

What's New at Notley?

Dear All

What a term! It has been a busy but brilliant 3 weeks welcoming students and staff back and getting them used to lessons and getting up early. It has been lovely to have them back in school and for the corridors and playgrounds to be full of laughter and energy again. At times, the school felt like it was sleeping during lockdown and now it has woken up. I have been impressed by the resilience all the students showed during lockdown and how well they have adapted back into school routines – although I know that they are even more tired than usual at the end of term.

Welcome to the new Notley magazine. It didn't seem right to call the magazine Notley@Home anymore as we are back in school, so we ran a competition with Year 7 tutor groups to find a name and we think 7W1's 'What's New at Notley?' was a great choice – well done! After all the positive feedback we had, we have decided to continue to create the magazine monthly so that we can celebrate all events, news and share examples of some of the excellent work students complete at school.

Although we have only been back a short time, it has been a busy one; we couldn't organise the usual cake sales, fun activities and red nose sales, but we still managed to raise lots of money for Comic Relief through a non-uniform day. I am proud of the fundraising work that led to the care packages and thank you cards that were sent to NHS and care workers in our community to thank them for what they have done. I think it is very important that schools not only teach students knowledge and skills but also support them in continuing to develop compassion, kindness and gratitude which are so important in the wider community. It reminds me of one of my favourite Winnie the Pooh quotations:

Piglet noticed that even though he has a very small heart, it could hold a rather large amount of gratitude – A A Milne

Students at Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form have shown kindness, compassion and gratitude towards each other and to staff this term in many and varied ways, and that has made the return to school even more enjoyable.

I wish you all a lovely Easter break and I hope the Easter bunny brings delicious treats for you all.

Dr C Cusick
Head of School

Headteacher's Commendations Spring Term 2021

At Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form we believe that it is important to recognise hard work, commitment, community spirit, and positive attitudes to learning. The Headteacher's Commendation is awarded to students whose endeavours, behaviour and attitude have stood out from their peers and are role-models to students throughout the school. Congratulations to the following students who have received a Headteacher's Commendations for this term.

Emily	Hanks	07C2
Louis	Kayondo	07F2
Rebecca	Warder	07F2
Emmanuel	Capitanchik	07P1
Georgina	Russell	07P1
Annie	Greenwood	07T1
Taylor	Huckle-Leslie	07W2
Amy	Salmon	07W2
Amelia	Jones	08C2
Ethan	Cosway	08P1
Emily	Ashworth	08T1
Shanying	Gao	09C1
Ana-Maria	Stanila	09C1
Abigail	Saunders	09F2
Shelby	Dunningham	09P2
Ella	Brookes	09T1
Jaimee	Ross	09T1
Harrison	Weeks	09T1
Marcella	Block	09T2
Luca	Blayney	09W1
Ronnie	Williams	09W2
Leah	Oxford	10F1
Holly	Farrell	10P1
Olivia	Bowman	10P2
Maisie	Speller	10T2
Matthew	Hornsey	10W2
Natalia	Martin	11C2
Sabina	Botolova	11F2
Tegan	Bownes	11F2
Dominic	Agutter	11P1
Michaela	Clarke	11P1
Alexander	Hope	11P1
Hannah	Colville-Durell	11T1
Zak	Acteson-rook	11T2
Katie	Donaldson	11W1

Return to school: March 2021

We have been delighted to welcome all students back into school during recent weeks. Here are some quotations from students that we would like to share with you:

Year 7 student quotes

I'm happy to be back at school because I wanted to see my friends. I didn't mind working at home, but I do prefer being in school.

I'm pleased to be back at school, and I was excited to see the teachers and my friends. Lockdown was ok and I did enjoy the experience of remote learning. I'm really looking forward to my History, Geography and French lessons now that we're back because they're my favourite!

Year 11 student quotes

It's nice to see my friends and teachers in person again.

It's nice to see everyone and have some normality back in our lives.

