

<u>Student and Parent</u> Newsletter

We hope you all had a relaxing half term. The levels of engagement with lessons remains incredibly high. Please read about all the fantastic lessons and work that has been going on since we've returned. This newsletter also contains information about the different learning platforms we are using, an important article from Mr. Cummings about reading and a message from Mrs Rainbow to year 6 students who will be starting with us in September.



DT and Creative Arts

Year 8 students have been exploring graffiti art and looking at Banksy· This is Lucie A's own version·

Performing Arts

Mrs Kinlock's year 9 students have designed some fabulous sets for their favourite plays. Here are some examples from Jack M and Lauren A.

Year 10 students have been working hard on designing power point presentations that analyse and evaluate the play 'Blood Brothers' · Brilliant work was submitted by Declan 5 and Lucy B·



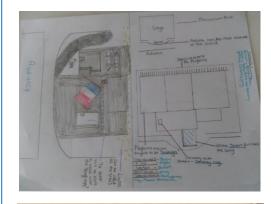
COMPONENT 1 BLOOD BROTHERS by Declan Stephen Introduction to the Play Part is the elevations: In play a doce me reas who were uplic at birth. Mrs. Johnstone was where how they of them to bey Makay and Edward. Mrs. Lyon is from

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12/06/20









Here it is! The much awaited, highly anticipated GCA single! The song is 'Put A Little Love In Your Heart' which was originally recorded by Annie Lennox and Al Green. Nearly 40 people took part including some of our peripatetic music teachers and pupils from all ages of the school community. A special mention needs to go to Ben R in year 10 who worked out and recorded the trumpet part.

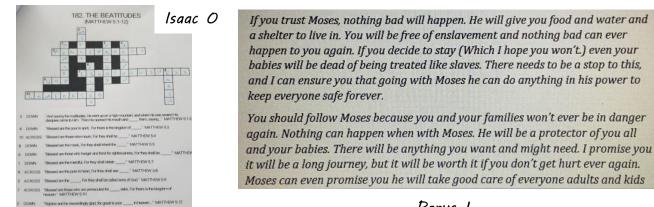
We really hope you enjoy listening to it as much as we have \cdot Well done and thanks to everyone for getting involved \cdot

"Even though we are not together, we are with you all the way. See you soon!"

Please go to the school website to listen to the GCA single and watch the music video

Year 7 have been looking at the Beatitudes, which are teachings of Jesus. Students had a choice of tasks to complete to help with their understanding of this work. The crossword was the hardest task, so well done to those who chose this activity. Year 7s have also been researching their local church online and looking at ways the church helps the local community.

Year 8 students have been looking at the story of Moses and the Ten Plagues. They were asked to write a persuasive speech encouraging the Hebrews to follow Moses to the promised land, which is the story of Exodus from the Bible, Parys L produced a detailed speech, which contains some great emotive language and persuasive writing.



Parys L

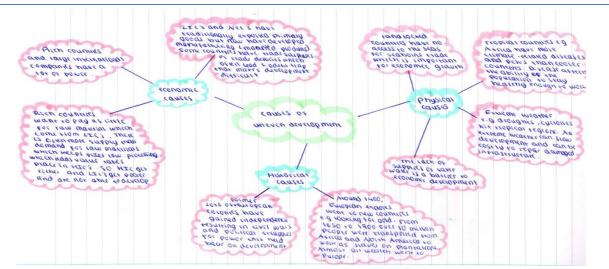
History

In history we have been studying a broad range of historical events, people and places. We have also taken this time to be a little more creative and have spent some time in recent weeks carrying out some knowledge retrieval activities to consolidate knowledge and understanding over the past half term.

Year 7 have been focusing on the Tudor and Stuart period and revisiting the Norman rule of England. Students have designed Motte and Bailey castles and carried out a CSI investigation on Guy Fawkes. Year 8 have been studying the impact of WWII on Britain in great detail and were challenged to plan and make a family rationed meal. Year 9 have continued with their in-depth study of Germany and life under Nazi rule. Year 10 have started a GCSE site study project on the importance of the White Tower during Norman Rule of England. Students who deserve a special mention this week are: Sophie L for her Nazi society work, Luke C's news report on the gunpowder plot, Polly H's Motte and Bailey castle, Tallulah B's rationing family meal.

