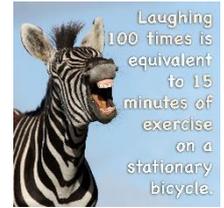




Head's Up (... date)



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

Friday 12th February 2021

Wow! Over 100, 000 live lessons accessed!

Ian Ramsey has now passed the 100,000 mark for 'live' remote lessons accessed by pupils, this term. This is a tremendous success and we want to thank that staff, pupils and parent/carers for their contribution. Remember if you still haven't got access to a Chromebook to work from, it is not too late to contact Mr Snowden (snowdenp@ianramsey.org.uk) to collect one. **Well over 300**



Chromebooks have been loaned out to families. We still have more that can be loaned out.



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.

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>



Pupil and Parent/Carer Surveys

Tell us how we are doing by completing the survey that we sent you this week. The more views we get the better. These surveys really help us to make further improvements to the way we work with you and the education we provide for our children. There will be a prize draw after half term for all the completed questionnaires.

Parental links:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=yY4wBwUe8U61xqGFxmSFca8w7qFLZv1Jtaa83CdX5gZUN0EwOFpHSjNLRUJQVVoyOVFPSkc3T09FUC4u>

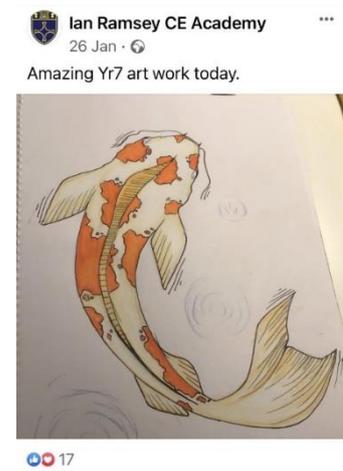
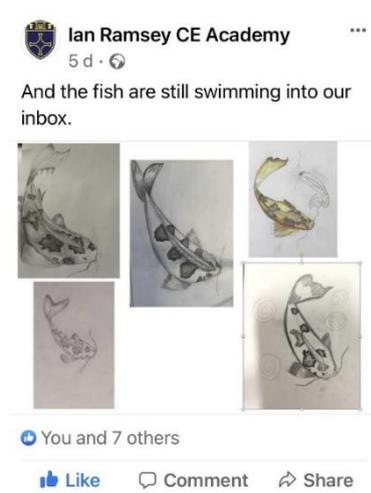
[click here to complete](#)

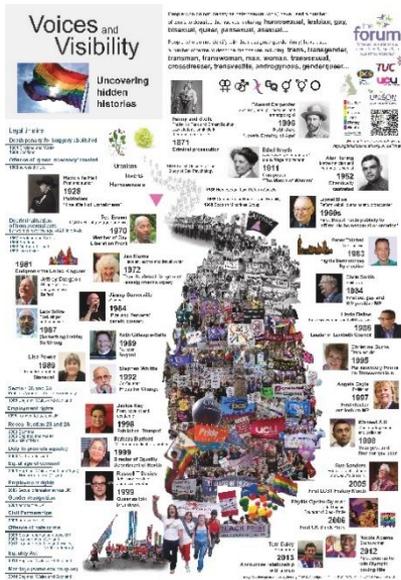
Pupil link:

[Link to complete survey](#)

Celebration of talent

Check out the school social media platforms to see more of our fantastic work.





February is LGBT+ history month, a yearly celebration that provides education and awareness into the issues that the LGBTQ+ community faces with the primary aim being to teach people of the gay rights movement and to promote an inclusive modern society. Although we are not in school at the moment you can still celebrate LGBT+ history month by visiting the following websites.

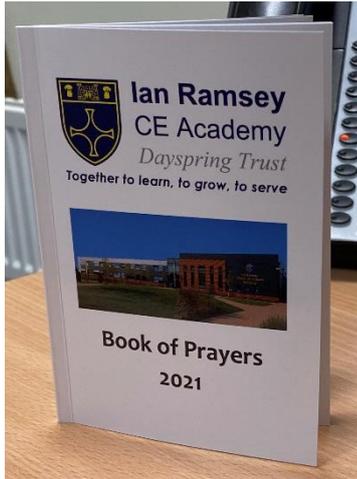
<https://www.stonewall.org.uk/> <http://www.schools-out.org.uk/>
<http://voicesandvisibility.org.uk/> <https://www.justlikeus.org/>

Change of details – Important!

