

TRUST UPDATE #8

Partial School Opening/Closure

Monday 18 May, 2020



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

WHEN WILL STUDENTS GO BACK TO SCHOOL?

You will be aware that the Prime Minister, in his recent statement to the Nation, provided an indication of when schools may be able to welcome increasing numbers of students back into school. Since that time there have been various guidance and planning documents released to schools by both the Government and by the Department for Education.

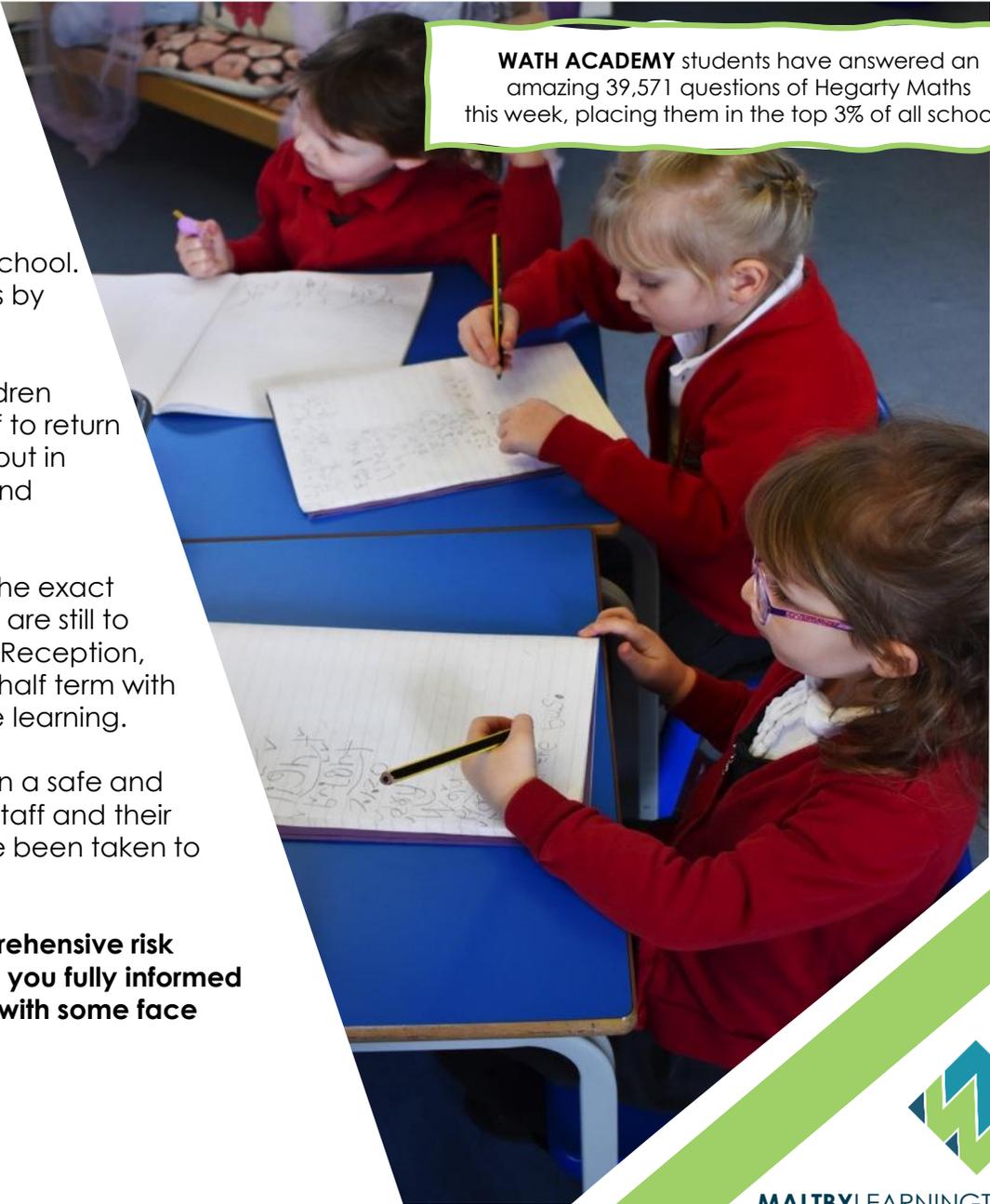
I can speak on behalf of Leaders and Trustees when I say that we are committed to getting children back into school in some form before the summer. However, we will only allow children and staff to return to school when it is 'safe to do so'. We will continue to work with the various specialist bodies to put in place appropriate measures to help keep children and staff safe when undertaking a phased and limited reopening.

