

Rise and shine: wk. bg. 20.4.20

Good morning Blackfen students,

It's Week B.

THE PIPS HAVE SOUNDED! GET UP! GET DRESSED! GET GOING!!

It's time to go back to the future.

Four weeks ago, the date was Friday 20th March 2020. Four weeks ago, at 3.10pm, Blackfen School closed. On Monday 23rd March, the school remained closed and the pips echoed, all day, in empty corridors and classrooms. But the community of Blackfen School was definitely open - teachers, students, families - started a remarkable new journey, *together*.

Can you find a copy of Mr Brown's letter, dated 20th March 2020, when the school closed? In his final paragraph, he wrote these wise words:

"In our special Assemblies with Year 11 and Year 13 students, I made it clear that there is a future for them – and for us all. This message applies to every Blackfen student, in every year group. Their learning and achievement, thus far, is certainly not lost, remains intact and forms the basis for new learning and fresh educational experiences that they will enjoy, hopefully, in the Autumn. In the interim period, their home study is relevant and necessary and should be tackled with zeal and commitment. Remaining hopeful and sustaining hope in each other is a challenge for us all; it is a challenge that we will face together - as parents, teachers and students - and with the benefit of joint resilience, determination and as much optimism as we can muster."

It's the message for this week. It's a new term. It's a fresh start. It's time to go back to the future.

It's time to go back to *your* future – because you have a future and you are building it, right now. Yes! It is back to Joe Wicks' PE session. Yes! It is back to the last piece of work that you started before the Easter break but didn't finish completely. Yes! It is back to the home study routine that you knocked into shape a couple of weeks ago. And Yes! This is still an important message for Year 11 and Year 13 students. The next new term signals the start of the new academic year. You will be in competition with other students who are also ready to begin post-16 and post-18 learning. You must be ready to seize the future which belongs to you, which means getting ready and staying ready, right now.

The learning habits that all Blackfen students keep toned and in good shape today and tomorrow and in all the weeks of this half term, will make the start of next term do-able. Every student will have a new start in September. Monday morning may be a bit of struggle but it's worth it because there's a future that's worth it.

Next week, we'll start to explore some of those other words in Mr Brown's letter: hope, resilience, determination and optimism. But for today, let's get Week B started. Get up! Get dressed! Get going!! We'll get there because we'll do it, *together*.

Best wishes to you and your family this week.

Yours sincerely,
Miss F Minnis

Deputy Headteacher
On behalf of Blackfen School leaders and teachers