Geography

Year 10 geography students have been learning about how tourism can improve a country's level of development then answering sample exam questions on this theme and have also been doing some retrieval learning work on the causes of uneven world development. Y9 and Y8 have been finishing the ecosystems topics and testing their knowledge and understanding of these through GCSE exam questions in Y9 and SENECA topic tests in Y8. Y7 have been looking at what tourism in Majorca offers both visitors and locals.



Retrieval learning revision map on the causes of unequal world development by Rebecca F

RE

<u>Maths</u>

Mrs Whitehead's year 10 class have really impressed her over the last few weeks as they have been doing some very difficult topics recently. Well done to all and keep up the great effort and work. Here are a couple of examples form Rebecca F and Amelia S.

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meaning is is twice as big.	Curcimperence

Mr· Thistletwaite, Mrs· Reid and the rest of the maths staff are continuing to produce great Loom video lessons for their classes· Mathswatch and Activelearn platforms have also been used along with PowerPoint, interactive quizzes for lessons trying to give different experiences and concepts of learning· Mrs Hulme, Mr· Thistletwaite, Mrs· Reid, Mrs· Ashcroft and Mrs· Smith have all been very impressed with the work you are submitting· Well done and keep up the great work·

Year 7 and 8 have been concentrating on knowledge retrieval and revision of the topics they have done this year· Year 7 have been revisiting Analysing and Displaying Data last week and this week Number skills· Year 8 have been completing lessons on Number, powers, factors last week and area and volume this week·

Mr· Molloy has been very impressed by the efforts of 7A1 and 8A1 with the high standard of work being submitted by so many of you· Keep up the great work·

I have also been very impressed by the involvement of my year 9's especially:- Emma B, Kealan H, Amelia K, Ella L, Barnaby M, Darcy Q, Alanna S, and Terry-Lee S· Also, great effort by Darcy Q and Barnaby M when converting metric units and properties of 2D shapes, Area and perimeters· <u>HL6/2014 Collage</u>

Many, many more pupils have been working hard. All the maths staff continually mention to me how high the standard of work is and that classes are submitting work regularly. Sorry if you have not had a mention this week – there are just too many to name! Keep up the great work and effort.



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<u>French</u>

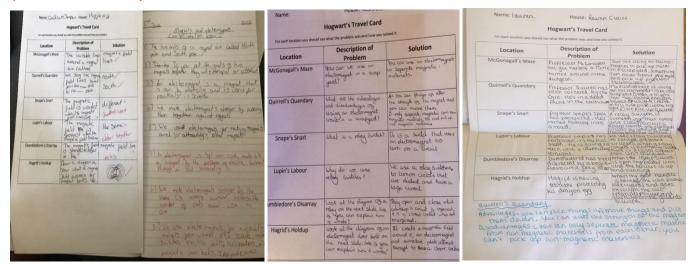
We set an optional project for year 7 and 8 over half term... "The Eiffel Tower Challenge! Build a model of the Eiffel Tower using whatever materials you like! You can use Lego, K'nex, or another construction toy if you have any, or newspaper, cardboard, loo roll middles, even spaghetti!"

Mr. Holliday was head judge. The winners will receive French themed stationary. Pictures of the winning towers are opposite. Well done to everyone who entered.

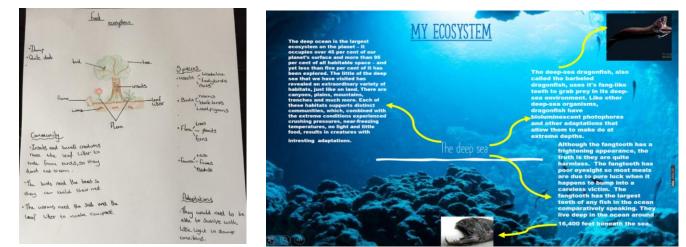




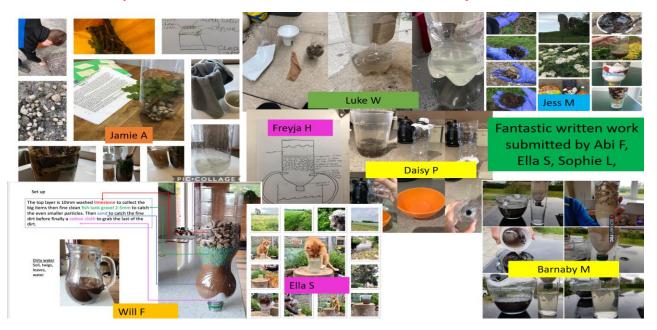
Year 8 have been completing some revision questions on magnetism and electromagnetism this week using a Harry Potter themed quiz. Each student was sorted into their house and given questions that they needed to answer. Well done to Callum S, Lauren H, and Jack S.



Last week year 7 were revising photosynthesis and the periodic table. This week they are working on ecosystems, competition and adaptations. Some fantastic ecosystems were created by Cadence R and Zachary C. Well done!



This week year 9 have been performing 'home experiments' and using their findings as evidence for how particles behave in solids, liquids and gases. They have also been learning how to distinguish a pure element or compound from an impure substance using diagrams, graphs and data. Lastly, they have designed and made water filters in an attempt to clean impure dirty water. Well done year 9, I have seen some fantastic work and images.



Science have started using a great tool called Educake. Every child should now be logged in and should have completed at least one assignment. Thanks to all parents for your support getting your child logged in. This great resource will allow us to identify areas that students have struggled with during lock down and therefore will allow us to plan their future lessons more effectively.



IMPORTANT

Why Read?



At GCA, we are committed to reading. It is the master skill of a school. Put simply, we cannot do without it: developing a solid reading habit is the key to success. On average 25% of children begin high school below the expected reading age; 20% of those who are below expected are likely to score no more than a grade 4 at GCSE. Indeed, students who do not read regularly struggle to have a reading age of 13 by the time they sit their GCSEs, thus limiting their progress and achievement. Startling statistics aside, it's obvious that children who do not read struggle to grow academically.

So, what can we do about this? The answer is easy \cdot Read \cdot Read - and then read some more \cdot The benefits are incredible \cdot Readers make better writers and communicators, having a vast arsenal of vocabulary at their fingertips \cdot It allows students to discover new things and educate themselves; the right books are full of useful information that helps us become smarter, sharper, more skilled and more open to new ideas \cdot Through reading, our imagination is ignited, and we open up our minds to new possibilities \cdot Even non-fiction books on science and technology have the power to stir our creativity and stimulate innovative and inventive ideas \cdot It gives your brain a workout, too, improving memory and cognitive function - the benefits continue long after you have put down that book \cdot

It does not matter what you read: crime fiction, cookery books, pig manuals, whatever· As long as you can become completely engrossed in a book, you can escape the everyday stress that you are experiencing in your life and step into someone else's world for a while· A mere 6 minutes of reading a day can reduce stress by up to 68%, as well as being good in helping develop healthy sleep patterns·

Lastly, and most importantly, reading is fun \cdot Rather than gluing your eyes to the phone or to the television screen, read the lines on the page of a new book \cdot Instead of growing envious of someone's picture perfect Instagram, transport yourself into the magical land of your favourite book and its characters \cdot Rather than constantly damaging your brain cells with mindless scrolling or streaming, repair some of those cells and read \cdot

Parameter Description Data Description D	<text></text>	English Our year 9 students have been concentrating on descriptive writing. An excellent and inventive piece of descriptive writing was submitted by Sophie L - well done! Year & were asked to produce a formal letter expressing their views about extending half-term holidays. Lauren H produced this thought-provoking effort. It sounds like she's proposing an Australian-style system! Well done Lauren.
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Hello Year 6,

In normal circumstances you would be invited into school for a Treasure Hunt Evening. This is where you navigate your way around the buildings with all other future students to complete different activities. Of course, due to the current circumstances this event has had to be cancelled. Therefore, we wanted to give you another way to learn about our academy, without entering the building!

We have designed a Quiz for you to complete based on the information you may find on our school website or speaking to current Garstang Community Academy students you may know Once on the quiz page you can use Flashcards, Learn, Quiz, Spell, Test or Match - the choice is yours! You may want to have a good hunt through our website and learn as much as you can about Garstang Community Academy and then complete the quiz:

You'll find the quiz here: https://garstangcommunityacademy·com/learning/curriculum/transition

When you have completed the Quiz, please download the certificate. When you start with us at Garstang Academy, you can print this out and show your future form tutor who will award you 10 Award points to get you started on your Garstang Journey.

