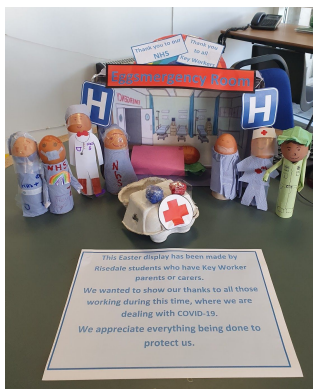


Dear parents/carers and students,

Welcome back to an unusual summer term at Risedale. Students are busy getting back into the routine of learning from home and in this letter you can see some fantastic examples of the creative responses we have received. Keeping in Touch is the new normal in these times. Maybe you are making more phone calls, doing Zoom quizzes or Facetiming with the loved ones you can't be with. This week we have been starting to contact Y10 parents and students to catch up and find out how things are going; we are passionate about supporting your children in these tricky times, both in terms of their academic progress and their wellbeing.



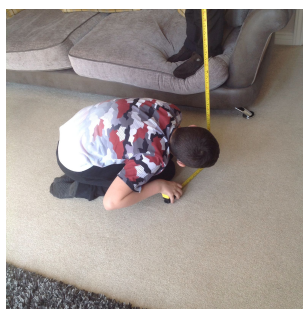
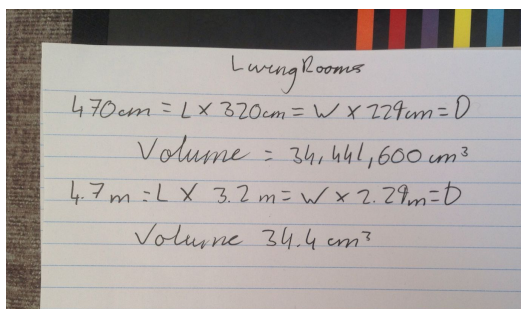
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1. 'Eggsmergency Room' an Easter display for the Risedale Reception celebrating our NHS workers, created by our very own 'key worker' students in school.
2. 'Hard Boiled Humanities' competition entry of Boris Johnson and Rishi Sunak delivering their daily briefing from 10 Downing Street by Alisha Goddard Y8.
3. Model depicting 'The death of Jekyll and Hyde' by Emily Barratt Y10 for English.
4. Harvey Guy Y7 undertaking a practical Maths task finding the volume of cuboids.

Essential PPE made at Risedale: We're delighted to report that Risedale's DT department has been busy during the lockdown supporting our key workers by making protective face shields as part of the [Richmond Yorks COVID-19 Mutual Aid](#) group. Mark Kirkbride, Head of DT at Risedale, was given a special mention in their [Facebook post yesterday](#). So far, 1000 visors have gone to ambulance crews, midwives, care homes, community nurses, animal rescue centres and other volunteers. **!!! FANTASTIC !!!**





Learning From Home - Year 10 Focus

Next week we'd like you to be thinking about how much time you are spending on each subject. It might seem like there is more English or Science work set but this is exactly the same as if you were studying at school:

Y10 Subject	Lessons	Percentage
English	5	17%
Science	5	17%
Maths	4	13%
Options Subjects	3	10% (on each subject)
Core RE, Social Studies	1	3%
Core PE	2	7%



Try to balance the time you would have spent at school with the time you spend at home on each subject. The easiest way is to follow your timetable. You should be doing some English, Science and Maths most days; the next biggest 'chunk' are your options subjects, with a once a week time slot spent on Core RE and Social Studies. Your Core PE can be your daily exercise as well as anything the PE team is setting for you. We want to support you, so your mantra next week needs to be *'The secret of getting ahead is getting started'* Mark Twain.

Y10 BTEC in Sport coursework reminder

The PE department staff are hoping that all our students are doing their best to stay fit and healthy during these challenging times just as we are. We understand how difficult it is to complete coursework without the direct teaching and staff motivation, but it's really important to try your best and keep up to date with your BTEC coursework deadlines as these dates link to your 2yr BTEC assessment plan. Once back at school, we will be busy videoing your 2 sports. BTEC exam results are now available from PE staff.