I can confirm that primary schools are planning to reopen at some point after June 1, however the exact dates and details for this return have not yet been determined given that a number of questions are still to be answered at a national level. It is clear that the priority year groups in primary will be Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and 6. Similarly, the secondary schools are prepared for some face to face contact next half term with students in Year 10 and 12, who are preparing for key exams next summer, to support their online learning.

We need to ensure that, when planning for and implementing the return to school, it is done so in a safe and measured way which does not compromise the health, safety and wellbeing of our students or staff and their families. We need to ensure that staff and parents have the 'confidence' that all measures have been taken to make sure that all can return safely.

We would like to reassure you that any decision to open will be subject to the outcome of comprehensive risk assessments and consultation with the key stakeholders. You can be confident that we will keep you fully informed of our planning over the coming weeks as we move to a more blended approach to schooling, with some face to face time with teachers interspersed with continued home learning.

Please keep safe and well.
David Sutton



WATH ACADEMY students have answered an amazing 39,571 questions of Hegarty Maths this week, placing them in the top 3% of all schools!





HOW MIGHT SCHOOL LIFE BE DIFFERENT IN JUNE?

The Government's advice on the reopening of schools is clear and not every class will start back at the same time. Below we have laid out some of the key considerations when planning for any increase in numbers in our schools.

For older year groups, there will be strict rules enforced to keep social distancing in place as much as possible, and desks will be spaced apart in line with the 2 metre guidance. Class sizes for all pupils will be reduced significantly according to the space available in each classroom. Following our early assessments across the Trust, most classrooms will accommodate between 6 and 8 students maintaining the necessary safe distances. Children may not be taught in their normal classroom or by their normal teacher.

For the youngest children, group sizes will be kept to a minimum and wherever possible social distancing will be maintained. All soft furnishings and soft toys will be removed from classrooms as they are hard to keep clean, and no equipment will be shared between groups. Children will be restricted to a defined area with named key adults.

Children will not move between teaching spaces or mix with others during the school day. There will be staggered break and lunch times, and different times for starting and finishing the school day. Children will not be able to play any games which require physical contact and will be outside with a small number of children from their allocated group. We are working closely with our catering team to finalise the arrangements for lunchtime.

Movement on the corridors will be minimised and carefully controlled and there will be clear markings placed on the floor to indicate the appropriate distancing. The access to toilets will be carefully managed to limit the number of children or young people who share facilities or use them at one time. The schools will have increased provision for hand sanitisation and staff will ensure that young people use these regularly.

We recognise that some children and young people will need additional support to follow these measures and we will deploy our specialist staffing to provide assistance as required. However, given the need to ensure the health and safety of all children and adults in the building we will be insisting on all children following the rules outlined and any deviation from these will result in a robust and immediate response.

Once children are back in school, all frequently touched surfaces, equipment, door handles and toilets used during the day will be cleaned thoroughly throughout the day.

The intention is to share a brief video on each of the academy websites highlighting the adaptations that have been made in the schools to ensure the health and safety of students and staff on their return.



