

Ellesmere Port Catholic High School – Weekly bulletin

6th July 2020

(Academic Week 38)

Week 2

'Nothing is so strong as gentleness, nothing so gentle as real strength.'

St Francis de Sales

Our School Prayer Dear Lord, Fill our lives with joy. Fill our lives with love. Fill our lives with peace. We give thanks to you for the gift of life. Give us the courage to live it to the full. Amen.	Our Vision <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strong Catholic Ethos• Ensuring every child is known• High expectations of everyone• Excellent leadership at all levels• Exemplary behaviour and personal standards• At the heart of the community
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MESSAGE FROM HEADTEACHER, MRS VILE

I hope you and your families are all well.

Our virtual work experience for Year 10s has been a huge success this week with many students participating and displaying great enthusiasm. This is reflected in some feedback from one of our students:

"I am just messaging to thank you for this opportunity the year group has been given. I know it wasn't easy, especially in these circumstances, but I am thankful for how it has helped me to get a better understanding of my future and the work place. It was made fun and creative, giving all the students a good but also fun, understanding of the real world. I would 100% recommend this to any other school or year groups, it had been very beneficial and gave me a really good incite on what it is like in the work place. Again thank you for this opportunity".

Thank you for your support with this.

We have lots of exciting events planned for our students, such as our Life on Mars / Personal Development project (VALOM and CALOM), Well-being Challenge and Virtual Sports Week (please see details below).

Our blended learning continues as follows:

6th July 

	Form Time (Led by Pastoral Lead) 08:45 am <i>(Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu & Fri)</i>	Assembly (Led by Pastoral Lead) 08:45 am <i>(Every Monday)</i>	365 Teams (Staff timetable)	Zoom / Loom (Staff timetable)	5 small cluster schools <i>(09:30am – 12:30pm)</i>
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Year 7	✓	✓	VALOM & CALOM		✓
Year 8	✓	✓	VALOM & CALOM		✓
Year 9	✓	✓	SPORTS WEEK		✓
Year 10	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Year 12	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

PRAYER AND REFLECTION

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.

Taken from Psalm 46

May we take comfort in the words of this Psalm in these difficult times.
And we pray Lord, if we should at times forget You, that You will never forget us.
AMEN

NOTIFICATIONS

- **Yr10 Virtual Work Experience a resounding success!**

EPCHS have been setting a blazing trail this week, being the first school in the country to organise and successfully run a Virtual Work Experience with LIVE interactions with employers from across the area. Following the cancellation of our Employability week Mr Hughes and Mrs Murphy have worked tirelessly with The Pledge to provide something totally unique to our school.

The week included company calls, live chats, Learn Live lectures and lessons on how to be prepared for future and all aspects of career learning. With students being engaged throughout, the Microsoft Team's platform has been electric and our students have not only learnt a wide range of new skills, they have also had a real world opportunity!

Thank you to everyone who has been involved - the students, parents/guardians, companies, teaching staff and the team from The Pledge. This has been a fantastic week and would not have happened without your dedication!

- **Year 7 and Year 8 - LIFE ON MARS**

During the week information has been sent out regarding the organisation of our fantastic personal development program for KS3.

Life on Mars will see our students working on two key projects, Year 7 VaLoM and Year 8 CaLoM. Students will be engaged in LIVE Zoom Webinars with leading experts from the field of space. This is a wonderful opportunity and one not to be missed, we are proud to partner the charity 4WardFutures to give our students something very different!

Please support your child by encouraging them to participate in this program and if you wish to watch live with them, please do, this really is a once in a life time opportunity to listen and ask questions to leading professionals.

- Liverpool John Moores University are running 2 weeks worth of sessions they are calling '**LJMU Summer Support Sessions**'. The first week's worth of sessions is designed for Year 12 students who are curious about the opportunities within higher education. The second week is more personal statement specific, with opportunities to ask anonymous questions to our panel of Outreach members and current students. Again a fantastic opportunity for all our students to learn more about all aspects of university education and its application process. *(Please see Summer Support Sessions timetable attached to this bulletin email)*. **Mrs Henderson**
- On Wednesday 6th-9th July all Year 12 students will have the fantastic opportunity to take part in a **virtual work experience event**. This is designed to enhance their employability skills, give them the opportunity to speak to different employers and to work as a team to complete a business task. We have a busy schedule planned as outlined below and are really looking forward to it. **Mrs Henderson**

Schedule

Monday 6th July

9.45am – Mrs Henderson and employer/Pledge Team launch of task via Zoom link

ALL STUDENTS WORK TOGETHER ON THEIR TEAM PROJECT

2pm – Mrs Henderson / Teachers 'Update Meeting' to ensure students on track and answer any questions via Zoom

Tuesday 7th July

11am – Mrs Henderson / Teachers 'Update Meeting' to ensure students on track and answer any questions via Zoom

ALL STUDENTS WORK TOGETHER ON THEIR TEAM PROJECT

3pm – Deadline for project submission to Mrs Henderson via the Team link or email.