Exciting new 'House System' and school ties from September 2020

From September all staff and students will belong to one of four houses. To generate an even stronger sense of identity, students will be required to wear a tie in their house colours as part of their school uniform. **There will be NO cost to parents as all ties will be supplied by the school for the initial launch year.**

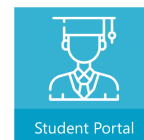
The new House System will encourage an environment of reward and competition. There will be house competitions taking place throughout the year, enriching many aspects of the curriculum. Students will be encouraged to take part in sporting house events such as Sports Day and 'Just-Dance Offs' to name but a few. In addition, students can also expect academic house events such as Spelling Bees, STEM Challenges and photography competitions where they will be able to earn points for their house. We will keep you up to date with all the latest, exciting developments.

An update from Mr Scott as to how things are progressing during this challenging time...

Learning from home: I'd like to thank our parents and carers for supporting their children in keeping their brains active by keeping them logging onto our online provision. Our teachers are continuing to support our pupils by placing work online for them to



complete. I would encourage you to do your bit and support us in that endeavour. Your children will have missed so much of their education by the time that this is over that it will be a massive task to get them back to where they deserve to be academically and creatively. Checking your child is doing their work will be essential to us in helping them get back on track quickly and I thank you for that. We are checking which pupils are accessing their work and the very few that aren't. In the coming weeks we will be contacting parents of children who may not have been doing all they can to keep their learning where it needs to be. I hope you will support us in that effort and I thank you for that.



Student Portal



Google Classroom

Looking after our community: I have spoken with our local police officer and would like to thank you for supporting our local community by keeping your children at home. This can't have been easy! There have been no reported incidents to me by the police of our children breaking the lockdown or causing issues and I am assured by the police that Risedale pupils are "obeying the rules" (their words, not mine). Please keep reminding your children that the sacrifices they are making by staying indoors is the right thing to do and all of the staff at school are proud of them for doing so. **Stay at Home. Protect the NHS. ♥ Save Lives.**

North Yorkshire County Council 'Childcare Hubs': Risedale is now open for critical workers' children from nursery age and primary at weekends and bank holidays. Places for these sessions can be booked through the [North Yorkshire local authority](#) only and not via ourselves. Specialist staff from our nursery/primary partners and our own school are helping to staff this community facility for those parents who need it. I am personally very grateful to them all for giving up their weekends to make this happen. [Click here to view a letter from Stuart Carlton, Corporate Director of Children and Young People's Service, regarding 'Childcare Hub' provision across North Yorkshire.](#)

Y11 Prom: Some parents have been asking about the Year 11 Prom. As you know, we have not cancelled this but have only (possibly) postponed it. A lot will depend on when the government allows venues to re-open. However, we have now been able to contact our venue, The Blackwell Grange Hotel Darlington, and have a possible reserve date of 11th September if we are unable to hold our Prom on the original date of 3rd July. Please do not think this is a firm date yet but I am letting you know what I know as soon as I have that information.

Y11 Leavers' Hoodies: This year we are providing free leavers' hoodies for all Y11 as a gesture of goodwill given how abruptly our eldest pupils were made to leave school! Ms Benson has emailed all Y11 students directly, sending them a link to a Google Form which they need to complete to secure their order (sizes, colours etc). Please remind your child to look out for this email and respond asap.

GCSE Examinations 2020: You will know from our last [Keep in Touch letter](#) what processes the government have put in place for the awarding of GCSE grades this summer. Please do not ask us what grades have been submitted as we are not allowed to give those out. Exam boards still have to moderate centre assessed grades and therefore they could be changed before results are finally released to the pupils themselves. Ofqual have made a short helpful video that students can watch explaining how grades will be awarded - [click here to view the video](#). It has been confirmed that **GCSE results will still**



be issued on Thursday 20th August. Further information about how this will take place will be available at a later date.