Years 12 and 13 student quotes

I am really excited to be back at sixth form with my friends and having lessons back in the classroom. It's been a tough few months but being back is a first step towards normality.

I am delighted to be back at school socialising with everyone and being motivated to do my work by all the amazing, supportive staff.



Staff Leaving at the End of Term

The following staff will be leaving us at the end of term. We would like to thank them for their support and wish them all well for the future.

- Mrs Hasmujaj - Clerk to Governors
- Mr Crozier - Science Technician

All Year Groups

Students have been provided with additional testing kits for use at home during the Easter break. Students are asked to test on Monday and Thursday evenings, or Sunday and Wednesday evenings.

Students in 7W1

Congratulations to 7W1 who won the Year 7 'name the newsletter' competition. We hope you like the new title of 'What's New at Notley?'

Year 9 DTP and MenACWY Vaccinations; 15 and 29 April 2021

Letters have been sent to parents/carers recently, with details of the above vaccinations, including a link for an electronic consent form. A link to each of the letters can be found at the end of this newsletter.

If you wish your child to have the vaccinations, please complete the consent form at the earliest opportunity.

If you experience any difficulties with the consent form, please call 0300 790 0597. Alternatively, a small number of paper consent forms are available from Mrs Hunter, sharon.hunter@notleyhigh.com

If, having read this week's letter, you wish to change your consent, please inform Mrs Hunter by email by 9am on your child's vaccination date. The timetable will be available from Monday 12 April.

Year 11 and Year 13 Students: Statement of Entry (Summer 2021 Examinations Season)

This week, all Year 11 and Year 13 students have been provided with paper copies of their Statements of Entry. This confirms the examinations which they have been entered for in the Summer 2021 examinations season.

It is very important that they check the details carefully and if they have any questions or queries please email changes@notleyhigh.com. This message is included on the printout for the students.

Introducing the Halo Code

We are excited to announce that Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form subscribe to [The Halo Code](#), the UK's first Black hair code. No Black staff or students should have to change their natural or protective hairstyle in order to thrive at our school. We hope that the Halo Code will move us one step closer to a world free from discrimination, where all Black members of our community have their identities fully recognised and celebrated.

The Halo Code: "Our school champions the right of staff and students to embrace all Afro-hairstyles. We acknowledge that Afro-textured hair is an important part of our Black staff and students' racial, ethnic, cultural, and religious identities, and requires specific styling for hair health and maintenance. We welcome Afro-textured hair worn in all styles including, but not limited to, afros, locs, twists, braids, cornrows, fades, hair straightened through the application of heat or chemicals, weaves, wigs, headscarves, and wraps. At this school, we recognise and celebrate our staff and students' identities. We are a community built on an ethos of equality and respect where hair texture and style have no bearing on anyone's ability to succeed."



Thank you to NHS and Care Home workers!

On Monday 22 March, Mrs Turner and Mr Wishart had the pleasure of delivering care packages to NHS and care home workers in our community. Thanks to generous donations during the school closure, students have been able to pack just over 50 small hampers, including hand cream, bath bombs and other treats to thank those who have been working so hard to protect the most vulnerable in our communities.



These were delivered to Braintree Community Hospital and St Michael's Hospitals, Blandford Medical Centre, St Mary's Court and Riverdale. Each hamper also included handwritten cards by our students in Years 7, 12 and 13 and we have been enormously touched by the messages of support, which were very well received and welcomed. Many thanks for your support with the fundraising.

National Day of Reflection

On Tuesday 23 March, we participated in the National Day of Reflection and had a minute's silence at 12 noon.

This was to acknowledge the one-year anniversary since the start of the COVID-19 Pandemic.



Organised by Marie Curie, the intention was to reflect on the past year, take a moment to **connect**, and **support** each other and the National Day of Reflection.

Wellbeing

Wellbeing has never been so important for the sake of our children, and ourselves too. And with your support, it's important that they take responsibility of their own physical and emotional wellbeing.