5pm – Mrs Henderson submit projects to employer

Wednesday 8th July

9.45am – 10:30am - Launch day through Learn Live, first session Local Labour market information

10:45am – 11:15am – Current recruitment methods, CV techniques etc

11:30am – 12:00pm – Transferrable Skills and Boosting your CV

1:00pm – 2pm – Four Industry Sector Slots of 15 minutes each (Business – Self Employed, STEM, Life Sciences, Professional Services)

2:15pm – 3:15pm – Employer feedback on project through Zoom and wrap up by Mrs Henderson

- **Newcastle University** have launched a [new library of online resources](#) for their offer holders, to help prepare them for studying and give them the confidence to look forward to joining them. These resources include support to help them develop digital skills they may be unfamiliar with, tips on how to make the most of lectures and online seminars, sections on reading lists, how to develop skills in note-taking and much more. If they have any concerns about what student life will be like on campus, they can find out more using their [our simple guide](#).

This includes details of the safety measures that will be in place, access to their extensive library, sport and IT services, accommodation, and the welcome activities.

- **Chester University** are hosting some arts and humanities taster sessions. Please see link below: <https://www1.chester.ac.uk/online-arts-and-humanities-summer-school/summer-school-schedule>

- **Year 9 Virtual Sports Week** – Monday 6th July to Friday 10th July



There is no sports day this year but we have a fun, exciting and challenging week planned for Year 9 students. The Virtual Sports Week is a series of events and challenges that students can get involved in throughout the entire week. All challenges are designed to be completed at home and can be adapted in order to perform.

Students will be competing in their forms against other forms in Year 9 in the Inter-Form Virtual Olympic Games.

The timetable is as follows:

Monday 6th July Practise Day – Students will get a chance to inform themselves about the challenges that await, organise what they need, and practise prior to the main competition.

Tuesday 7th July – Virtual Olympic Games Physical Challenge Day

Wednesday 8th July – Virtual Olympic Games Skill Challenge Day

Thursday 9th July – Virtual Olympic Games Mental Challenge Day

Friday 10th July – Live Challenge Morning and the Big Sports Quiz

All students can take part in the challenges throughout the week. They submit their scores via a google form link and they can gain extra points for their form groups by submitting photograph, video or written evidence to the Virtual Sports Week Form Class on Teams.

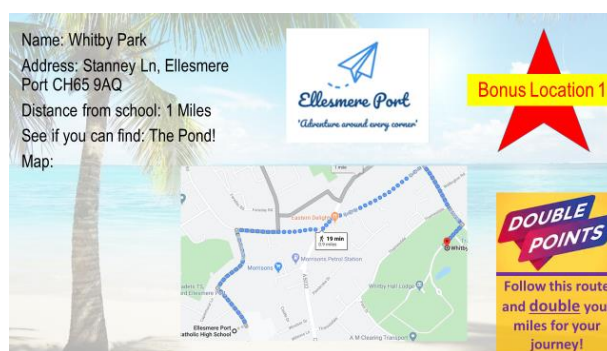
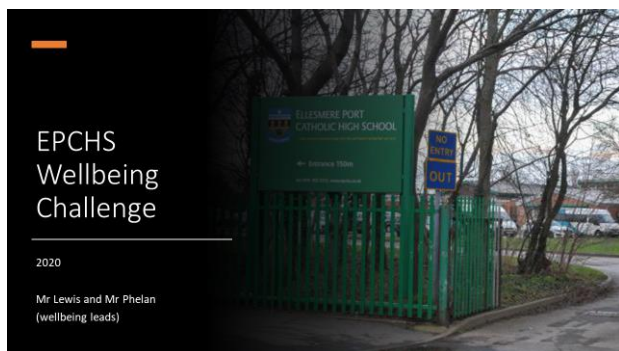
Each form group has their own class for the Virtual Sports Week on Teams. Please visit for full information about the week, timetable, instructions, links to the google forms, a folder to upload evidence to, daily event sheets, sign-up sheet for the live challenges and daily updates from the PE Department.

We hope that everyone gets involved and has a fun, exciting, challenging and rewarding week.

- The **Wellbeing Challenge** has started, please read the letter attached for further guidance. Please encourage your children to log their exercise with Form Tutors and complete the challenges (if possible).

This challenge is open to everybody, even those shielding as steps around the house also count.

Please keep an eye out on social media for regular updates and messages from staff. Please also see PowerPoints attached to this bulletin email. **Mr Lewis.**



- **The Big Bang Fair (Years 8 and 9)** – Tuesday 14th July

...The largest celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) for young people in the UK... <https://www.thebigbangfair.co.uk/>...

Presenter

- Greg Foot - your host for the day - He will be taking questions from the audience and asking experts - so you could ask a question to an expert on the following topics and many more.