If your personal details have changed; change of address, phone numbers, email addresses etc. can you please contact the school using Edulink to keep this information current.



Ian Ramsey Book of Prayers



Our first ever is now freely available to everyone in the academy. These pocket-size treasures contain prayers written by the entire school. Each year group is featured, with a prayer from each tutor group on their Christian value. Year 7 wrote prayers about 'Joy', Year 8 focussed on 'Hope', Year 9 covered 'Forgiveness', Year 10 looked at 'Wisdom' and finally, Year 11 wrote about 'Perseverance'.

We would love you, however, to make a small donation if possible and Parent Pay has been set up to allow donations of between 50p and £10! All proceeds will go towards our academy hardship fund to support those less fortunate than ourselves.

Those donating through Parent Pay will have it delivered shortly. However, should you wish to simply receive a copy without donation, which is absolutely fine, please contact Mr Snowden, Deputy Head, at the usual email address: snowdenp@ianramsey.org.uk and we can arrange for delivery to your home.

Joy Hope Forgiveness Wisdom Perseverance
 Ian Ramsey Church of England Academy

FE updates and Careers Guidance



Bede College have sent us a pre-recorded Q and A session with former Ian Ramsey pupils which will be of interest to pupils in years 10 and 11 as they contemplate their education beyond Ian Ramsey. Use the link below to watch this event.

<https://youtu.be/M8JeP4Q65ds>



Just before we finish for the half term we would just like to remind you of our next Open Event on Wednesday 24th February 5 - 7.30pm. Students/Parents can sign up for the event on the link below -

<https://www.mbro.ac.uk/about-us/events/detail/2021/02/24/default-calendar/open-event>



Below is the link to Stockton Sixth Form College's Virtual Open Evening with additional careers videos and subject information

[Stockton Sixth Form College | Virtual Open Evening \(stocktonsf.ac.uk\)](https://stocktonsf.ac.uk)

Virtual Work Experience Online – years 10 and 11

Just a reminder to parents/carers of pupils in Years 10 and 11. Your child will have received log-on details recently to www.vwes.co.uk, where they can access many, many different online work experiences. The 'courses' last between 2 and 10/12 hours and many of them are certificated. It will allow your child to have a meaningful work experience during lockdown and something to make reference to in future interviews. Please encourage them to take full advantage of this opportunity

A half-term message from Mrs Jevons – Head of Year 8



Dear Year 8,

Well, here we are, at the start of half-term holiday. The last six weeks seem to have flown by! I just wanted to share with you all how proud I am of how you have all adapted to online learning. Feedback from your teachers has been so positive, and it makes my day to hear such wonderful comments about the young people in our year group. I am incredibly proud to be the Head of Year for such a brilliant group of young people who have been so resilient in these challenging times.

This half-term, make sure that you put down your laptop, tablet, or whatever your device may be, (aim for 1 hour a day) and do something different with your time. I have attached some ideas to this message and would love to see some pictures of what you get up to; I'll definitely be cooking pancakes on

Tuesday, so would love to compare our creations in the kitchen! I'd also like to thank your parents/carers, for all the support they have given you (so make sure you do too!). Remember, if you need any support, please do not hesitate to get in touch with school. However you spend your half-term, have a wonderful rest and I will 'see' you when we return on Monday 22nd February. Take care.

Food and Nutrition:



Tuesday 16th February, during half term is Shrove Tuesday – PANCAKE DAY! To mark this occasion, there will be a pancake making challenge. If you would like to take part, please see the instructions according to your year group.



Years 7 and 8:

Design and make a sweet or savoury pancake that includes at least 2 fruits or vegetables.

Years 9, 10 and 11:

Design and make a 3D pancake object or scene using either sweet or savoury pancakes.

For lots of inspiration search Google, Pinterest or Instagram for 'pancake art'.

All entries should be sent to: coullj@ianramsey.org.uk by 7pm on 22nd February.

+++++

The latest updates from Stockton Borough Council

National Lockdown

Coronavirus is serious – it can make you ill for a long time and there have been over 400 deaths in our Borough since the start of the pandemic. We all need to do our bit and follow the national [coronavirus restrictions](#), you must stay at home, follow hands, face, space and keep your home well ventilated.