Working as the School-Based Counsellor at Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form for over 10 years now, I deliver one-to-one and group work, as well as the Flourish YouTube channel, which is created to promote good mental health by weekly videos aimed to those children aged 10-19. I'm in a unique position where I get to see the impact that returning to school has on our children. Whilst the majority of children have adjusted well back to school, it's important that you continue to support your children, as living during a time of uncertainty can be hard for certain children and emotionally draining.



Routine is the most important thing that can help motivate our children, even if they would not necessarily agree.

Living during a time of a global pandemic, it's essential that our children realise the importance of their basic needs such as sleep, hydration, diet, screen time and how practicing self-care can benefit every child. As the season of Spring arrives, this is the perfect opportunity to encourage your children to get outside and seek fresh air.

Here at Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form, we continue to support your children and if you have any concern, please contact their Raising Standards Leader or Pastoral Managers.

Meet the Teacher

This week, we are meeting Miss Murdoch, Raising Standards Leader – Year 7

Favourite subject to teach?

PE although when I'm too old to run around (which isn't too far off) I will be looking at teaching English

Why did you become a teacher?

It was always between teaching and nursing. I'm not really sure why I chose teaching in the end. My Grannie was a teacher and my Mum a nurse – I think Mum's gory stories put me off the nursing!

What are your hobbies?

Running – I do a lot of running and really enjoy running half marathons. I've run the London Marathon once and I would say never again, but I still apply every year! I have also taken up road cycling recently – although that went a bit wrong a couple of weeks ago with a crash! I enjoy spending time with my friends and family

What would you like to learn or be able to do?

I'd like to be able to speak another language. My best friend is married to an Italian and I've picked up a lot of understanding just hearing him talking to their children (but I can't speak it!).

What's your favourite biscuit?

I can't remember the last time I had a biscuit! I much prefer savoury to sweet! Salt and vinegar crisps are my downfall!

What's your favourite movie or TV programme?

I don't watch a huge amount on TV. I do also watch EastEnders and Gogglebox makes me laugh.

What would you be doing if you were not a teacher?

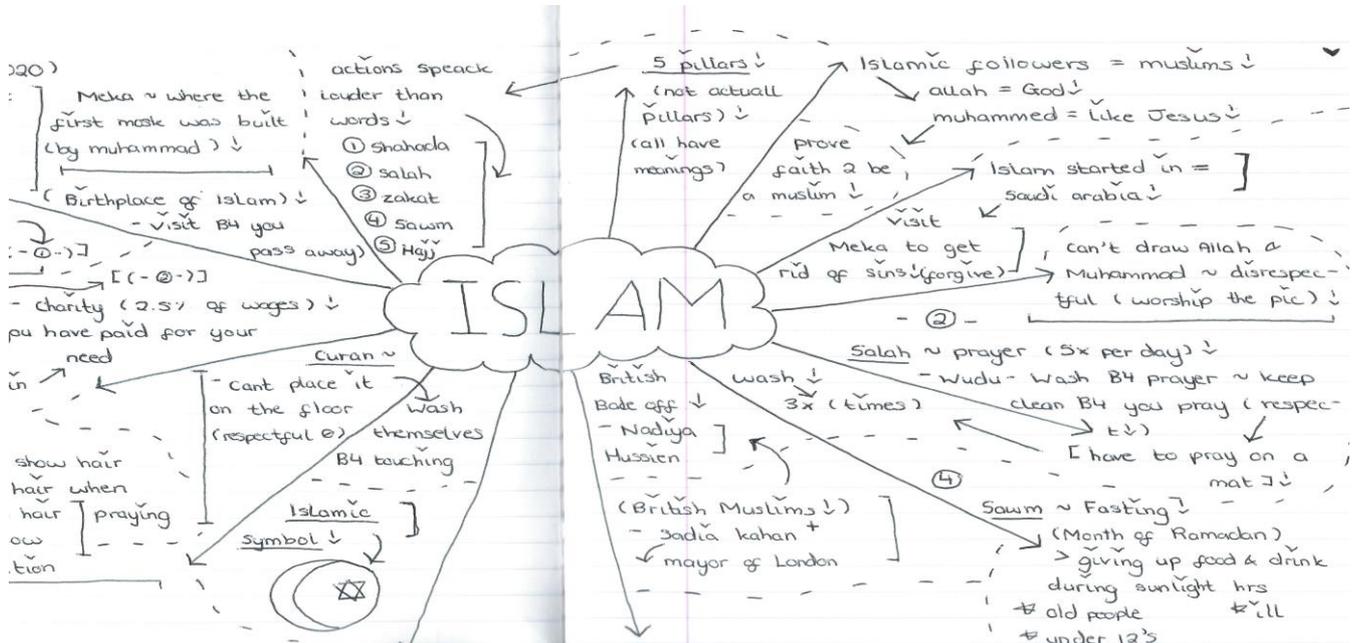
I guess as I said, I'd be a nurse! I also love a holiday so would love to work in the tourist industry – and live somewhere hot!