MEET THE CHAIR OF MALTBY LEARNING TRUST: DAME JULIE A KENNY DBE DL

I am delighted to introduce our Chair of Board, Dame Julie Kenny. Julie is a successful South Yorkshire based entrepreneur, whose monumental list of accolades and accomplishments are awe-inspiring. Here is a little bit more about her:

In 1986, Julie sold her home, raised £28,500 from the equity and founded an electronics manufacturing company Pyronix Limited originally in her home. The company designed and developed patented Alarm Security Equipment. After 30 years, the business had a turnover in excess of £25m, selling to over 80 countries throughout the world. She employed 200 people on 3 factory sites in Hellaby, Rotherham. In 2016 following the sale of her award winning company, Julie continued her involvement in serving businesses, charities and local communities and currently holds several trustee/patron positions for diverse business and charitable organisations.

Julie has been Chair of Maltby Learning Trust since January 2010. At that time, she wanted to be involved with the Trust because she had employed some excellent members of staff who previously attended Maltby Academy and lots of their family members were students. Julie is also Chair and Non-Executive Director with Robson Handling Technology Limited; a company manufacturing,

assembling and installing conveyors predominantly in the UK airport sector but now expanding in the USA. Julie chairs the Sheffield Culture Collective and is Chair of the Wentworth Woodhouse Preservation Trust and Trading Company.

Having been appointed by the Government to serve on many different Government Boards since 1995, Julie was asked to serve as an Intervention Commissioner with Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council between 2010 and 2014 and was appointed again as an Intervention Commissioner of Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council between 2015 and 2019. Her involvement in the promotion of her home town continues as a Rotherham Pioneer and an Ambition Rotherham Board Member.

For her work with heritage and particularly Wentworth Woodhouse, Julie was honoured in Her Majesty the Queen's Birthday Honours List in June 2019 with a Damehood. Her CBE in 2002 and Honorary Doctorate from Sheffield Hallam University in 2005 were conferred in recognition of her contribution to industry and business in the region.

Julie has three grown-up children and had a successful career as a litigation lawyer in local authority and private practice before changing direction and founding Pyronix. She has served as a Deputy Lieutenant for South Yorkshire since 2005 and High Sheriff of South Yorkshire from 2012 to 2013.

In all of Julie's involvement with Government bodies, she has specialised in economic regeneration, business growth, partnerships and upskilling people. Julie is passionate about supporting young people and women in the workplace and is currently mentoring several women with their businesses and careers.



ABOUT WENTWORTH WOODHOUSE

Wentworth Woodhouse is a Grade I listed stately home, with the longest façade of any country house in England. The house was built for the 1st Marquess of Rockingham from circa 1735, and was then passed to the Fitzwilliam family.

During World War II, the mansion was taken over for use by Military Intelligence and after 1945, open cast coalmining took place in the garden and park which made it impossible for the family to return. The greater part of the house was let in 1947 to West Riding County Council shortly before the death of the 8th Earl Fitzwilliam, in a plane crash in 1948. The house was used as a Women's Physical Education College for training teachers.

In 1974, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council became the lessee and the property was taken over as a student campus, for Sheffield Polytechnic College (now Sheffield Hallam University). Faced with mounting costs, Rotherham paid to surrender the lease in 1988. The house and 87 acres of grounds and parkland, were sold in 1989. In 1998, the property went back onto the open market and was bought by the Newbold family in 1999, who continued in residence until 2017, when the property was purchased by Wentworth Woodhouse Preservation Trust, on behalf of the nation.

