



EASINGTON
academy

THE VOICE

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

JULY 2020

WELCOME to our summer newsletter...

When the Academy closed its doors to staff and students on March 20th, I did not anticipate they would remain closed for so long nor did I ever imagine that our students and staff would continue to achieve so much in such trying circumstances.

The contents of this newsletter provides only a snapshot of how our students have continued to shine since lockdown. In our final assembly I challenged students to use this time to develop new skills or try a new hobby and many have done this. Difficult days have been brightened by a steady stream of emails from students, sharing photos of how they've spent their time. Learning certainly hasn't stopped whilst we haven't been in school. Many students have impressed us with their conscientious attitudes to their work and ability to adapt to home learning.

Staff have also risen to this challenge and I thank them for their commitment to continuing to provide a high level of remote education and personal support for our students. The Academy has remained open since lockdown for the children of key workers

and vulnerable students and staff have gone above and beyond by volunteering to work during the school holidays and also to organise socially distanced activities for these students to enjoy whilst in school. Adapting to remote teaching has certainly been a learning curve for many of us! I am now excited to see how our newly developed skills can continue to support our students once we return to the classroom.

Finally, thank you to the parents of our students for supporting us and your child to ensure learning has continued. I know only too well the challenges of balancing working from home with homeschooling!

We look forward to welcoming all students back in September. Planning for this is well underway and I will be in touch soon with full details. Until then, I wish you all a safe and enjoyable summer. See you all soon.

Mrs Hickman

Mrs N Hickman,
Head of School

Teachers produce PPE for frontline workers

As part of the fight against COVID-19, alongside the five other secondary schools within the North East Learning Trust, staff at Easington Academy produced protective visors for our local NHS.

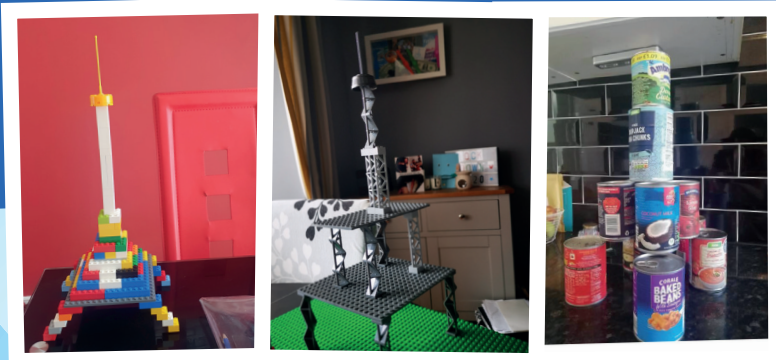
Using an approved design from Kitronic, our technology teachers used the school's laser cutter to make protective visors using polypropylene and acetate.

Our technology team worked very hard making the PPE in a social-distancing-friendly way and produced a whopping 3,246 visors, beating the 3,200 target across the Trust.

We are delighted to be able to play our part in the fight against the virus and we would like to thank the incredible frontline workers for their tireless efforts and dedication to keeping us safe.



#ChallengeTourEiffel



We can all appreciate how tedious lockdown has been at times, but what better way to brighten your day than with an exciting French challenge!

You may have seen the challenge trending on Twitter over the past few months as #ChallengeTourEiffel, so in the spirit of all things lockdown we had to get involved in our own competition. Our Year 7 and 8 French students were, therefore, tasked with their own #ChallengeTourEiffel- to recreate the Eiffel Tower at home using materials

found in the house. Fitting nicely into our current Year 8 topic of 'Food and Healthy Lifestyle' we have even seen some beautiful and creative entries made from food!

Our students have been very enthusiastic and their attempts have all been fantastic. A very big 'très bien' from the French department!



We're social!

Follow our social media accounts to stay up to date with all of the latest news from around the Academy!



@easington_acad

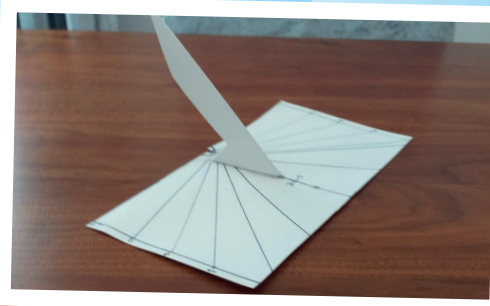


@easingtonacademy

IMPORTANT DATES for your diary

Due to the uncertainty caused by the coronavirus pandemic, we cannot commit to any fixed school events at the moment.

Please keep checking our website and social media channels for the latest updates.



Students in space

This term, our fantastic Year 7 students have been focussing on the topic of space.

The group began by researching how and why we get day, night and seasons, leading them to create their own brilliant sundials.

Year 7 then explored the planets in our solar system and found out what makes earth so special, as they tried to find a planet other than Earth where humans could survive.