Finally, over the last few weeks Denmark reopened its primary schools. They are 'ahead of us' in terms of the Covid-19 curve so please do not assume that we will quickly follow. I do not yet have any insight as to when English schools will reopen. It may be a phased approach over a number of weeks when it eventually does start. I just do not know when that will be. I know how difficult it can be to keep young children and teenagers engaged and isolated from their friends but I ask that you continue to do the great work you have been doing and keeping them focused and doing the right thing until we can start to bring them back. I know myself and my staff are missing them all and are desperate for them to return to school (and I am sure you are as well!) but we cannot do this until we are allowed to do so.

In the meantime... keep your spirits up. We'll be through this before you know it, I'm sure! Take care, Mr Scott.

Refraction Photography Competition Winners



(L-R) KS3: Venina Mateibau (7 Brierley), Alisha Goddard (8 Hindhaugh), Katie Brough (9 Gunnell) and from KS4: Vidya Rai (10 Westwood). [Click here to view a video of the Refraction Photography Competition on our @RisedaleCollege YouTube Channel.](#)

"Well done to all the students who took part in the Refraction Photography Competition. There were some fantastic entries and really creative responses, 178 in fact, which isn't bad considering lockdown got in the way of the deadline. Well done everyone and keep the creativity going!" Ms Westwood.

Online safety at home

Staying connected online has never been more important now that many of us are working and learning from home, physically isolated from friends, colleagues and support networks. The internet is a great way to socialise, learn, work, play and be entertained but there are also risks.

Children are spending a lot more time at home and a lot more time online. It's important that we all encourage age appropriate use of social media. This differs for each platform so it's important for parents to check. Most sites are suitable from 13yrs though.



Students also need to consider the impression they might be giving with their Risedale Gmail/Google Profile Pictures; these should be professional as this is a school resource and not for personal/social use. Also, please don't use your school



email address to sign up for other accounts - this is not allowed. We're all learning new things at the moment and it's good to keep aware of the safety of ourselves and others.



Each fortnight, ['Think U Know'](#) will be releasing new home activity packs with simple 15 minute activities you can do with your child to support their online safety at home. Click on the links below for each activity pack. Every link contains two 15-minute activities to do with your child:

- [Home activity packs for ages 11-13](#)
- [Home activity packs for aged 14+](#)



We also recommend that you check out [#WakeUpWednesday](#) from [National Online Safety](#) (NOS) information. Every Wednesday, NOS produces guides focusing on specific platforms/risks, empowering parents/carers with the information needed to hold informed and age-appropriate conversations about online safety with your child, should you feel you need to. As a school, we share the #WakeUpWednesday guides on our [@RisedaleCollege Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.

For more online safety advice don't forget to visit Risedale's very own dedicated online safety webpage at www.risedale.org.uk/parents/online-safety This page is regularly reviewed and updated in line with [Online Safety Guidance for Schools and Settings in North Yorkshire September 2018](#) and supports the Government's vision for improving online safety.

'Finding the Calm' - mindfulness and wellbeing activities



Most people will find the additional time that they now have difficult to manage because life is ordinarily organised and we are usually so busy. In the current situation, we now have more unstructured time than we may be used to and so Dr Dawn Bradley has created a menu of calming activities to structure routine and time. [Click here to view 'Finding the Calm'](#). For lots of other useful resources, information and support advice please check out our dedicated ['Health and Wellbeing'](#) page on our school website. We're all in this together!

A message from Mr Lipinski: Berlin Trip 11th-13th Nov 2020

Flights have now been booked for students that have been confirmed for the Berlin trip. Of course, there are a lot of 'what ifs' in this unprecedented time and it is difficult to predict where we will find ourselves over the coming weeks and months. Our travel provider Anglia Tours are proceeding with tours for the next academic year and are confident this trip will go ahead as planned. However, if this situation changes, I will, of course, continue to keep in contact with you.



There are some students who need to still send in passport details. If this is the case, please can you email lipinski.a@risedale.org.uk with the following information: Full name (as it appears on passport), DOB, passport number, passport start and expiry date, country of issue, nationality and gender.

Thanks and stay safe, Mr Lipinski - Head of History.