WENTWORTH WOODHOUSE PRESERVATION TRUST:

SAVE Britain's Heritage and numerous other individuals and organisations helped initiate the new Wentworth Woodhouse Preservation Trust (WWPT). Their aim is: To preserve the house and grounds on a long term sustainable basis with extensive public opening; to find sustainable and sympathetic uses for those parts of the property not open to the public; and to raise funds for acquisition, repairs and other essential works. To find out about the restoration or for more information about Wentworth Woodhouse, visit the website at www.wentworthwoodhouse.org.uk



PARTIAL OPENING – STUDENT NUMBERS ATTENDING ACROSS THE TRUST

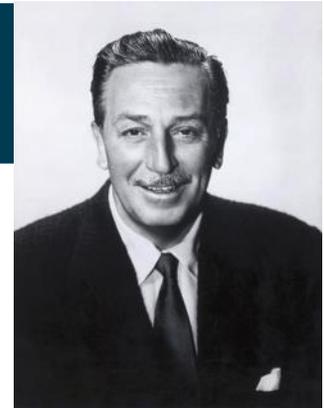
| | WATH ACADEMY | SIR THOMAS WHARTON ACADEMY | MALTBY ACADEMY | MALTBY LILLY HALL ACADEMY | MALTBY MANOR ACADEMY | RAVENFIELD PRIMARY ACADEMY | MALTBY REDWOOD ACADEMY |
|-----------|--------------|----------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| MONDAY | 9 | 11 | 6 | 18 | 15 | 4 | 12 |
| TUESDAY | 10 | 13 | 6 | 17 | 15 | 8 | 13 |
| WEDNESDAY | 8 | 12 | 8 | 19 | 16 | 10 | 14 |
| THURSDAY | 8 | 15 | 7 | 15 | 17 | 12 | 8 |
| FRIDAY | 6 | 12 | 8 | 10 | 17 | 5 | 15 |



QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"The flower that blooms in adversity is the rarest and most beautiful of all."

Walt Disney



HALF-TERM HOLIDAYS - MONDAY 25TH MAY TO FRIDAY 29TH MAY 2020

We have been so impressed with the way in which our students have applied themselves to the new way of working over recent weeks and the commitment so many of them have shown to their home learning that we have decided to give them a well deserved break from more formal work over half term. During the holiday period schools may set some project based activity packs for children and their parents to engage in together. Please note that these fun activities are entirely voluntary.

NB. We will continue to offer onsite provision for the children of key workers and those children considered vulnerable at each school.

An amazing 82% of **MALTBY LILLY HALL ACADEMY** students have been engaging on Purple Mash this week!

YEAR 11 TRANSITION PACKS/RESOURCES

The secondary schools in the Trust have recently developed a set of transition resources for students entering Year 12 in September. The aim of these resources is to support your son/daughter with the transition between GCSEs and A Levels, and to prepare them for their post 16 learning journey. It is unlikely that the schools will be able to provide a transition event or course launch this year, so we would recommend that all prospective students engage with the transition resources.

We have resources available for each Post-16 subject and we would advise students to download and complete the preparation activities for each of the subjects they intend to study from September. Please refer to the Academy website for all the resources and any supporting post 16 information.

We look forward to seeing you in September.

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

Over the past few months, the detrimental impact the coronavirus pandemic has been having on people's mental health has been widely discussed. According to recent research conducted by mental health charity YoungMinds, more than half of parents and carers are concerned about the long-lasting effects the pandemic is having on their children's mental wellbeing. Furthermore, an investigation carried out by the Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH) suggested that young people's mental health is suffering the most during lockdown.

The aim of Mental Health Awareness Week, which is taking place this year from Monday 18 May to Sunday 24 May, is to raise awareness of mental health and to provide support for those who need it. There are plenty of ways you can get involved, visit www.mentalhealth.org.uk for more information.

If you are in need of mental health support, you can contact the charity Mind by calling the helpline on 0300 123 3393, emailing info@mind.org.uk or texting 86463. The helpline is open Monday to Friday (except bank holidays), 9am to 6pm.



