



The Weekly Buzz

Portland Place School

11 May 2020

Art inspired by Chagall

A Day In the Life Of Reuben Wiseman-Oxinalde!

Virtual Debating Club



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To get us started this week, here are some messages from teachers!

Set work finished? Time for a break? Free time at the weekend?

Miss Coates recommends... San Diego ZOOwith Live Cameras

<https://zoo.sandiegozoo.org/live-cams>

Watch zoo enclosures of your choice in real time!



Miss Coates also recommends... Google Arts and Culture

<https://artsandculture.google.com/>

Project a masterpiece in your home or find your artistic figure doppelganger with Art Selfie!





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The Virtual PPS Debating Society

Dear Year 10 and 11 students,

Exciting news: The Virtual PPS Debating Society is launching on Zoom. This will take place every Friday at 12pm starting on 15th May. Ms Baig will send more details through Firefly so please keep checking. Depending on the number of students who join, we are hoping to open up the club to more year groups too.

Thank you,

Ambreen Baig





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An Attitude of Gratitude

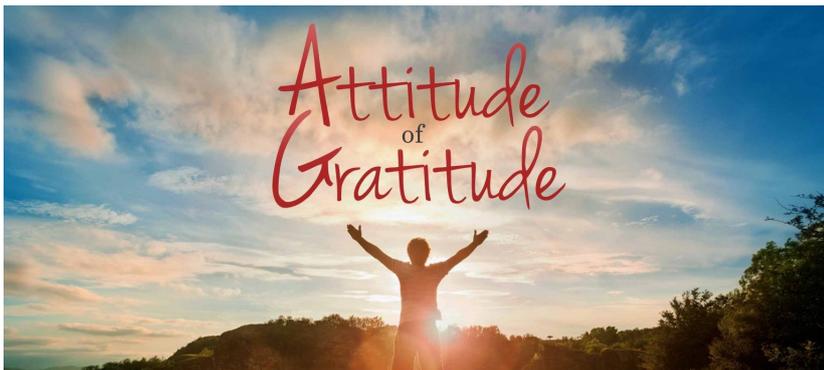
I often ask my students to tell me at least three things they are grateful for- I call this exercise "instant happiness". From experience, I can say that they become more creative, focused and productive in lessons.

Below is what two of my EAL students have said recently:

Hazuki Kita, Year 6: "I feel grateful for a few things that happened to me when I lived in Japan. Once I got lost when I was going home with a friend, but an elderly person showed us the way and we got home safely. Also, another time I wanted to bake a cake for my brother's birthday, but we had run out of milk. Luckily, my mum bought it immediately and I could make my brother happy."

Jenny Zhang, Year 7: "I am grateful that I am healthy and I can enjoy my life every day. Also, I am grateful that I can attend lessons online and keep on learning although I am not in London physically. Last but not least, I am grateful that we have enough food to eat and that my family are ok."

What are you grateful for?



Take care and stay safe,
Miss Florea



Literacy Corner

Literacy In All Subjects

Literacy is not just about doing well in English (this is obviously really important though!). Without good literacy students are unable to do well in Science or Maths, or Media, or ANY subject- as you cannot express yourself to the examiner or possibly understand what exams questions are asking you to do. Below are common GCSE command words which appear in all subject areas and are important to know, as well as further information to help you.

Analyse separate information into components and identify their characteristics	Assess make an informed judgement	Consider review and respond to given information	Criticise assess worth against explicit expectations
Comment present an informed opinion	Define specify meaning	Describe set out characteristics	Discuss present key points
Deduce draw conclusions from information provided	Examine investigate closely	Explore investigate without preconceptions about the outcome	Evaluate judge from available evidence
Explain set out purposes or reasons	Illustrate present clarifying examples	Interpret translate information into recognisable form	Outline set out main characteristics
Summarise Present principal points without detail	State Express in clear terms	Relate Demonstrate connections between items	Review Survey information
Argue present a reasoned case	Debate Present different perspectives on an issue	Give Produce an answer	Justify Support a case with evidence
Estimate Assign an approximate value	Calculate Work out the value	Suggest Present a possible case	Prove Demonstrate validity on the basis of evidence
Compare/Contrast Identify similarities and differences	Complete Finish a task by adding information	Develop Take forward or build on given information	Identify Name or state



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7 Day Lockdown Filmmaking Challenge

At **5pm on Friday 8th May**, Mr Flack will be opening the **7 Day Lockdown Filmmaking Challenge** to all students from **Years 6-13**.

