you may well be eligible, please email: enquiries@ianramsey.org.uk



Half-term holiday

The academy breaks up on Friday 12th February 2021 for all pupils. We will re-open to vulnerable and critical worker children on Monday 22nd February 2021. It is important that the children and staff have a rest from the rigours of 'live' remote teaching, so remote lessons will also stop for the period of half term.

Dinosaurs didn't read.
Look what happened
to them.

ImageQuote

Check out our Spring 2021 Reading Challenge!

Pupils who read books
often at age 10 and
more than once a week
at the age of 16 gain
higher results in maths,
vocabulary and spelling
tests than those who
read less regularly.

ImageQuote

We have put together a [grid](#) full of suggestions to stimulate your reading. Use the grid and the sections below to help you to choose a book to read. If you want to, you could always complete [tasks](#) in order to enter one of our Reading Challenge competitions to win prizes.

Prime Minister announces schools closed until at least 8th March 2011!



We still have Chromebooks available for our young people to borrow during lockdown. We have already loaned out over 200 Chromebooks. Learning will continue to be remote, 'live' lessons, so it is even more important that each child has their own laptop/Chromebook to access their lessons each day. We can help and are very pleased to be able to provide the necessary Chromebooks and support to get up and running.

If you are having problems accessing your Remote Learning because you don't have access to an appropriate device on which to do it, then please [ask your parent/carer to contact Mr Snowden, Deputy Head](#), and we'll be able to help you (a phone is not appropriate!). This includes loaning multiple devices to the same families. Pupils need access to their own laptop or Chromebook. (Email address: snowdenp@ianramsey.org.uk)

Some of the mobile phone companies are also offering free data whilst we are in lockdown, but you have to meet certain criteria for this – you can find out more at <https://get-help-withtech.education.gov.uk>



Remember to follow the 'top tips' on remote learning. These can be found at the back of blended learning and intervention policy

Looking after our Mental Health and Wellbeing



10 GROWTH MINDSET DOCUMENTARIES FOR Families

- 1 Born To Be Wild (2011), G** - A wildlife documentary about orphaned elephants and orangutans and the extraordinary staff that works tirelessly as surrogate mothers until they're old enough to be released back into the wild.
- 2 Girls Rock! (2008), PG** - This empowering film follows four 8-18-year-old girls at the Rock and Roll Camp who learn that "it is 100% okay to be exactly who you are." They select an instrument they never played before and write a song, then perform a concert for over 700 people.
- 3 The Short Game (2013), PG** - This film follows the world's best golfers under 8 years old from around the globe who gather yearly at the U.S. Kids Golf World Championship in North Carolina.
- 4 Dream Big: Engineering Our World (2017), NR** - This STEAM-themed film highlights working engineers from various backgrounds, most of them women, who work on multiple projects, from building earthquake-proof structures to footbridges in developing countries.
- 5 My Octopus Teacher (2020), NR** - Craig Foster, a filmmaker, returns to the South African shore of his youth, where he dives into the kept forest and meets a friendly, curious octopus and follows her for a year. The film shows Craig's growing relationship and this mentorship that the octopus provided.
- 6 Bethany Hamilton (2019), PG** - Bethany Hamilton is an American professional surfer who overcame a shark attack where she lost her arm but persevered and returned to professional surfing.

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10 GROWTH MINDSET DOCUMENTARIES FOR Families

- 7 The Biggest Little Farm (2019), PG** - A film about Southern California filmmaker John Chester and his wife Molly, leaving their old lives in Los Angeles to purchase an abandoned farm. They spend the next 7 years dealing with the ups and downs of starting an organic farm.
- 8 Fly Like a Girl (2020), NR** - This inspiring film is a movement of young girls and women pioneers in aviation. First-hand stories, as well as a young girl who dreams of becoming a pilot.
- 9 Imba Means Sing (2015), NR** - This is a story that follows 20 young members of the African Children's Choir on an 18-month tour as they sing, dance and find joy in some of the Western world's kid-friendly activities for the first time.
- 10 Kindness Is Contagious (2015), NR** - A film about being nice and the effect of good deeds, documented by David Gaz, the author of the novel (and film) Pay It Forward. A strong positive message about how a little generosity can help us live a more fulfilling life.

You might also be interested in...

[Top 75 Growth Mindset Movies for Children](#)

[Top 30 Kindness and Friendship Movies for Families](#)

G - General Audiences **PG** - Parental Guidance Suggested **NR** - This Film Is Not Yet Rated

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Children's Mental Health Week 1-7 Feb – Express Yourself

The charity Place2Be are running their annual 'Children's Mental Health week starting on Monday 1 February with this year's theme focussing on 'Expressing Yourself'. **Expressing yourself** is about finding ways to share feelings, thoughts, or ideas, through creativity. This could be through art, music, writing and poetry, dance and drama, photography and film, and doing activities that make you feel good.



It's important to remember that being able to **express yourself** is not about being the best at something or putting on a performance for others. It is about finding a way to show who you are, and how you see the world, that can help you feel good about yourself. Around three children in every primary school class have a mental health problem, and many more struggle with challenges from bullying to bereavement so we are keen to reach as many people as possible.

There are a range of resources for schools including:

- Virtual Assembly
<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/news/children-s-mental-health-week-assembly-with-bafta-kids-and-oak-national-academy/>
- Primary and Secondary Activities
<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/schools-and-youth-groups/>
- Advice for parents/carers
<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/parents-and-carers/>

A reminder to pupils in Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 TECHNOLOGY CLASSES. From Monday 1st February, Food classes are moving to Materials Technology, Computer Science are moving to Food Technology, Graphics are moving to Computer Science and Materials Technology are moving to Graphics.