MEET THE MALTBY LEARNING TRUST TEAM



MISS SMEDLEY

Teacher
RAVENFIELD PRIMARY ACADEMY



1. Who inspires you?

I am fortunate enough to work within a role where individuals inspire me on a daily basis. Whether this is the children's love for learning and compassion, or the way that staff place the children across MLT at the centre of their worlds. Growing up, I was inspired by my Year 4 teacher, Mrs Makin. She helped to bring learning to life within the classroom where we raised money for Bluebell Wood by publishing our stories based on a class character. We even had the opportunity to promote our book, in the newspaper as well as on the radio and news channel. Mrs Makin went above and beyond.

2. What was the best concert you ever attended?

The best concert I ever attended was definitely PINK. Her acrobatics whilst singing, was out of this world. I always remember questioning how someone could be that talented.

3. Where's your favourite place in the world?

My favourite place in the world is Baby Beach, within Aruba. I personally feel that this is one calmest places within our world. When I think of this place, it brings back so many happy memories.

4. What's the last book you read?

The last book that I read was Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine. Within this book, Eleanor faces challenges when using appropriate social skills. It promotes the importance of courage and friendship. It will break your heart and put it back together again.

5. What's your favourite movie?

The Blind Side. No matter how many times I watch this film, I always cry at the end!

6. Who would you like to swap places with for a day?

Yuri Gagarin. I would love to have the memories of being the first person into space.

7. What are some of your pet peeves?

When people talk over a movie but then ask "wait, what's happening?"

8. What's your favourite meal and which four people would you choose to eat it with?

My favourite meal has to be a Sunday Roast. I would eat with Elvis Presley so he could entertain us with his brilliant singing. Katherine Johnson, as I would love to hear about her experiences working for NASA. Sir Bobby Charlton so that I could hear about his 1966 World Cup victory. Finally, I would invite my Nan as she makes the best roast potatoes.

9. What's your secret talent that no-one knows about?

I used to play football for Doncaster Belles and I represented South Yorkshire where we played against England Ladies. These days, my secret talent is making a great Yorkshire cuppa' tea, even though the staff at Ravenfield would possibly disagree.

10. What's your favourite family tradition?

My favourite family tradition has to be our New Years Eve parties. Every year, we gather with friends and family to reminisce of the year behind us. We play party games and dance all night. At 12pm we sing Auld Lang Syne... where I tend to get rather emotional.

11. During this period of lockdown, what are you missing about daily life?

I really miss getting together with my family and not being able to give my Nan a hug on her birthday. I miss greeting the children and their families in the morning, where you can see a wave of smiley faces walking through the school gates. But in the wise words of my Nan who lived through World War II; "We have gone through a lot worse; we will get through this together."

12. What are you enjoying doing during lockdown?

I am enjoying baking cakes and cookies whilst spending time with my two dogs.



CONNECTING
CONNECTING STUDENTS
CONNECTING STAFF
CONNECTING SCHOOLS



SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL AND MENTAL HEALTH - KINDNESS

The theme for Mental Health Awareness Week 2020 (18-24 May) is Kindness. Plato, the ancient Greek Philosopher, is quoted as saying, 'Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a harder battle.'

Being kind strengthens relationships, connects us to others and of particular pertinence at the moment, reduces feelings of isolation. It is also a fact that being kind makes us happier; the good feeling we get is a result of elevated levels of dopamine in our brains along with oxytocin, otherwise known as the 'love hormone,' which has the added benefit of protecting the heart.

For more information about mental health week visit the [Mental Health Foundation](#), or read about the beneficial effects of kindness [here](#). You could also look at some of the ideas on this page for being kind to yourself and others.

SELF-CARE

It's easy to get so caught up in looking after others, juggling work and household chores, and keeping on top of paperwork that we stop looking after ourselves. A balanced life includes rest and play, without feeling guilty about taking time for ourselves. Looking after ourselves is essential for our mental health and physical wellbeing, and also replenishes our capacity to look after others as well as increasing our own ability to cope.

You could [print out this poster](#) to remind yourself to take a break. Try going for a brisk walk. For health benefits associated with walking and details of the Active 10 app, [click here](#). You could also complete a [Kindness Challenge](#) with your children.