Rules

- Students must send an email to Mr Flack in order to register for the challenge. The closing time for registration will be **Friday 8th May at 5pm**.
- On the **evening of Friday 8th May**, students will receive a brief via their school emails. Within the brief they will be given a prop and a line of dialogue.
- Students then have to create either a short film, a sequence or a film script within seven days, with all finished projects having to be handed in by **5pm on Friday 15th May**.
- A winner will then be announced in the Weekly Buzz on **Friday 22nd May** - with first prize being a **£40 Amazon e-voucher**.

The prize may only be won by a student, but if staff and parents wish to take part they may certainly do so!

Why not get involved? Join the challenge, have some fun and register with Mr Flack today (mike.flack@portland-place.co.uk)

See poster on next page!

Register by the end of Friday 8th May 2020

7 DAY LOCKDOWN FILMMAKING CHALLENGE

£40 AMAZON E-VOUCHER FOR 1ST PRIZE

OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS FROM YEARS 6-13

7 DAYS TO CREATE EITHER A SHORT FILM,
SCENE OR SCRIPT.

TO REGISTER EMAIL MR FLACK AT:
MIKE.FLACK@PORTLAND-PLACE.CO.UK



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Life Lessons

Due to popular demand, Ms Nicholas' 'Life Lessons' programme is going online for a very limited time!

On Monday May 11th, from 4pm-4:40pm Ms Nicholas will be opening up the 'Life lessons' classroom once again - this time via Zoom. As with the physical in-school lessons, the programme aims to tackle some of the most pressing challenges we face in terms of learning and managing workloads under the current circumstances. The intention of the programme is always to enable and empower pupils to take more control over their learning, and gradually realign their attitudes, habits and behaviours to promote greater success, achievement and joy in all that they do. Think of it as a Marie Kondo type de-cluttering of habits, behaviours and attitudes for overall greater success in school – and life!

So if you are someone who knows they want to be better at:

- Overcoming study stress and anxiety
- Overcoming the overwhelm faced with many subject deadlines at once
 - Effectively managing your time to enable better study success
 - Keeping motivated to complete tasks that take a lot of time to finish
 - Just getting started when you don't know where to begin,

then this programme is EXACTLY WHAT YOU NEED to ensure you get the most out of the final term of this academic year, the upcoming holiday period and especially when you are remote-learning during to unforeseen circumstances like a global pandemic!

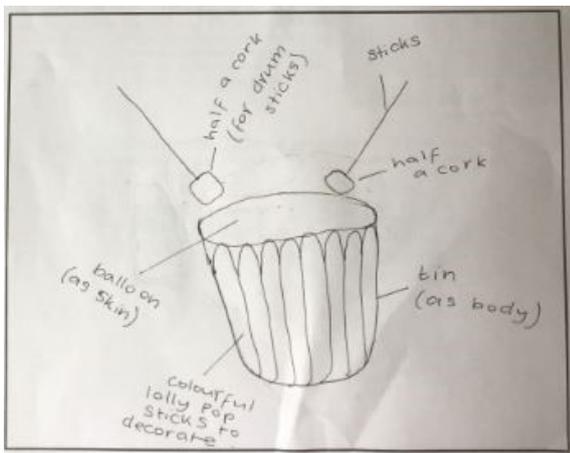
To receive your invite to this limited-time Zoom class, please email

Ms Nicholas (tanya.nicholas@portland-place.co.uk)

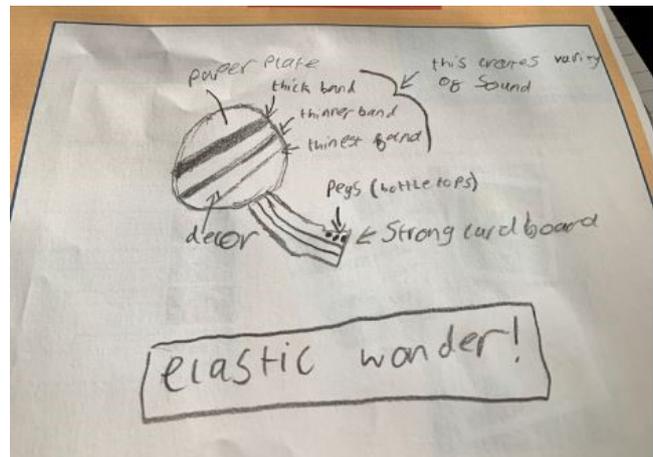
no later than **1pm on Monday 11th May, 2020**. I look forward to seeing you there!