What have you been doing to survive the lockdown?

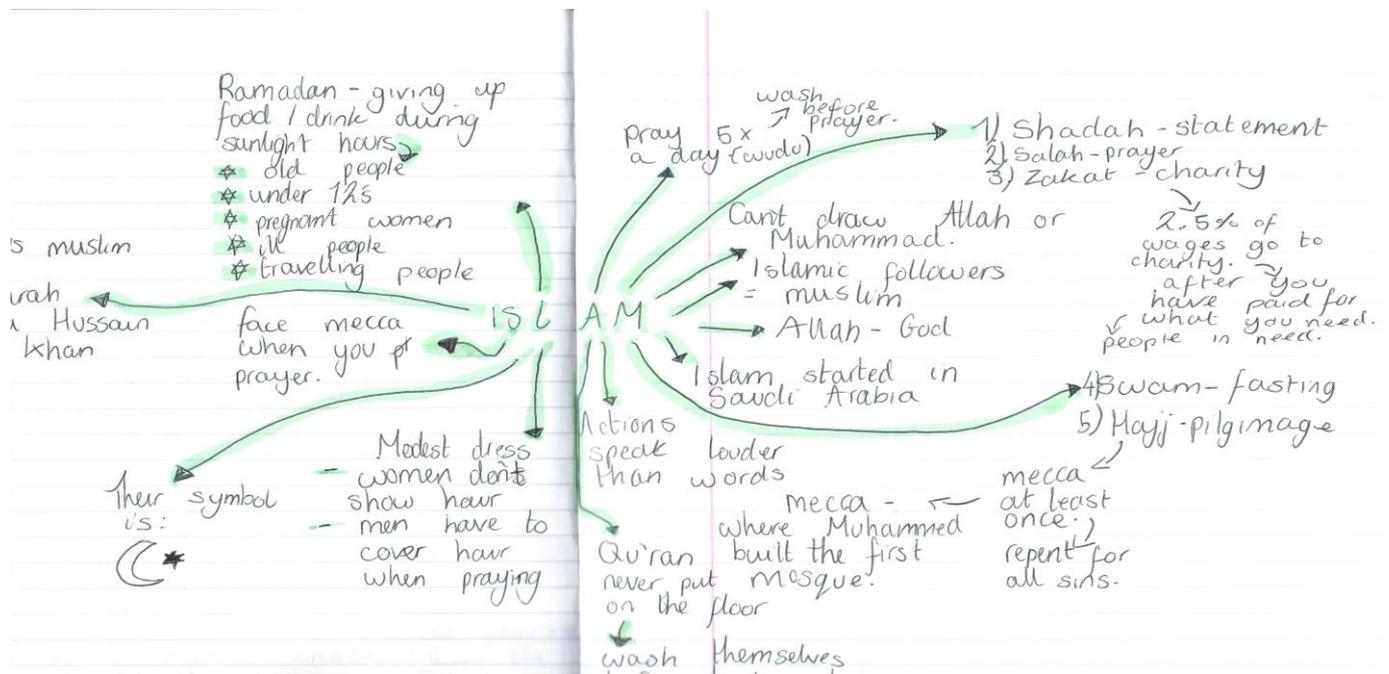
Work kept me very busy this time round! The conservatory was also turned in a gym (supposed to be temporary but I think it might stay!) so I spent a lot of time out there too! In the last lockdown, I spent a lot of time in the garden sunning myself

PER

Here is a small selection of good work completed by PER students.
In Year 7, we have completed pieces of work done during lockdown.



