



HAILSHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACADEMY TRUST

'Be the very best you can be'

7 May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you have had a good week and that you are continuing to keep your spirits up during the current situation.

Whilst quite naturally we have all been totally consumed over the past few weeks by the current Covid-19 crisis and the impact this has had on our daily lives, it is important that we take the time this bank holiday weekend to commemorate the end of another huge worldwide crisis.

Victory in Europe (VE) Day on 8 May 1945 saw Britain and its Allies formally accept Nazi Germany's unconditional surrender after almost six years of war.

Tuesday 8 May 1945 was a day that millions had waited for and saw celebrations across the nation, with the young Princess Elizabeth (now Queen Elizabeth II) describing it as 'one of the most memorable nights of my life'. Yet, for many, the end of a global conflict in which more than 45 million people lost their lives was a moment of great sadness and reflection.

We commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day during a modern day global crisis that keeps us apart, while reminding us how connected we are both within and across national borders. As we remember all those, military and civilian, who lost their lives in the conflict, we can also reflect on the value of community support and cooperation and our own contribution to ensuring a safe and peaceful world for our children.

Understandably, the VE Day events cannot go ahead as originally planned due the coronavirus outbreak but a series of events are still going ahead to mark the commemoration and most notably, there will be a national moment of remembrance and a two-minute silence at 11.00am tomorrow morning.

Once again this week, we are hearing huge speculation almost on a daily basis around what the government will announce either today or Sunday around easing lockdown restrictions and beginning the process of 'opening up' society. Much has been said about possible plans for when and how schools will reopen and views on this vary greatly. I can assure you that as soon as any announcement is made and appropriate plans have been put in place, I will be in contact with you again to give you further details.

Please can I also remind you that we would very much like to hear from parents, carers and families who would be prepared to share how creative they are being at home during this time. We would love to include your work and stories in the next edition of the College Communicator and I hope the VE Day commemorations will provide further inspiration for this. If you have something you would like to share with us, maybe a poem, some artwork or something inventive you have been doing please email us at hcc@hccat.net.

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As always, we continue to greatly value your feedback and if you have any concerns or queries with regard to accessing the work provided by the college or any other aspects of the current provision, please do contact us at hcc@hccat.net.

Thank you once again for your support, understanding and engagement.

Wishing you a safe weekend.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Matthews', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Phil Matthews
Principal