Music

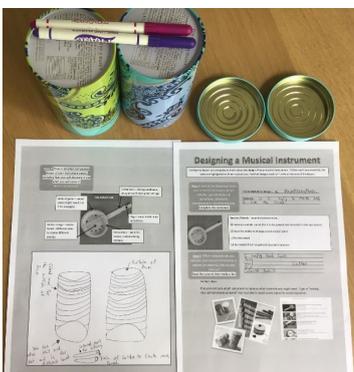
Year 7 and Year 8 have been getting creative this half term, researching different types of instruments (aerophones, chordophones, membranophones and idiophones) and this week they have been designing their own. There have been some great designs - here are some of them from Year 8 - and now they start the process of making them. In the last week of half term each class will be performing to each other on their instruments which must change pitch, be created from household recycled materials and be decorated!



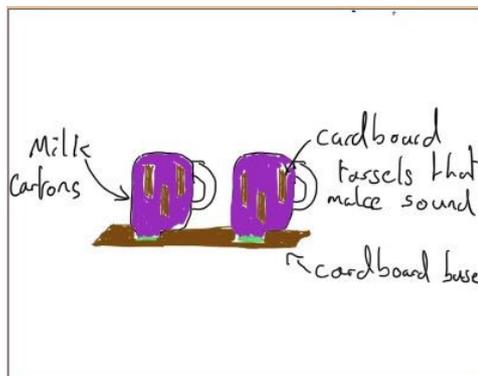
Lana



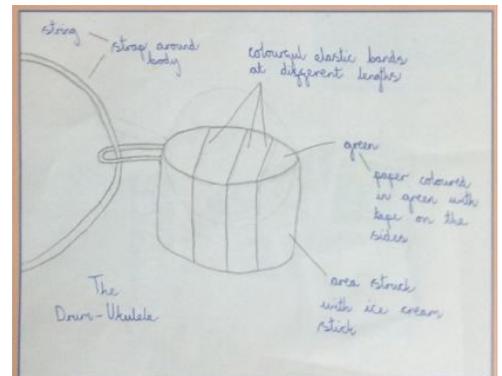
Lloyd



Lawton



Sid



Tom

Also a big shout out to the Year 10 GCSE Music class who have been having full Zoom lessons to build up their skills of musical dictation - despite some connection issues, everyone is doing really well at writing out melodies by ear that Mr Hill plays!



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Modern Foreign Languages

Year 7 have been making comics in Spanish on the topic of 'My Family'.





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COMING HOME FROM SCHOOL





Year 9

This week Year 9 had their first Zoom Assembly, where they shared all of the wonderful things they have been doing to fill their spare time, with Mr Bradbury and Mr Jones in attendance.

From improving art skills, gardening, dressage, Spanish lessons to a hackathon to create a Bot to help NHS workers during the pandemic! They really have been incredibly busy.

Well done Year 9!



KS2

Year 6 have been trying out magic tricks in online lessons. It's very hard to capture sleight of hand in an image, but we can see Miss Florea's amazement here!

Magical Maxwell mystifies Miss Florea with his disappearing crayon trick.





A Day in the Life of.....

Reuben Wiseman- Oxinalde



I play 'Sea of Thieves' on a regular basis to play with my friends because I can't see them due to the lockdown. It's really fun to play with friends, you have banter, chats, and stupidity, yay!



I like laying in and sleeping because it is just relaxing and calm. But when you have to wake up or get out of bed, it's just the worse!



Eating and drinking are essential, which is why I eat breakfast, lunch, and dinner. And a midnight snack... yum yum yum!



I use Firefly to do school work, such as sending in a task and looking at a task. Firefly is vital now that the Lockdown has taken effect. I miss hanging out with my friends (sad face).



I like playing the piano because it helps with thinking and it exercises my fingers. I am currently in grade 2 of the piano, which is exciting, and concerning because I've still got to learn it.



I go to the park because exercise is now key. I used to do exercise during PE, but now I have to do it in the park. Ah, the smell of the fresh air and pollution, wonderful.



The phone is vital, you can send messages and call people. Play games or watch videos when I'm bored, or even check my tasks on Firefly. The phone is useful. It's amazing how it works.



I use Youtube to watch videos, e.g. series or 'Let's Play', and listen to music- I dance and that's okay.

Art

This week Year 8 were asked to practice their shading and secondary colours in the style of these beautiful stained glass windows by Chagall. The front cover artwork this week is stitched together from the work of Sebastien Daugtiny. Well done, Seb!



Leo Bennett



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Charlie Wilson



Manuel Peleteiro



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Learning Support

The Summary of the Week Award goes to:

Maxim Mydlar

*For his summary of an extract of the book
'The Boy Who Sailed the Ocean in an Armchair'*

'My book is about a boy who wants to find his dad's girlfriend. He doesn't know what's happened to her ... His mum passed away ... he's trying to think of a way how to say goodbye to her and he doesn't know how'

Well done!



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Thank you for reading