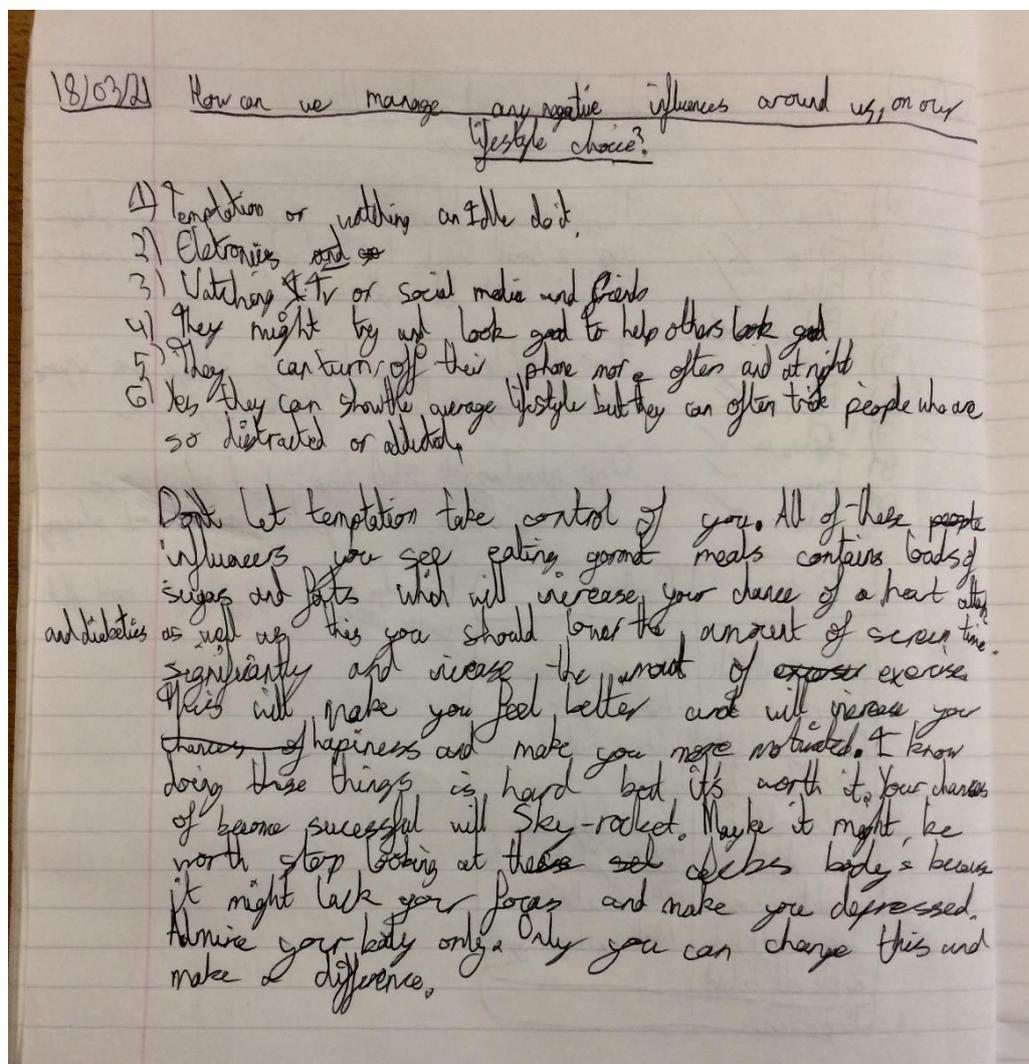
Amelia Roscoe



Georgina Russell

PDT

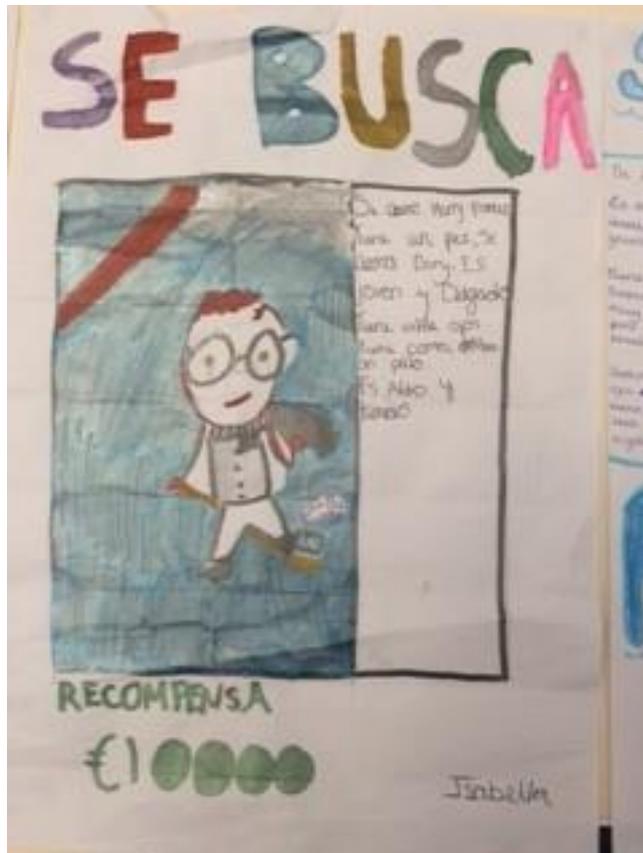
In PDT this half term, Year 7 students have been learning about how they can keep their bodies healthy, including looking at diet, exercise, and sleep. *Oliver Fearis* in 7O has done some excellent work, exploring the idea of how you can manage negative influences and maintain a healthy lifestyle.