COVID-19 Testing

Get a test and stop the spread of the virus. Tests are available for people **with and without** symptoms but you must book a test in advance. One in three people who have COVID-19 do not experience symptoms. The testing sites - at Splash in Stockton, Thornaby Pavilion and Billingham Forum are open seven days a week. If you DO NOT have COVID-19 symptoms you can book a test - or find out more - at www.stockton.gov.uk/coronavirus/testing. Remember, if you DO have any of the COVID-19 symptoms – a high temperature, new continuous cough and change or loss of your sense of taste or smell you will need to book a test via www.nhs.uk/coronavirus or by calling 119 instead.

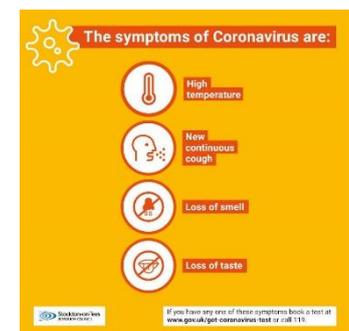
Symptoms and Self-isolation

If you have any COVID-19 symptoms you MUST self-isolate and book a test. Everyone in the household also needs to stay at home and not leave the house, even for shopping or exercise. Don't forget the symptoms you need to look out for.



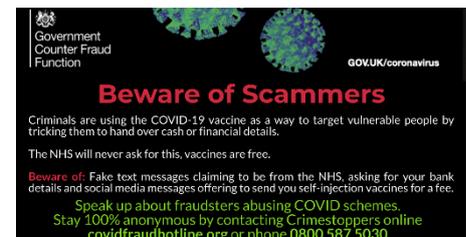
COVID-19 Vaccine

The NHS are rolling out the [COVID-19 vaccine](#), it is safe and has been thoroughly tested. Check out the COVID-19 Vaccine [Fact Sheet](#) and [FAQs](#).



COVID-19 Vaccine – Scam Awareness

Beware of scammers, the COVID-19 vaccine is free and you should never be asked for a payment or our bank details.



(Lockdown) LENT

2021

This year, we're really going for it!

In last week's edition of Head's Up ...date, we gave you some information on a 6-week Lent course which, we think, will be of interest to many of our pupils and their families. This course has been put together by the Archbishop of York's Youth Trust.



Since then, we have discovered another programme, put together by the wonderful Huw Thomas from the Diocese of Sheffield, who has come up with **daily activities** for the 40 days of Lent. He outlines the programme below.

'The season of Lent is part of the Christian calendar and runs from Ash Wednesday (17th February) to Easter Sunday (4th April). The Diocese of Sheffield Education resource "Lent at Home and School" details significant parts of the Christian calendar over the season (e.g. Mothering Sunday, St Patrick's Day) and also adds some other significant dates (e.g. World Book Day, International Women's Day) - and also some odd ones (e.g. the anniversary of perforations, invention of the aglet). The hope is that these can stimulate some planning and provision throughout the Lenten Season from Shrove Tuesday (16th February) to Easter Sunday (4th April). Each day has something about the day, followed by:

- **Could You?** which is something a child or their family may have a go at doing
- **A Question** - something that can be chatted about at home.
- **And Finally:** where these occur, they are an extra at the end of some sections just to add a thought, question or activity.

Here's the first activity, which fits in really well with Miss Coull's pancake competition next week.

SHROVE TUESDAY

This isn't Lent, it's the eve before.

Traditionally the coming season of Lent was a solemn time, so on the day before it began (Ash Wednesday) people would have a party and eat some of the luxury foods.

Could you?

You may be making pancakes and celebrating, but could you also write a menu for the most luxurious best café imaginable. It can have the foods you love ("fish and chips", "chocolate cake") but you can also invent some luxury foods (what would a "Chocolate Bar Jelly" be like?)

A Question...

What are your top three luxuries that you either do enjoy, or would if you could have them?

And Finally

Any thoughts on the best pancake ingredients?

So, on our website and put out through Edulink, pupils can access the Videos and tasks for the Pilgrim Pathways course or take part in this 40-day programme above.

Photos/reports of any activities you've completed can be sent into school and we'll feature them in this Head's Up ... date!

So, if you're looking for alternative things to do during lockdown, give these a go!



Prayer for Lent

As we begin this season of Lent, may we take this opportunity to develop and keep good and healthy habits for the future.

May we be strong and brave as we try our best to stick to our promises and goals.

Lord, help keep us focussed on what really matters at this time; keeping our family and friends safe.

AMEN

Enjoy the break (preferably away from screens) and we look forward to welcoming the pupils back after the break. Take care and stay safe.

Joy Hope Forgiveness Wisdom Perseverance
Ian Ramsey Church of England Academy