

Thursday 21st May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to begin by again expressing my gratitude for the wonderful support you have given your sons and daughters over the last term. Despite the challenges that so many of you have faced over the recent weeks, your commitment to working alongside us to ensure a fantastic education for your children has been incredible.

It is also important to highlight the fantastic achievements of our scholars over the last few weeks who, despite working in these difficult circumstances, have continued to develop their learning, their ability to work independently and their resilience. Everyone at TFS is so proud of the fantastic young people we are privileged to work with. It has been a wonderful morale boost to all of our staff to see the great work that is being produced by our very talented scholars!

I would also like to express my gratitude to the whole team of staff at TFS, and also to colleagues across the Trust, who have supported TFS scholars whilst they have been in school. Again, despite having to learn many new IT skills, home-educate their own children, and care for vulnerable relatives, their professionalism and dedication have continued to shine through and I have consistently been impressed with the high quality of online learning resources that they have provided.

Term 6

As you will be aware, despite the wider opening of schools, there are currently no plans for Year 7 and 8 children to return to school this academic year. Schools have not been closed. They have remained open for the children who have needed our support and care, including the children of key workers. This provision will continue throughout Term 6, and parents/carers involved will receive further information from us regarding our arrangements.

However, as the other schools across the Trust open up additional year groups, we have to make some amendments to our own provision, both for those attending, and for those who are remaining at home. Throughout Term 6, TFS teaching and associate staff will be working in school for whole weeks at a time. This is in line with government guidance on how best to support social distancing measures in school. We have carefully organised the rota to ensure that there will be minimal disruption to home learning, but I would ask you to be aware that staff who are working all day in school with children, for a whole week at a time, may be unable to respond to emails or communications as quickly as they have been able to up to now. Therefore, we would ask for your patience and understanding in this matter.

Home Learning

Given that TFS scholars will be working at home for the whole of Term 6, it is imperative that you continue to encourage and support your son or daughter to complete as much of the home learning as possible. This will ensure that their excellent learning continues and that scholars are ready for when we return. As always, if you require any support, please contact the Pastoral Team by sending an email to tfspastoral@turnerschools.com.

In response to your feedback and to ensure workload for scholars is manageable, we have made some alterations to online lessons in Term 6. These changes include reducing the length of lessons, removing one English lesson in Year 8 and two in Year 7, and including optional lessons for English and Maths. In English, the reduction in Google Classroom lessons means scholars are able to give more attention to their two lessons of Bedrock Vocabulary per week. This platform is designed to support scholars' progress in reading and vocabulary which is vital to their success in all subjects.

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Morning Meeting	DEAR	TT Rockstars	DEAR	TT Rockstars	Assembly
1	Bedrock Vocab	English		English (Optional Writing task for Year 7)	Bedrock Vocab
2	Science	Maths	Maths	Maths	SMSC (Opt)
	DEAR	DEAR	DEAR	DEAR	DEAR
3	History	Science	Geography	Science	PE
4	French	Music	Art (Opt)	Classics	Catch up on MCQs

We understand that it may not always be possible to follow this timetable, however, it is important that scholars try to follow the required learning time outlined below for each subject. This has been reduced slightly to support scholars in completing all lessons.

- x2 hours English with MCQs for Year 8
- x1 hour English with MCQs for Year 7 (plus optional 1 hour writing lesson)
- x1 hour Bedrock Vocab split over two lessons (posted to English Google Classroom)
- x2 hours Maths with MCQs split over three lessons (with additional optional lessons)
- x30min TT Rockstars split over two sessions (posted to Maths Google Classroom)
- x2 hours Science with MCQs split over three lessons
- x1 hour French with MCQ
- x1 hour History with MCQ
- x1 hour Geography with MCQ
- x1 hour Music with MCQ
- x1 hour Classics with MCQ

Your feedback has been extremely valuable to us and we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the positive messages many of you have asked to be passed to our teachers and support staff - your support means a lot to us. Based on your feedback, we have made a number of changes to improve our provision including reducing the weekly timetable to make workload more manageable and sending feedback to you regarding your child's online learning if it falls below a certain percentage of work completed.

To help us continue to understand what is working well for scholars to improve our provision, please could you take a couple of minutes to answer our short survey:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1FrwUsA3Wo1PfRiRDapuPNA9WpeadY4urKdOZmCy4IcQ/edit>

Support Available

As always, we are here to provide support as necessary throughout this difficult time. We understand that all families will be facing different challenges, and we will do our best to work with you to resolve any issues.

If you have concerns regarding your son or daughter's wellbeing, please contact the Pastoral Team via tfspastoral@turnerschools.com.

If you are struggling to access IT devices, or the internet, please also contact the Pastoral Team via tfspastoral@turnerschools.com.

If your son or daughter is struggling in a particular subject area, they should contact their teachers in the first instance using their school email account, or via the Google Classrooms.

If you have any concerns regarding special educational needs and disabilities, please contact our Aspiration Team by sending an email to tfssend@turnerschools.com.

For all other enquiries, please contact our Admin Team via email at tfsadmin@turnerschools.com.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a relaxing half-term. I hope that all members of the TFS community, parents, staff and scholars, are able to enjoy a well-earned rest.

With very best wishes,



Kristina Yates

Principal