COMPASSION

If we exercise care for ourselves, we find it easier to show authentic compassion to others. Being compassionate means that we sympathise, that we develop empathy and that we gain insight into other people's experiences, all of which enrich our minds by providing multiple perspectives as well as releasing those 'feel good' chemicals. This in turn heightens mental wellbeing, promotes greater resilience and counters feelings of stress.

You could assist with making the internet a kinder place and [write a positive comment](#). While being mindful of social distancing, it might be worth re-visiting the Action for Happiness [Kindness Calendar](#). You could also work with your children to strengthen positive thinking about self and others by watching [this video](#), or engaging in activities to fill your 'happiness bucket'.

COMMUNITY

Kindness and compassion are contagious, and spread out from the self to others, making communities strong, supportive and resilient. Mother Teresa was quoted as saying, 'I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples.' For tips on helping others with their emotional wellbeing, [click here](#).

Although the current pandemic makes it more difficult, many of the [random acts of kindness](#) can still be practised. You could also look at some 'kitchen table kindness' activities with your children. For some ideas visit, [click here](#).



83% of students at **SIR THOMAS WHARTON ACADEMY** have been uploading completed work to Show My Homework this week!



ENRICHING LIVES
AND DEVELOPING
CHARACTER





FREE SCHOOL MEALS

All students eligible for 'Free School Meals' across the Trust will be provided with e-vouchers that can be redeemed for food in many of the local supermarkets, including: Asda, Tesco, Sainsbury's, Morrisons and Aldi.

The e-voucher codes will be emailed to eligible families from Wednesday each week. If the school does not have a current email address for a family, the appropriate gift cards will be posted out. Please allow 3 days for delivery.

86% of children at **MALTBY REDWOOD ACADEMY** have been completing activities on Purple Mash this week, and 90% have been uploading videos and pictures to Class Dojo!

DO YOU QUALIFY?

DO YOU RECEIVE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING?

- Income support
- Employment Support Allowance (Income Related)
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Guaranteed Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit and your income (as calculated by Inland Revenue is) is less than £16,190
- Universal Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act of 1999
- Working in the Armed Forces

If you can answer yes to any of the above you may qualify for Free School Meals/Pupil Premium.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

If you want your child to have a free, healthy meal at lunchtime – they will receive a free school meal. This can save you more than £350 a year and allow the school to get additional funding to support your child's learning. (£1,345 per primary-aged pupil. £955 per secondary-aged pupil per year).

Please remember you must qualify and register for the free school meals for the school to receive the extra money even if you do not want your child to have the free school meals.

Registering for free school meals is confidential, no one will know you have registered and it will not affect any other benefits you are claiming.

TO APPLY ONLINE:

Rotherham Families: [Click Here](#)

Doncaster Families: [Click Here](#)

or pick up an application form from any MLT Academy.



PROTECT YOURSELF AND HELP PREVENT INFECTION

There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19. The single, most important action you can all take is to **PRACTISE SOCIAL DISTANCING** - this will prevent you being exposed to, and reduce the risk of transmission of the virus.

- ◆ You should **STAY AT HOME** to reduce your day-to-day contact with other people and reduce the spread of the infection.
- ◆ You should only leave the house for necessary food shopping, one form of exercise a day, any medical need or for travelling for work purposes, but only where you cannot work from home.
- ◆ **WASH YOUR HANDS** often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- ◆ Put distance between yourself and other people. Try to stay 2 metres away from people **AT ALL TIMES**. This includes your friends and family – keep in touch using remote technology such as phone, internet and social media.

For further information about how to protect yourself and others, [click here](#).

For information about the closure of schools and other educational settings following the outbreak of coronavirus (COVID-19), [click here](#).

For information about Maltby Learning Trust and what we are doing to keep our staff and students safe, [click here](#).

For more information about social distancing and how to protect vulnerable people, [click here](#).