Oliver Fearis

Spanish

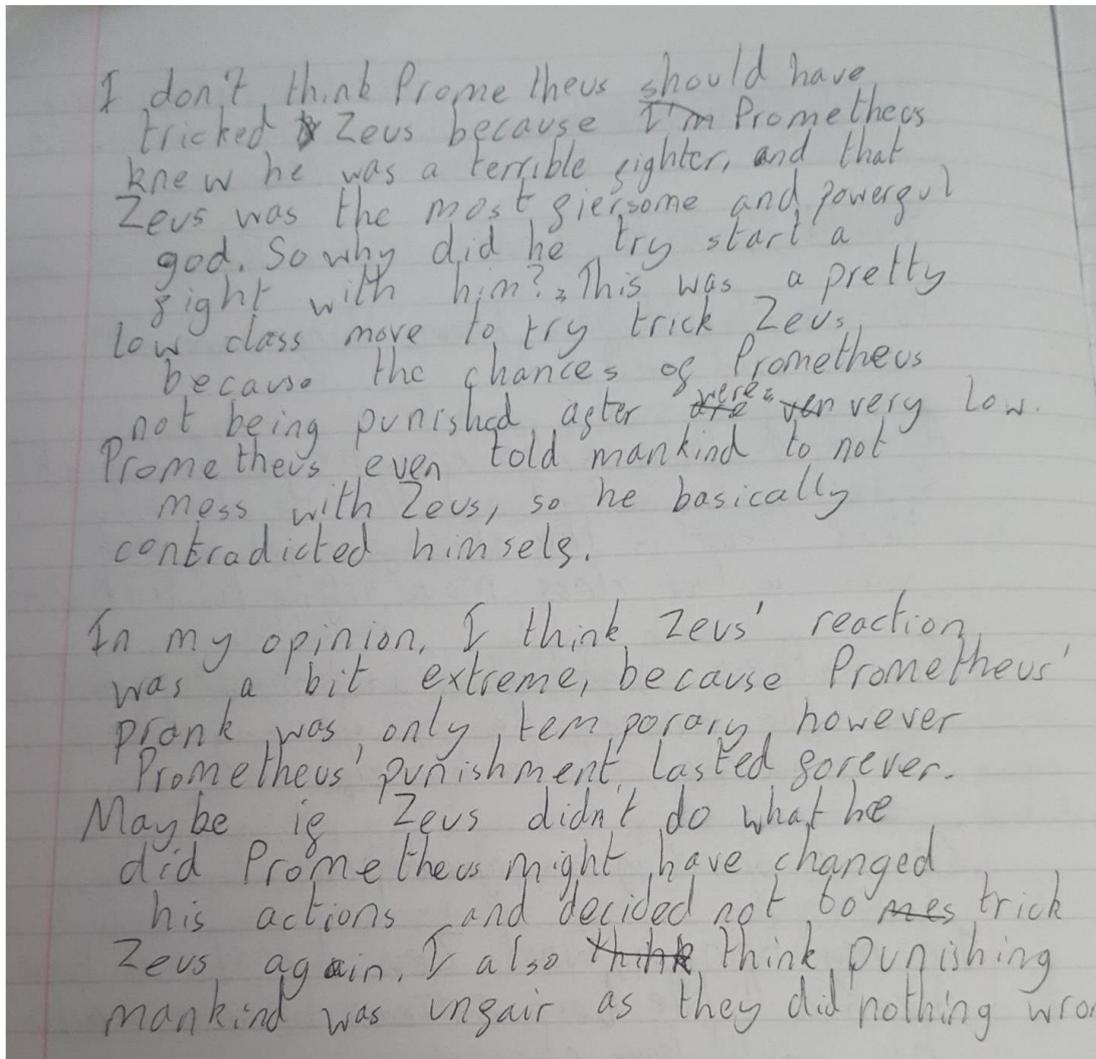
Year 7 students have been learning how to describe other people.



Isabela Ashman

English

Tomas Ismael giving his personal response to the actions of characters.



Key Dates

Please continue with home testing during the Easter break.

Monday 12 April	Summer term starts – Week A
Thursday 15 April	Year 9 DTP and MenACWY Vaccinations Day 1
Thursday 15 April	Year 8 Remote Parents'/Carers' Consultation Evening 4pm – 7.30pm

Remaining Term Dates 2020-2021

Summer Term 2021

Monday 12 April -

Wednesday 21 July

Half Term

Monday 31 May -

Friday 4 June

May Bank Holiday - Monday 3 May

Staff Training Days

Wednesday 2 September 2020

Friday 27 November 2020

Monday 30 November 2020

Tuesday 1 December 2020

Monday 4 January 2021

Monday 28 June 2021

Term Dates 2021-2022

Autumn Term 2021

Wednesday 1 September –

Friday 17 December

Half Term

Monday 25 October -

Friday 29 October

Spring Term 2022

Tuesday 4 January -

Friday 1 April

Half Term

Monday 14 February -

Friday 18 February

Summer Term 2022

Tuesday 19 April -

Friday 22 July

Half Term

Monday 30 May -

Friday 3 June

May Bank Holiday - Monday 2 May

Staff Training Days

Wednesday 1 September 2021

Friday 26 November 2021

Monday 29 November 2021

Tuesday 30 November 2021

Tuesday 4 January 2022

Friday 24 June 2022

Letters home this week – Monday 22 March 2021 – Friday 26 March 2021

<https://www.notleyhigh.com/letters-home-archive/item/immunisation-letter>
<https://www.notleyhigh.com/letters-home-archive/item/dtp-acwy-immunisation-letter>