

Dear Parents and Carers,

Many of you will be aware that we can begin to welcome Y10 and Y12 students back to school for some face-to-face sessions from Monday 15 June. We are very much looking forward to this and have robust plans and procedures in place to ensure the health, safety and well-being of our staff and students.

For parents of students in Year 7 to Year 9 please rest assured that online learning will continue for your children. While we aim to keep disruption to a minimum, there may be a couple of lessons where your child's teacher is engaged in face-to-face sessions with Year 10 or Year 12 students but work will still be set for your child to complete. As you will appreciate, managing a phased re-opening while trying to deliver our usual timetable to the rest of the school is quite a challenge so please bear with us while we work through the next five weeks. We still await an announcement regarding when Year 7-Year 9 can return. We will keep you informed of any news that we receive.

Mrs Sonia Taylor
Headteacher



Email Protocol - a message to our parents and carers

As we all adapt to the "new normal" it is very important to us that we work closely with parents and carers to ensure the regular communication between home and school remains. In the absence of being able to meet face to face with staff, it might mean an increase in email communication.

Contacting the school via email:

Supporting the young people in our care and managing the wellbeing and workload of our staff team is paramount. We also want to continue to support our parents and carers by responding to parental queries at the earliest opportunity.

Whilst our Headteachers, teachers and associate staff are prioritising the smooth running of our schools and the reintegration of our young people, they may not be in a position to respond to emails straight away. Also, for the wellbeing of our staff, we do not expect staff to check or respond to work emails during their personal/family time.

Expectations for email communications between parents / carers and our staff:

Emails from parents/carers will be responded to during school working hours (8am-4pm).

Our staff will respond to you as soon as possible and within three working days. This does not include weekends or holidays. Part-time staff may take longer to reply. If an urgent response is required, please contact the school office.

We will continue to monitor our approach to email communication to improve the process further and welcome any feedback you may have.

Exciting Initiative Starting From September



FOOTBALL REFEREE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Starting in September 2020, The Marches Academy Trust are excited to be hosting a Football Referee Development Programme for students in Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 that attend Sir John Talbot's School and The Grove School.

The programme will provide students with a great understanding of how to become a football referee. Students will gain experience and support primary schools within the Trust refereeing their school league football matches.

For more information please email:
sports@longlands.sat.coop

Trust News

Operation Encompass is now up and running in Shropshire and The Marches Academy Trust is part of this fantastic scheme. The initiative will see West Mercia Police working closely with schools and Shropshire Council to ensure the welfare of children who may have witnessed domestic abuse incidents. Members of school staff will receive special training enabling them to provide emotional and practical support for students experiencing domestic abuse. Full information regarding the initiative can be read in this article compiled by West Mercia Police – [click here](#).

Competitions & Challenges

MAT competition: Do you see yourself as a future leader – an MP, a member of local government or someone with world-shifting ideas that need to be shared? SJT have created a competition, inviting short video submissions from young people across the county on the topic of 'improving the lives of young people in Shropshire'. We want to hear your views. How can we make our county an even better place to be? The competition will be judged by Karen Bradshaw Acting Chief Executive of Shropshire Council. Guidelines:

- Videos should be one to two minutes long so think very carefully about the messages you want to share. Film in landscape if possible.
 - We suggest you deliver your speech/presentation in a formal style.
 - You could consider issues you are passionate about such as: the environment, education, health or facilities for young people.
 - Videos should be emailed to barnett.c@mrat.co.uk and campbell.c@mrat.co.uk
- Closing date: Monday 22 June.

History competition: The Historical Association are running a 'Write Your Own Historical Fiction Competition 2020'. Winning students will each receive a cash prize, engraved paperweight and a year's free subscription to the Historical Association for their school. Entries close Friday 26 June 2020, click [here](#) for more details.

Geography competition: The Royal Geographical Society are running their Young Geographer of the year competition, asking students to submit entries based around the theme of 'the world beyond my window', full competition details can be found [here](#). **The deadline for receipt of all entries is Tuesday 30 June 2020 at 5.00pm.**

History competition: Focus Games Ltd are challenging all age groups to create a unique piece of work, drawing, poster, short story, video or artwork in order to celebrate 100 Great Black Britons and their legacy. Entries close 30 September 2020, click [here](#) for more information.

WEBSITE QUICK LINKS



Please click on the following useful links to find out more.

- [News](#).
- [Home Learning](#)
- [Term Dates](#).



FACEBOOK

Please follow us on Facebook [@GroveSchoolShropshire](#) for supplementary home learning ideas, news, competitions and feel good stories. We also encourage you to share your ideas and interact with our posts!



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