

Weekly Update 13th November 2020

Remembrance Week



Covid restrictions meant that we were unable to have our usual Remembrance assemblies and events in school, though we were able to observe the minute’s silence in our classes. We are very grateful to Mrs Verity Sinclair of our English department for compiling a programme of activities for Key Adult time this week. This year, our staff were asked to contribute their own family stories and thoughts on Remembrance in a short film which you can access at the link below. Also featured is a tribute to former pupil Lt Col Gary Tait, MBE, of the Royal Scots, later the Royal Regiment of Scotland who died last year.



<https://tinyurl.com/y42umc7b>

Remembrance Week Writing



Mrs Allen’s S3 class did a lesson on Wednesday on war poetry and remembrance and looked at key ideas and then key words in 7 poems. They gathered some into of these into a Word Cloud and were then asked to take a few key words and create something new. Pictured left is the word cloud and below the new piece of writing produced by Mollie.

We all marched off smug faced,
 Mad with it,
 Blind to it,
 But ready to die for it.
 And when we came back haunted and disconnected
 We were proud of it
 On the outside.

Supporting our Local Community

We have been really delighted by the support from young people for the wearing of face coverings in school. As families will know, we check that young people have their face covering on as they arrive and

have spares available for anyone who has forgotten on that day. Numbers have been low for some time now and yesterday only five young people fell into this category – pretty impressive in a school of our size!

The fact that we know how responsible and supportive our young people are in school, makes us feel disappointed when we get feedback which suggests that this is not the case elsewhere. Recently, we have been contacted by some people in the local community who have not had such positive experiences and we would, once again, like to ask for the support of parents and carers in discussing the importance of wearing face coverings in local shops and on public transport and in maintaining physical distance wherever possible. Your assistance in this is much appreciated.

Parent Council Meeting

The minutes of our recent Parent Council meeting have been sent home to parents by email and will appear on the website shortly.



SQA Information

Higher and Advanced Higher Qualifications

The SQA have moved forward the date of the examinations for Highers and Advanced Higher, they will now run from Monday 10th of May to Friday 4th of June inclusive. You can view the SQA timetable in full on the SQA website, see link below. To support pupils in preparation for their exams in May we have organised prelims for Higher and AH courses from Thursday 7th January to Friday 22nd January inclusive. Further details and timetables will be distributed in due course. Finally, pupils were issued with “Your Coursework” booklet during Key Adult, which contains essential information and rules that need to be followed when producing coursework such as portfolios, projects and assignments for the SQA. The booklet can also be found on the SQA website.

National 5 Qualifications

The school is working closely with the City and other secondary schools along with the SQA to ensure National 5 certification is fair, transparent and rigorous. There will be in-class assessments through December and January, with more formal assessments just before or after the Easter holidays, which will cover a large percentage of the course components.

There is lots of helpful information for learners at:

www.sqa.org.uk/learners

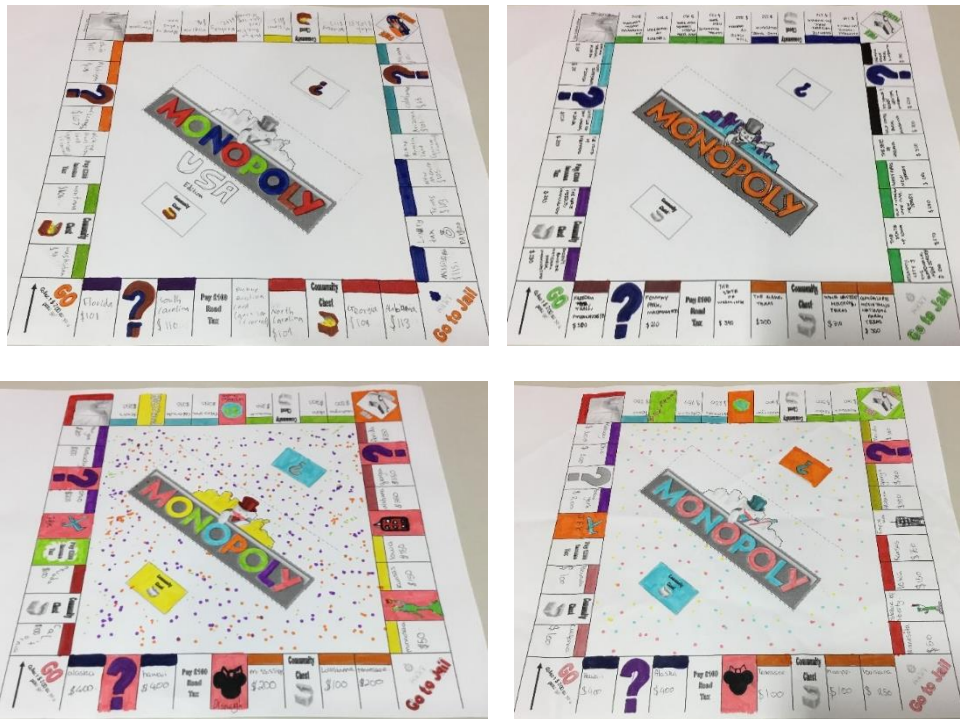
www.sqa.org.uk

Free School Meals - Holiday Payments

Families who are entitled to income based free school meals and clothing grants are eligible for an additional payment of £13.50 per child to cover the October mid-term break. City of Edinburgh Council have written to those families who are eligible for a payment but have not yet provided details to allow payment – please look out for this communication if it could apply to you. If you think that you may be eligible for Free School Meals, you can still apply and if you do so before 30 November, you will receive the October holiday payment. Our Pupil Support Leaders are always happy to discuss support for families affected by financial hardship and all enquiries are treated in confidence.

Modern Studies

One of our S3 classes have been creating American Monopoly Boards to help with revision of our USA topic, here are some fantastic examples:



FTT

Autumn Cakes decorated by Cake Craft:



S2, 3 and 4 Hospitality have been learning about eating seasonally and locally and making Autumn Crumbles with windfall apples, pears and blackberries from the local area:

