

Stour Valley Community School

15 May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

This week has seen a flurry of activity in our new 'virtual staffroom' on Teams as our teachers watch training videos and support each other in the setting up of Teams. Year 10 have been the first priority for the new system, but Teams are being activated in Years 7, 8 and 9 too now. I have already received some really positive feedback from a number of parents, which is reassuring.

Next week is half term and we have not set any online learning work for our students. The school will remain open for the children of key workers and some vulnerable students. Please note that the IT helpdesk will not be available over half term. There will be staff on reception to answer any calls.

I have written to Year 10 parents and carers separately today about our planned arrangements for Year 10 from 1st June. Subject to government guidance, all Year 10 students will be offered a weekly 20-minute face-to-face meeting with a teacher, in the first instance, a review meeting. We are planning for some possible Year 10 small class teaching later in the half term, again, subject to government and Public Health England advice and guidance.

I want to celebrate some students' art work today, and am going to share two pieces, one from a Year 7 student and one from a Year 9 student. The second piece, by the Year 9 student, is a response to Banksy. Two talented artists, I'm sure you will agree.

With best wishes for a safe and happy half term

Rachel Kelly, Headteacher



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