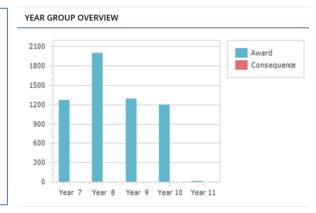
We will hopefully see you very soon, Miss Rainbow, Year 7 Progress Leader

Dear Year 7 Parents,

I hope you all got my letter last week introducing myself as the new Progress Leader for Year 7s as Mrs Rainbow focuses her time on looking after the Year 6s. Looking at your engagement on SMH I am so impressed at the effort and quality of work that you are submitting across your subjects. The form tutors and I have been having some lovely chats with parents and students over the past week. If you need anything, please get in touch. We miss you and keep up the great work. Mr Kidd

Hello Year 8,

I was super proud of your efforts last half term and just look at how many award points you achieved over the half term in comparison to the other year groups! And we managed no consequences (3) #firsttimeever · You need to keep up with that momentum this half term· For those of you who maybe aren't finding it so easy to learn at home, work with each other & ask for help from your teachers· We are here to support you· Look after yourselves and stay safe! Miss Hall·



Hi Year 9,

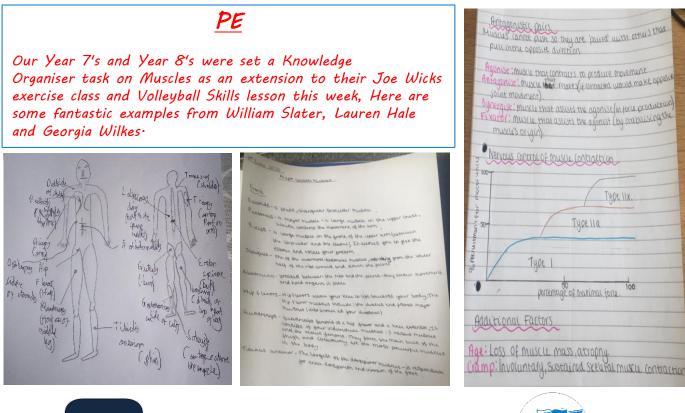
We're still here! Locked up in Lock down! As always I hope you're all keeping safe and well. It really is amazing to see all the hard work that's being done by you all. Thank you for working so hard and thanks to all of your parents who are helping you all with the work.

In this final half term I'd really like for us as a Year Group to finish on a high with the maximum amount of award points that we can achieve and show these other Year Groups who's boss!! I've recently set up a quiz on Show my Homework and there are award points on offer there for the correct answers. Well done to those of you who have already done the quiz and sent the answers back, BUT no one has managed to get all of them correct as yet, so I'll offer a 10 award point reward to the first sheet I receive with all the answers correct! PS -Mr Ashcroft isn't really 72 years old! If you don't know what I'm talking about, take a look at the quiz

Keep up the hard work, good luck with the quiz and keep safe. Mr Passerini.

Hi Year 10,

I hope you are all well and accessing work. It is really important you keep up to date with as much work as you can to make transition into year 11 as smooth as possible. Try to post a picture of your work on show my homework or send work in via email for your teachers to see. I am still looking for prefects, thank you to those who have applied already. Keep the applications coming in to Progress@garstangcommunityacademy.com. The help provided by prefects is invaluable and I am sure your year group will make a fantastic team. I hope to see as many of you as possible in the near future. Mr Millatt.







Remote Learning

Please be reminded that student's work is posted on show my homework every day. Students should be following their normal school timetable and completing the lessons for that day.

Remember that our guidance for accessing work and support during a school closure can be found on the school website

https://garstangcommunityacademy·com/news/2020-03-25-pupil-parent-guides

Access to Show My Homework

If a pupil cannot remember their Show my Homework log in details, simply go the school website and click on the show my homework button. This gives you access to the whole school calendar where you can easily filter work by year groups and subject. You can also request your log in detail by emailing: info@garstangcommunityacademy.com