Topics of the day

- The worldwide race to develop a vaccine
 - New habits to protect the planet: the environmental impact of staying at home
 - Young talent against Covid-19 - in conversation with Big Bang Competition winner meeting the challenge head on
 - Don't stand so close to me: designing a social distancing lanyard
 - Keeping the water flowing
 - Feeding the nation
 - Rebuilding a greener future: tackling the climate emergency
 - Staying on track: keeping the railway moving
 - Designing a low-cost ventilator
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- We are excited to be launching a new online reading platform for years 7 and 8 in the coming weeks and to years 9, 10 and 11 in September. The library team have purchased **MyOn** which will give students access to thousands of books online. There are lots of great features that will help students. They are able to register their book interests it will recommend books that are in line with their accelerated reader age. You can enlarge texts for those with visual impairments, have books read to you if you have dyslexic tendencies, use the online dictionary if English is your second language when you click on a word and much more. Students in year 7 and 8 will receive their username and password shortly. **Mrs Marsland**
 - **Parent and Guardian support conference** - Higher Horizons+ and Alta Higher will be co-hosting another conference event, this time for parents and guardians. Please see below for further details and link to book tickets:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/parent-and-guardian-higher-education-conference-tickets-111601623460>

CALLING ALL PARENTS AND GUARDIANS!

Higher Horizons+ and Alta Higher would like to invite you to a parent and guardian evening of information! This will give you the opportunity to gain vital insight into –

- The University application process
- Finding a course that fits your child's passions and aligns to job opportunities in growth industries
 - Student finance and how it works regarding repayments
 - An insight into student experience from a graduate

Speakers will include –

Lindsey Smith, Founder of Alta Higher

Lindsey has over 17 years of experience in supporting students by guiding them to make the right choices, assisting in University applications and offers group talks or one-to-one guidance

Jon Cheek, Founder of UniTasterDays

Jon is the Founder and Director of UniTasterDays.com, an award-winning university events website to support schools and colleges to connect with universities. Jon also delivers independent and impartial university workshops for Higher Horizons +

Jess Newton, Project Officer at Higher Horizons+

Jess has been delivering educational and engaging workshops across schools and colleges for the last 11 years. She talks about University from a personal perspective of being raised by a single parent and being the first in her generation to study at University.

The same event will run twice –

9th July 2020 5.30pm – 7.30pm

Or

16th July 2020 7.30pm – 9pm

To register FREE for either of these dates please select the correct link below -

9th July <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/parent-and-guardian-higher-education-conference-tickets-111601623460>

16th July <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/parent-and-guardian-higher-education-conference-tickets-111794161346>

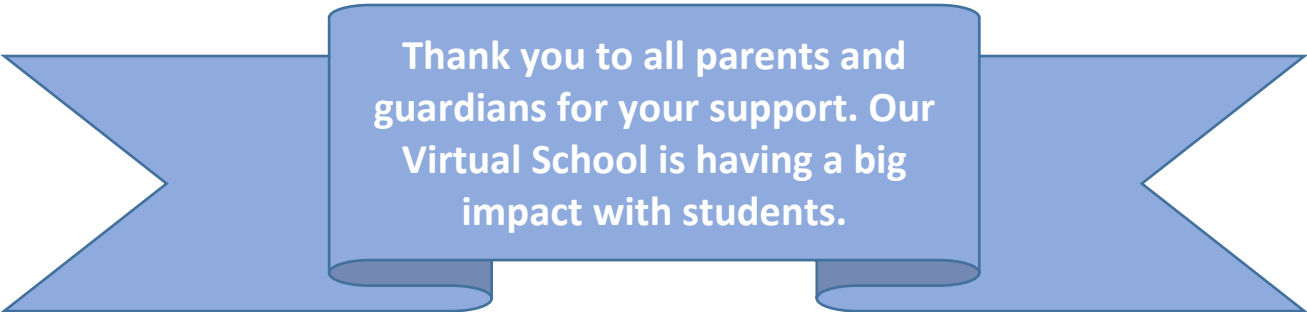
Once registered you will receive a Zoom link to attend the session!

IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND THE EVENT IT WILL BE RECORDED AND SENT AT REQUEST

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOU JOINING US!

- **Drama KS3 - For year 7 and year 8** - we set you projects many weeks ago and we hope that you have had a chance to give them a go. We have received so many amazing pictures of the work completed, we are beyond impressed with your creativity! If you still haven't sent us photos please do as it really is a joy to see your work. We will be celebrating the work of some of you when we return to school. Keep up the effort we are nearly there. Also there are some quizzes on SMHW to keep your brain buzzing!

Drama/PA KS4 - Please can all students who take GCSE/VCert Drama or PA in years 9 and 10 please make sure that you are up to date with assignments. They are so important for your progress when we return. If there are any problems please contact us and we will support you. It has been amazing seeing most of you in our Zoom sessions and we can't wait to get back and do all the amazing practicals that we do! Stay safe and get the work done!
Mrs Kennedy and Mrs Cavanagh



Thank you to all parents and guardians for your support. Our Virtual School is having a big impact with students.

Do you follow to keep up to date with all that is happening at EPCHS?

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/EllesmerePortCatholicHighSchool/>

Twitter - @EPCH_School