



Welcome to Episode 2 of our May newsletter.

VE Day Celebrations



The 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE) Day has recently been celebrated by many people around the UK. Mr Paterson celebrated by doing some chalk drawings on the street with his son and even made a cake, (apparently he's not a baker, but it looks delicious!), and Mrs Burford was proud of the community spirit on her street, where it was decorated with bunting and they celebrated with games of bingo, singing and a baking competition. We would love to see if any of our students celebrated in any way. Please send us photographs if you can.



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Mrs Maddex has also found a very poignant poem from the 50th anniversary of VE Day, written by John Carter Brown that she would like to share with you.

*Victory in Europe
Fifty years ago;
To some it doesn't mean a thing,
It happened long ago.*

*It's just a thing they talk about,
Those old men down the street;
Today's kids cannot understand,
They never felt the heat.*

*They never knew the torment,
The heartache, pain and death;
They've never seen a soldier
That's fighting for his breath.*

*The victory in Europe
Was certainly hard won
For who lost a brother,
A father or a son;*

*For men who gave the ultimate
Upon some foreign land;
A poppy for a head-stone
Now growing in the sand.*

*This victory in Europe
About which now I write,
It made me free,
I'm glad I didn't have to go and fight.*

*I'm thankful that those old men,
The ones still living yet
Keep talking of V.E. day,
And won't let us forget.*

With our own feelings of what is happening in the world today and with our lockdown, we could draw inspiration from VE day celebrations to help us get through this too.

And of course we will all meet again, and walk through a storm with our heads held high. Stay safe and take care everyone,

Mrs Maddex

Changes in School

Whilst you have been at home, Mr Peck and Mr Waite, our caretakers, have been very busy in school making a few changes to the Churchmoor site. They have created an extra individual room in the top corridor, next to the Science room to allow for more space for those students that may need it.



They have also made changes in Beech and Maple's old classrooms. Walls have been removed and classes are now considerably bigger, giving the Year 8's much more space.



As you may have seen in your local supermarket, screens are now being placed to allow for less contact between people. These screens are now also being installed on the reception desks at both of our sites.



We are very much looking forward to welcoming our students back as soon as it is safe to do so.



Microsoft Teams

Mrs Burford and other members of staff are holding a daily video call, (Monday to Friday), with students via Microsoft Teams at 1pm.

We are trying to enable students to have contact with each other in a safe way using Teams. They can chat to each other, monitored by staff, safely knowing that only Derrymount students and staff have access. We run a daily call with quizzes, games and the chance to catch up. All of this is set up and closed down by a member of staff. This is helping in these difficult times whilst most are not attending school.

There is a 'How to' for Teams, student's email link to keep in touch and also other useful links to keep your child occupied at home at - <https://derrymount.notts.sch.uk/online-learning-resources/> Your child's username is their first name and the first letter of their surname e.g. joeb@derrymount.notts.sch.uk and their password is the one they would use to unlock their school laptops.

If there are any problems we can get the passwords reset.

Take care, Mrs Burford



Positive Creativity

Miss Hopps' friend has lots of arts and crafts ideas so she wanted to share these in the hope that some of our students may see something creative that they may wish to replicate.



Create a rainbow out of coloured paper or card.
Make a scarecrow out of old clothes.



Collect large stones and paint them to create your own version of Noughts and Crosses.



Make salt dough and create hand prints with those you are at home with during these strange times. Create posters to thank the NHS workers for their hard work.



Have a go and let us know how you get on!

Class news!

Beech

Hi Beech class!

Just wanted to say a huge thank you and well done for joining me, Mrs Robinson, Mrs Woulds and Miss Chilton for TEAMS reading and chat session each day. It is lovely to see you all on the screen and I'm really enjoying sharing a book with you.

Take care and don't forget to check for different activities on TEAMS, Prodigy and Sumdog each week.

Mrs Birkin

Maple

Hello everyone!

We hope you're well enjoying time with your family/carers. We are sure you're having a good time playing on your devices, reading, doing some gardening or cooking and learning new life skills! We are missing you lots and we look forward to seeing you all again very soon.

If you'd like to have a chat with us, you can message us on Microsoft Teams - it would be lovely to hear from you. We've been setting some work on there, so hopefully that's been keeping you occupied.

Remember to stay safe and keep smiling!
Miss Chaggar, Miss Hopps and Mr Rayson

M2

Hello Everyone!

I miss you lots and cannot wait for us all to be together again!

Miss Williams is also missing her English lessons with you, so has set you some questions on Sumdog under the 'grammar' tab. You just need to accept the challenge when you log in!

Good luck! 😊

Mrs Weatherbed