62% of **MALTBY MANOR ACADEMY** students have been accessing work on Purple Mash this week!



LEAD BY
EXAMPLE



SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

This is an unsettling time for all members of our community but parents/carers may be additionally worried about their child's mental health and emotional wellbeing. If you are concerned about your child, you can receive an initial telephone call to discuss your concerns further, please email your child's Academy, stating 'MENTAL HEALTH AND EMOTIONAL WELLBEING SUPPORT' in the subject line.

If you have any other concerns about your child, please contact the Academy directly using the following e-mail addresses:

| | |
|-------------|--|
| WA | enquiries@wathacademy.com pastoralteam@wathacademy.com safeguarding@wathacademy.com |
| MA | info@maltbyacademy.com ma-PastoralTeam@maltbyacademy.com ma-Safeguarding@maltbyacademy.com |
| STWA | admin@stwacademy.com safeguarding@stwacademy.com pastoral@stwacademy.com |
| RPA | info@ravenfieldprimaryacademy.com |
| MLHA | info@maltbylillyhallacademy.com |
| MRA | info@maltbyredwood.com |
| MMA | info@maltbymanoracademy |

KEEPING IN TOUCH

It is important to remember that we are all part of the same community and that we find any way we can to stay connected to each other.

We will aim to send out regular communications responding to frequent questions we have received, informing you of any developments that we are made aware of and sharing important updates with you. However; the best way you can stay up to date and in touch with us is by following our Twitter account: @maltbylearning.

We would like for Twitter to become a forum through which parents and colleagues can share updates about how they are spending their time during the school closure period, celebrating any amazing work their children complete, or posting hints, tips and tricks they may have for getting through this time at home.

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU TAG US @MALTBYLEARNING OR USE #MLTCOMMUNITY IN YOUR POST.



MALTBY ACADEMY students are spending on average of 40 minutes each working on Hegarty Maths!

CONNECTING
CONNECTING STUDENTS
CONNECTING STAFF
CONNECTING SCHOOLS



GOOD NEWS



Staff at **WATH ACADEMY** have planted a tree in the school grounds to give thanks to all of the key workers, students and staff that have in any way supported or shown kindness to others during this difficult time. The tree also represents a place to remember loved ones who have lost their lives during the Coronavirus pandemic, specifically remembering a member of Wath Academy caretaking staff who sadly passed away.



MALTBY MANOR ACADEMY have prepared over 80 learning packs which are being collected on Monday morning for those families who do not have access to the internet.



SIR THOMAS WHARTON ACADEMY have collated a photo message from every member of staff to share with students and keep them motivated and engaged. A nice reminder to students how much the staff care about them – [watch it here](#).

WATH ACADEMY students have been spreading some kindness this week by making and sending cards to the elderly residents of three local care homes. Our students also donated spare chocolate bars (left over from a school attendance incentive) to the care homes and the Montgomery Hall food bank.

Children in provision at **MALTBY LILLY HALL** and **MALTBY MANOR ACADEMY** have had a really productive week making t-shirts with various designs to show their thanks to our NHS and Key Workers!

Well done to **RAVENFIELD PRIMARY ACADEMY** students, Theo and Jack, who have raised over £115 for NHS charities by selling plants they have grown in their garden!



Both the Science and Maths departments at **MALTBY ACADEMY** have created staff messages for students this week to remind them to stay safe and let them know they are being missed.

Fix Up 5 is a function on Hegarty Maths whereby students are given bespoke videos and questions to help them in areas they have previously struggled. On the launch day, **SIR THOMAS WHARTON ACADEMY** was the highest performing school in the country (out of 1650), and have been in the top 1% of schools completing Fix Up 5 questions every week since!



Children at **MALTBY REDWOOD ACADEMY** have been practising 'life skills' in provision this week, including a baking and a pizza making lesson. Strangely enough there aren't many photos of the pizzas once they had been cooked!

