



Thank you to Matthew in Year 7 who has written this poem inspired by Wilfred Owen's war poem 'Exposure' as part of his English home learning topic. It seemed like an appropriate one to share today!

The Snow So Soft Yet So Strong

My bones chilling I stood there
Like a dog being whistled to by the wind
That beautiful beef roast: I imagined
The smiles around the table
A blanket of snow fell down on me
It brought me back to the cold nudging my
knees
Shaking vigorously from side to side
Will I ever think of snow the same?
Will I ever not feel this pain?
Will we ever be sane?

Dear Parent / Carer

What a start to the New Year! First the new lockdown restrictions to contend with and then snow! Our on site staff team have worked so hard today to ensure that everyone got home safely after beginning the day with not a drop of snow to be seen anywhere!

Thank you for all the support you have given to your children in helping them to settle back into the routines of home learning. You will see from this newsletter that we are already starting to see really high standards of work being returned. Year 7-9 will hopefully be pleased to witness the return of Mrs Wright's Daily Check In today, which will also feature photos and examples of exceptional work.

Thanks too for your patience as we have ironed out our Teams teething troubles! We hope that moving forward you will see the benefits of using this platform and it will become easier to use. We have included in this newsletter and the Check In, instructions for accessing Teams via Xbox and PlayStation. We will also reissue the Teams 'How To' guide that was sent to all families at the start of term.

We have already received lots of positive feedback from parents and students about the live content we are trying to include in the home learning programme. We will do everything that we can to create the best possible learning experiences for our students whilst they are working at home and that will include increased live content. I would again ask for your patience and understanding as most staff are delivering their full timetable as remote learning as well as planning for and teaching in school for several days each week as we have far more students working in school than we had in March 2020. We also have staff who are managing their own children's learning as well as delivering remote learning as many primary schools are facing huge demand for key worker places. It simply will not be possible for all staff to include live content every day but hopefully there will be enough variety to keep everyone moving forward with their learning.

As ever, please be in contact if you have any queries or concerns but we do love to hear your positives too!

Best wishes.

Kath Jordan, Headteacher

"Sometimes all you feel
is fear....
but
you
are not
alone,
and we
are
strong,
and we
will get through this.
So hold on." x



Congratulations to former Nidderdale student Ameyla May who sat A Level resits at our school in the Autumn term. She achieved Grade A in both English Literature and Psychology and is hoping to take up a place at Durham University to study Psychology and Anthropology in September.

I do hope that this gives a little ray of hope to our current Y11 students who will be feeling anxious about the future of their qualifications at the moment.



Using Xbox or PlayStation to access Office 365

Accessing your remote learning. An alternative method of accessing remote learning during times of lockdown.

Xbox

1. Plug a keyboard in to the Xbox USB slot (less than £10 from Amazon)
2. Go in to my games and apps
3. Find Microsoft Edge and select
4. Type in [Office 365](#) and log in as you would in school
5. You can then access your work and use key packages including:
 - Word
 - Excel
 - PowerPoint
 - Teams
 - Your emails
6. To move around you use the Xbox controller or plug in a mouse

PlayStation

1. Identify the PlayStation internet browser icon (it is WWW with dots around it)
2. Press the PlayStation logo on the controller
3. Go to the library and find options for games and applications
4. Go in to applications and you will find the internet browser
5. Type in [Office 365](#) and log in as you would in school
6. You can then access your work and use key packages including:
 - Word
 - Excel
 - PowerPoint
 - Teams
 - Your emails