



## Welcome to all our parents/carers and students,

So, this is Issue 2 of our 'Keep in Touch' newsletter. This is an important time of year for family. Whether you are of a faith or of none, we often celebrate at this time of year with exchanging eggs, possibly having a lovely dinner and certainly getting together. This year will be different but I'm sure you're all embracing new ways of keeping in touch. Perhaps you've tried Zoom or Skype with grandparents, perhaps you're sharing Easter recipes online or perhaps you're even trying to bring back the old-fashioned letter (email to keep the posties safe) for keeping in touch with loved ones. Here, at school, we are still working hard, looking after the children of key workers, an important support at this time of national emergency. We've also come to the end of the month and teachers are busy awarding student of the month awards to those young people really buying into the new online way of learning. We do acknowledge that it's not been easy for everyone and we really hope the [Google Classroom Guide](#) in the last 'Keep in Touch' was a help with this. In case you missed it, [click here to view Issue 1 of 'Keep in Touch'](#) published 01/04/2020.

## An important update for Y11 students and parents from Mr Yates:

We appreciate that many of you have been working hard, since the school closed, to complete work set on Google Classroom to support your GCSE studies. This work will have been invaluable in furthering your understanding of your curriculum areas, and it is testimony to you as individuals that it has been approached by so many with such maturity and focus. We thank you for your efforts so far.

Ofqual has now released detailed information about how they'll be calculating grades this summer for GCSEs. **It is important that parents and students take time to read through the [letter](#) below as it will answer many of the questions you will have had.** We absolutely have to follow this [guidance](#) and this will lead to us refining our approach to ensure no student is disadvantaged as a result of the current situation.

- [Ofqual letter to students regarding Summer 2020 grades.](#)
- [Ofqual guidance for teachers, students, parents and carers regarding Summer 2020 grades.](#)

**Firstly, teachers will be asked to produce a grade which in their professional judgement we would expect you to achieve had everything been 'normal at school'.**

We will need to consider what you would have gained had you been in a position to complete your GCSE studies normally and been able to take advantage of all of the support and interventions that would have been offered. Within this we will obviously be able to reflect improvements in attitude and effort demonstrated in Year 11 by so many of you.

**Secondly, and to achieve absolute fairness, we are no longer allowed to set Year 11 students' work to do in their GCSE subjects, and then use this to inform their GCSE grades.**

As I am sure you appreciate, many students across the country are simply not in a position to complete such work and so it would be unfair to use work in such a way. Curriculum work on Google Classroom will therefore no longer be set, however your teachers are still available should you have any questions or concerns or want support in the next steps of your education. We may, therefore, still set some work on Google Classroom to support future study at college and information on this will follow where necessary. Our Careers Leader, Mrs Porritt is also available via email for any post-16/careers guidance you may need [porritt.h@risedale.org.uk](mailto:porritt.h@risedale.org.uk)

Grades will not be submitted any earlier than 29<sup>th</sup> May, and this provides time for the process to be done carefully and with due diligence.



The centre assessment grades submitted to exam boards must reflect a fair, reasonable and carefully considered judgement of the most likely grade a student would have achieved if they had sat their exams this summer and completed any non-exam assessments (NEA). No student will be disadvantaged if they have not completed all of their NEA, the grade submitted will reflect the grade the student would have achieved had they had the time to complete the NEA.

The exam boards will look carefully at the grades submitted to ensure there is fairness and consistency between all schools

Schools must not, under any circumstances, share these grades with students, or their parents/carers before the final results have been issued. Since the final grades for some or all students in a centre could be different from those submitted, it also helps to manage students' expectations. Once centre assessment grades have been submitted to exam boards, the process to produce the final grades will start. More information will be made available to centres, students, parents and carers at the time final results are issued, to facilitate any appeals against the process.

When we receive any further information we will update you again. In the meantime, if you have any concerns or questions that you can't find the answer to in the Ofqual documents above, please email our Vice Principal, Mr Yates: [yates.j@risedale.org.uk](mailto:yates.j@risedale.org.uk) or our Exams Officer, Mrs Tonkin: [tonkin.j@risedale.org.uk](mailto:tonkin.j@risedale.org.uk)

## Student Progress Data for Years 7, 8 and 10.

Just a reminder to parents that SP2 Data reports are available to view on [MyChildatSchool \(MCAS\)](#). If there are any problems accessing these please email our IT team: [ITHelpDesk@risedale.org.uk](mailto:ITHelpDesk@risedale.org.uk)

## Year 11 Leavers' Hoodies

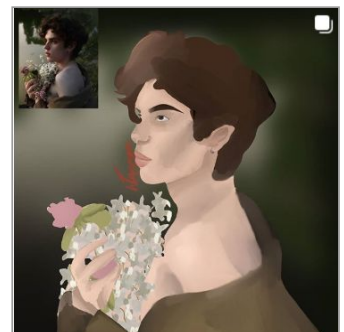
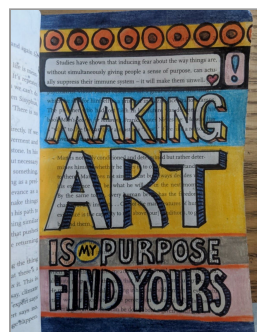
This year, Risedale will fund the cost of the leavers' hoodies for our year 11 students as a one-off, never to be repeated, good-will gesture. Head of Year, Ms Benson, is currently organising this process and will be in touch with students/parents over the forthcoming weeks to provide more information about this.

## Learning from home expectations over Easter

This fortnight we are seeing as a holiday from Google Classroom. This can be a time for those who haven't engaged so far to catch up and a time for others to get involved in other projects in the home, perhaps even away from a computer!

## A message from Ms Westwood:

"All art work being set requires students to submit photographs of their work for feedback, however, I am aware that a small number of students may not have access to a phone or tablet with a camera that can connect directly to the Google Classroom app. If this is the case, please get in touch with me directly via email [westwood.j@risedale.org.uk](mailto:westwood.j@risedale.org.uk) and I will consider alternative methods to monitor and encourage progress in art at home. Thank you for all your hard work so far. It's been a pleasure to see what you've been achieving from home."



**Images:** 'Art Journal Day 11' by Ms Westwood and 'Digital Portraiture' by Izzy Trueman Year 9.



Don't forget to follow Risedale on Instagram [@risedalestudentgallery](https://www.instagram.com/risedalestudentgallery) where you can see examples of students' work and be inspired by Ms Westwood's very own daily 'Art Journal' as she joins in and works along from home with our KS3 students on their creative diary project.

## Humanities Easter Egg Competition

Produce a 'Hard Boiled Humanities' portrait of a key figure in History/Geography/RE painted on a boiled egg and photograph it and upload to Google Classroom as an 'assignment'. Prizes to be won for the top 3! This is an **OPTIONAL** competition but would be 'egg-cellent' if lots of you gave it a go!

**Image:** This concept comes from James Henderson (@MrHumanities), was shared on Twitter by Barry Dunn (@SeahamRE) and the poster was created by Andrew Rousell.