'POSH BEANS' – This week Miss Coull has set you a challenge of “posh beans on toast”. If you would like to take part, all you have to do is present the ingredients in the style of fine dining and send your entry to coullj@ianramsey.org.uk

The competition closes Monday 8th February 2021 at 7pm



Reaping the Rewards!



Everyone at Ian Ramsey CE Academy is so proud of the way in which pupils have engaged with their home learning, with an astonishing 85% of pupils regularly logging on to complete live lessons. As a community we are working through the challenges we face together and overcoming many difficulties along the way. Even though it presents its own barriers, the focus and hard work of the pupils in live lessons has been appreciated by all the teachers. Therefore, pupils are receiving lots and lots of ClassCharts points, for engaging and contributing to the live lessons. Bronze awards continue to be sent home digitally but for those pupils reaching Silver awards, they have received certificates posted home from their Heads of Year. Well done to Katie and Shannon who are some of the latest pupils to have reached this accolade!

We have also introduced a *Star Learner of the Week* award which allows Heads of Area to show their recognition and reward the outstanding work being completed in their subjects. Some of the most recent recipients of such rewards were Natasha, who was nominated for Drama, and Grace, who was nominated for GCSE PE. Well done to all of you!





Schools and Looked-after Children
TVMS – Music Education Hub Lead Partner

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Website: www.tvms.org.uk

Instrumental & Vocal Lessons:

Dear Parents/Carers,

In spite of the pandemic we are please to be able to offer you instrumental and vocal lessons at home via Zoom. We have been delivering remote lessons for around nine months with great success and it has been of great help to the wellbeing of pupils and staff alike to have this regular and enjoyable contact with something positive to focus on and achieve. It's more than just fun of course and TVMS staff work closely in partnership with the school Music Department to ensure the provision is fully integrated with the needs of the curriculum.

Lessons will be delivered via Zoom and on registration you will be sent a parent guide with tips on how to set up for the optimum sound and to fit in with TVMS safeguarding policy.

You can register for One to One or Group Lessons. While on Zoom, all lessons will be one to one but those on group rate will receive a shorter lesson. When face to face resumes all lessons will be 30 minutes.

Charges:

One to One - £41.60 per month over 11 months.

Group Lesson - £15.60 per month over 11 months (first year rising to £22.60 after that).

Instrument Hire - £8.40 per month (not applicable to voice, drums and piano lessons)

Income based remission or sibling discount may be applicable – see Charging Policy on website for details.

What to do:

- **Go to www.tvms.org.uk/register**
- **Complete the form**
- **We will contact you with a Parent Guide to Zoom lessons and request consent**
- **You will be given your own online account and two way communications with your teacher through our secure Study Plan 'chat' service.**

We look forward to hearing from you soon to help you start your music making journey.

Assistant Manager.
TVMS .



HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY - 2021



Ian Ramsey Church of England Academy is one of only a few Holocaust Beacon Schools in the U.K. and, as such, this week has been highly significant in the life of our academy.

On Tuesday 26th January, every pupil in years 9, 10 and 11 watched a live webcast from Holocaust survivor, Eve Kugler BEM, who was 7 years old on the day of Kristallnacht in 1938. Her webcast was truly engaging and pupils were grateful for this special occasion.

"Both T and J spoke about this over lunch-both had found it extremely interesting. I think they were struck by the fact that they have heard the story direct from a survivor. It somehow made it all very 'real' for them and what they have learnt and read about this became less of words and fact, and became the truth in a way. We have added a trip to Auschwitz to our 'list' for things we want to do after the pandemic. Thank you for providing them with this opportunity."

In the meantime, pupils in Years 7 and 8 took part in live lessons completing a number of tasks linked to Holocaust Memorial Day. This included them starting out on their Foundation Stones.



Our sincere thanks to Ms Dodd for organising all of the above. Her hard work has been truly rewarded and recognised by staff and pupils alike.

"It ran so smoothly! 🙏 It was a well worthwhile presentation; the theme was perfect 'be a light in the darkness'. We all understood how we could/needed to do this today! Year 7 loved the fact they could go away, paint their pebble, design a picture or paint wood/tiles . . . We then returned and used the time to help each other to share what we'd produced in google classroom so I could see pupils presenting on their screens to help others." – Mrs Watson (Maths Dept.)

Wednesday 27th January was the official Holocaust Memorial Day where we focused on all those victims of genocide from the last century and nowadays. The whole school was led in worship by Mr Burt from the Humanities Department which focused on many aspects of genocide and the need for forgiveness. Our Christian values lie at the heart of everything we do at Ian Ramsey – Joy, Hope, Forgiveness, Wisdom and Perseverance – and pupils frequently tell us in surveys that they feel a need to show respect for others, no matter their race, creed or colour.

As the theme year this was 'Light in the Darkness', the staff and pupils took part in a candlelit vigil at 8.00 pm that day. Let us hope that our candles can be a true beacon of light and hope for the generations to come and never lose sight of what has been.

We say together

Let us commit to seek a more peaceful world,

where all are valued and none are excluded,

Where justice and mercy flow like rivers

Where relationships are built on love and acceptance, not fear and intolerance

And where we all recognise our part in bringing that peace. Amen

A prayer for those who mourn.

*Gracious God,
as we remember before you the thousands who have died,
surround us and all who mourn with your strong compassion.
Be gentle with us in our grief,
protect us from despair,
and give us grace to persevere
and face the future with hope
in Jesus Christ our risen Lord.
AMEN*



Take care and have a wonderful weekend. Keep safe and we look forward to welcoming the pupils back to their virtual classrooms on Monday.