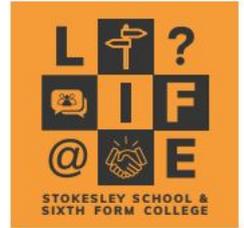


Larger than LIFE

Stokesley school's weekly LIFE bulletin



Stokesley School
& Sixth Form College
Being the best we can be



Week beginning 7th December 2020

Edition Eleven

Half Term 2: Thankful

As we start to look towards Christmas, many of us are probably going to have to make some compromises to the things that we normally do with our families, because of the coronavirus. It can be very easy to get into a mood where we just feel gloomy about these things, can't it? Sometimes we can even feel as though the world has got it in for us, and find ourselves thinking things like 'it's not fair!'. Our challenge to you, though, is to catch yourself when you're thinking those things and to try to turn your thoughts into positive ones. Think about the things this Christmas that *will* still be lovely, despite any compromises you're making. If you're not going to be seeing relatives that you normally would, is there anything that you could do between now and then to put a smile on their face. Could you send presents in the post? A letter? A handmade Christmas card? Could you organise a phone call or a video call with them? Go on: do something to show someone that you care, and we promise it will put a smile on your face too. If you're still feeling kind too (just because it was last term's focus, doesn't mean you have to stop!), we love this [kindness advent calendar](#) from Action for Happiness. Go on, give

it a go!

Team LIFE

Word of the week

Appreciative - showing that you understand how good something is, or showing that you are grateful for something.

*It's nice to have an **appreciative** audience.*

*I'm very **appreciative** of all of the support you have given me.*

Oracy challenge

One of the things we picked up on whilst we were visiting LIFE lessons last week was just how often we all say 'like' when we're answering questions out loud in lessons. These words are called fillers, and we use them subconsciously to buy us thinking time when we're speaking. Your challenge this week is to listen to yourself speaking out loud and see whether you do this. If you do, try - wherever you can - to pause and think rather than say 'like' and see how well you get on!

Good luck! Team LIFE

Fact of the week

The world's total population is more than 7.5 billion. And obviously, that number sounds **huge**. However, it might feel a little more manageable once you learn that if every single one of those people stood shoulder-to-shoulder, they could all fit within the 500 square miles of Los Angeles, according to *National Geographic*.

Good news story

Did you see [this story](#) in the news about a football fan with cerebral palsy who was amazed to find that a Hollywood Star had paid to have his home adapted? It's well worth a read.

<p>What do you need to know about the news?</p>	<p>We recommend that you head over to The Day via the student dashboard to see what's been going on in the news recently. There are some interesting stories from last week, including news about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A mind-boggling discovery that could eradicate diseases and significantly slow down climate breakdown • Alien activity • The Grand Prix • The impact that lockdown is having on our memories • Diego Maradona • The importance of conservationists. <p>Remember that if you find reading difficult, you can always click on the  SIMPLIFIED VERSION button on each article so that you get the same news story but in language that you'll find easier to access.</p> <p>The Day has also started translating some of its articles into Mandarin, which we think is pretty cool!</p>
<p>Events calendar</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Across the world</p> <p>7th December is letter writing day which fits in brilliantly with our suggestion to write to a relative that you would normally see at Christmas. Go on, give it a go!</p> <p>7th December is also International Civil Aviation Day</p> <p>10th December is Human Rights Day</p> <p>10th December is also Nobel Prize Day</p> <p>11th December is Christmas Jumper Day - one that we're celebrating in school! Have a look at the link to remind yourself why it's so important that we celebrate today.</p> <p>11th December is also International Mountain Day</p>
<p>Lighthouse messages</p>	<p>Have a look at Young Minds Well-being Advent Calendar which has some great ideas of how to look after yourself as we approach the Christmas holidays.</p>
<p>Spotlight on careers</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">What is Advice?</p> <p>Dictionaries offer several definitions including: 'An opinion that someone gives you about the best thing to do in a particular situation' or 'Opinion about what could or should be done about a situation or problem' Or 'A recommendation regarding a decision or course of conduct/action.' And perhaps most simply: 'A suggestion about what to do' Taking advice is not compulsory, but think carefully before ignoring it. The best advice I've ever been given From the importance of punctuality and kindness, to the need to be assertive and do your research, six successful professionals share the best advice they've ever been given. The advice I'd give to my younger self Professionals are asked to share advice that they would give their younger selves. From trusting in your own instincts, to learning from those around you, they all emphasise the importance of believing in yourself and not giving up!</p>

<p>News from the OLC</p>	<p>Calling all Accelerated Readers.....</p> <p>As the end of the term grows closer, so do the Accelerated Reader Rewards This term's awards are based on points earned and books and words read. The only way I can measure your progress is through Accelerated Reader Quizzing. If you have read a book please remember to take a quiz on it afterwards; you have until the end of next week before I gather in all your data and purchase all the treats - so get quizzing!</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Happy Reading</p>
<p>Messages from your Heads of Year</p>	
<p>Mrs Metcalfe</p>	<p>Two weeks left Yr 7 and you will have been a part of our wonderful community for nearly 4 months! I am currently planning our Christmas achievement assembly and can not wait to celebrate with you all! I am expecting your tutors to be handing out even more certificates and prizes for ambition points and attendance. I do enjoy knowing about all your own personal achievements as well so please do tell me and your form tutors anything you have done that makes you proud; we want to know! For example, I was absolutely delighted to read the letter Kyle Harrison in Zeus received from the Ministry of Defence commending him on the letter he had sent them about his proposal for a new Aircraft Carrier. Wow! Keep them coming!</p>
<p>Mrs Bailey</p>	<p>Thank you all so much for your Foodbank contributions. I have just been walking around all your tutor rooms and I have been amazed at how overflowing some of your black boxes are! Your acts of kindness and contributions will make such a difference to people's lives.</p> <p>It has been great this week as so many teachers have stopped me to let me know how well a particular student is doing in their classrooms. I know it's difficult to see as we are all wearing our masks but behind my mask I usually have a massive smile! And that is down to YOU! So keep this up and let's all Reach for the Stars!</p>
<p>Mrs Brosnan</p>	<p>Christmas is just around the corner. Only two weeks to go. I'd like you to think about the assembly I did last week and consider what contribution you will make this week, to get us back on top. Will you give 100% in every lesson? Will you gain more ambition points? Will you attend school every day? Will you be on time for every lesson? Will you reduce your number of steps and use take up time to make positive choices? Will you respect everyone?</p> <p>I'm looking forward to the celebration assembly and celebrating your achievements. Let's end the term as the best year group!</p>
<p>Mr Wilson</p>	<p>Only a few weeks to go now until the holidays, keep up the good work in your lessons and keep collecting those ambition points. Thank you for completing last weeks Growing up in North Yorkshire questionnaire, hopefully it will help to support others in the future. Well done to those students in the Bridge group for organising the Cake sale and for raising money for the Guide Dogs for the Blind.</p>
<p>Mr Hamer</p>	<p>December already! I really can't believe how fast the time has flown this year and I know that the rest of the school year will pass just as quickly. This should remind us all of the need to focus on working hard towards the exams. The theme this half term is 'Thankful' and thinking about the positives in our lives, for example, as hard as it has been with teaching students in school and at home, I am thankful for the efforts of students. I am more thankful for the fact that there will be a full cohort of Year 11s in school shortly and even more thankful that you are in good health. Follow the link below for a two minute presentation of the benefits of being thankful and showing gratitude: https://youtu.be/sCV-mEsASLA</p>