How to access support

Please use the following email addresses if you need to ask questions or access support. science@garstangcommunityacademy.com maths@garstangcommunityacademy.com english@garstangcommunityacademy.com mfl@garstangcommunityacademy.com humanities@garstangcommunityacademy.com dt@garstangcommunityacademy.com, hsc@garstangcommunityacademy.com (Health & Social Care) creativeArts@garstangcommunityacademy.com pe@garstangcommunityacademy.com IT@garstangcommunityacademy.com (also for Business) slt@garstangcommunityacademy.com TA@garstangcommunityacademy.com inclusion@garstangcommunityacademy.com progress@garstangcommunityacademy.com (progress leaders) info@garstangcommunityacademy.com (general enquiries)





Garstang Academy @GarstangAcademy

Listen to the @GarstangAcademy lockdown single JJJ * thank you to Mrs Crow for all your hard work - 'Even Though We Are Not Together We Are With You All The Way. See Yo Soon' * garstangcommunityacademy.com/news/2020-



<u>Follow us on Twitter!</u> If you don't do so already please follow us on Twitter @GarstangAcademy· Lots of student work, DfE updates, messages and community news are posted regularly·

Learning Platforms

Since remote learning started, we have introduced a number of new learning platforms to support students with studying from home. Miss Oliver has produced a summary of these learning tools including how to access and rest passwords if needed.

Name of platform	Subjects	What it is used for	How to access it or reset passwords if needed
Activlearn	Maths MFL	Follows the text book used in class. Book can be accessed as a pdf. Lessons, assessments for distance learning. Helpful video lessons, worked examples and hints topic specific questions. Self-marking	Email <u>maths@garstangcommunitacademy.com</u> MFL: You all have a unique username and password. Email <u>mfl@garstangcommunityacademy.com</u> with any problems
Educake	Science	End of topic assessment or in lesson quizzes	Instructions have been sent to the pupils school email address. If there are issues logging into this then an alternative way to access educake can be granted by emailing science@garstangcommunityacademy.com
Everlearn	PE	Exam board-specific online courses, featuring fast-paced tutorials, practice and test mode quizzing and checkpoint assessments.	Students create they own username and password for Showbie but if students forget email <u>pe@garstangcommunityacademy.com</u> for a reset
Explain everything	English	Interactive whiteboard app where teachers can share their annotations on lesson resources	No password required. Just copy and paste a link that is provided in SMHW.
Linguascope	MFL	Linguascope.com is used for vocabulary learning and revision.	We have a whole school username and password that the pupils know and it is available on SMHW (We're not allowed to put the details on the website/newsletter I'm afraid) Email <u>mfl@garstangcommunityacademy.com</u> with any problems.
Loom	Maths English + others	Access voice recordings of teachers PowerPoints	No password required. Just copy and paste a link that is provided in SMHW.
Mathswatch	Maths	Lessons, assessments for distance learning. Helpful video lessons, topic specific questions. Self-marking	Email maths@garstangcommunitacademy.com
Music first	Music	Used for a review of skills and content taught and students are directed to specific tasks on there in lessons.	Access the website via: <u>https://garstang.musicfirst.co.uk/</u> This gets them to our school account so they can find tasks Mrs Crowe has set for them on there. Year 7 and 8 use the log in 'year7' and for year 8. 'year8'. They have their own password. GCSE students have their own account with a username which is their first name then surname initial eg SantaC. Any password reset requests should be sent to <u>creativearts@garstangcommunityacademy.co</u> m.
Quizlet	All	Vocabulary learning and revision	No sign up/login is necessary. If teachers are doing a Live whole class game, they send a unique code or link via SMHW
School email	all	Sending communication directly to students or for students to send work/queries to staff	Accessed via www.office.com or the link at the bottom of the school website. Passwords reset by parent emailing passwordreset@garstangcommunityacademy.c om
Seneca	Science Business Geography English	Setting work to accompany online learning, to help strengthen key ideas. To give us an idea to see who is engaging. To provide an alternative learning pathway for some students. To revise topics and test knowledge.	Students access the website then log in using the email they set it up with, which should be their school email and they can reset password using the link on Seneca.
Show my homework	All	Setting work for online learning. This may in turn then direct students to a different site to access activities/videos etc	Via the school website, scroll to the bottom and click the SMHW logo. A log in isn't required. A form tutor, progress leader or reception can reset a log in if needed though.
Showbie	PE	Creating and completion of assignments	Students create they own username and password for Showbie but if students forget email pe@garstangcommunityacademy.com for a reset.