The group moved on, most recently, to study gravity and researched how it would change on different planets. Our students were even able to calculate the weight of a T-Rex on different planets in our solar system and the moon!



Future music star!

Our resident producer and composer, Lucas Ward in Year 9, has been using lockdown to create some fantastic music!

Lucas uses his MacBook and home studio to create his own music and in his spare time attends Leeds College of Music to tighten up his producing skills by working with Phil, the Head of Production. Lucas submitted a remix of the theme from the film 'Interstellar' as part of his coursework during lockdown which was outstanding! He regularly posts his work on SoundCloud which you can find by searching: soundcloud.com/user-713249546



Keep fit fundraising!

A number of our students have together raised over £4,000 for NHS charities.

The group are part of Jupiter Juniors through Jupiter Health Club, a local gym in Easington, and decided to do 30 burpees for 30 days to raise money.

Dylan and Lewis Craggs, alongside their friends, found themselves in the top 3% of fundraisers out of 39,000 on JustGiving and were even featured on BBC Teeside and in the Northern Echo.

A big thank you to everyone involved - we are so proud!



What are our students reading?

Lockdown has provided lots of people with more time to focus on reading. Many students at Easington Academy have enjoyed getting lost in some new books and have developed their reading skills during the pandemic. Here are some reviews from two of our students...

"During lockdown, I have been reading more since I previously stopped for a long period of time. I am currently reading Sherlock Holmes. It's quite an advanced experience of reading with its challenging language and story being set in the 1880s. This book was written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, who is a great writer. During the story, Dr Watson, Sherlock Holmes' companion, journals the adventures they go on to solve their clients' mysteries and queries. It is an excellent read and I highly recommend people to read it if they are looking for a mystery and adventure styled book with hints of action and dashes of comedy." - **Milly Year 8**

"The story I read was Once by Morris Gleitzman which is about Felix, a young Jewish boy who was sent away to an orphanage by his parents in occupied Poland during the Second World War. Felix courageously escapes from the orphanage to attempt to find his mother and father during the Holocaust. This story takes you on the journey with Felix, giving insight into his struggles throughout this dreadful period of history. I was only

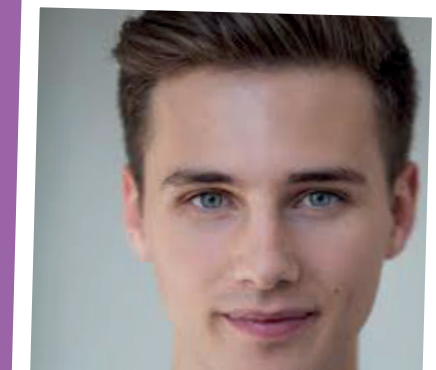
10 years old when I first read this book. I read it through younger and more innocent eyes back then and whilst it was sad, it definitely had much more of an emotional impact on me now. It's full of sorrow but there are joyous times too. Felix's journey through that horrific period of history highlights the trauma felt by many victims of the Holocaust and reinforces that their feelings should never be forgotten. Without a shadow of a doubt, I'd rate this book 5 stars. I can't wait to read the rest of this series now that I've discovered the story once again." - **Molly, Year 7**

"I read Would You Rather Book For Kids by Hayden Fox. It may not be an exciting book but it is hilarious! It is a lot of fun to have with friends and family. It is packed full of funny questions, jokes and challenges which had my family in stitches. We could not stop laughing. One example is 'Would you rather never do homework again or never take another test?' (that's a tough one). I would give this book 5 stars and recommend to anyone who wants an easy read and lots of fun." - **Max, Year 7**



Lockdown in photographs

Caitlin Painter and Jessica Tudball, Year 10, captured daily lockdown life in photographs inspired by the photography competition set by the Duchess of Cambridge and the National portrait gallery called 'Hold Still'.



Stardom inspiration

During lockdown, ten students from Year 7 and 8 took part in a Q&A session with local professional dancer Ryan George.

Ryan has worked closely with the music department this year as our choreographer for our upcoming production of "Sister Act" which sadly has now been postponed until next year. Ryan recently arrived home from his latest contract with Celebrity Cruises, where he is an entertainer.

Our students were keen to learn about a career in the arts and had many questions for Ryan. The live video chat left many of our students feeling inspired to have a future career in performing arts.

A student's view of lockdown

By Jack Appleby, Year 7

"Covid-19 has taken over the world and we have had to go into lockdown, this means not leaving our homes for many months. We can't go to school which sucks! I miss school so much. I miss my friends; I miss my lessons and just the normality of my day. Getting the bus to school, chatting with my mates and going to the canteen for my regular

bbq chicken panini are the things that stopped. For how long? No one knows, even the government doesn't know and the enormous computer brain Google can't give any answers to when COVID-19 will end (I know this because my little brother has already asked Google and she said "I'm sorry I cannot answer that!")."

