
Cheney Communications

04 February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers (and staff),

We hope this letter finds you well.

All Parents and Carers

Screen-free afternoon. We are declaring next Wednesday 10 February a screen-free afternoon. There will therefore be no lessons 4 or 5, and students will be given a list of activities they can complete, linking to the house competition. Details of what activities are suggested will be shared via tutor time: to be clear, **screen-free means no x-box!**

In exam years, teachers may need to use those lessons; if this is the case, teachers will communicate this clearly on the Google Classroom.

Cheney Friends grant success. We are enormously grateful to Oxfordshire Community Foundation for their incredibly generous grant of £5000 towards laptops to support home learning. Thank you also to Cheney Friends for their expertise and dedication in making yet another successful grant application.

Thank you. Crisis Skylight Oxford would like to pass on their thanks for your generosity during our Winter Appeal. You can see their [message of thanks](#) on the website.

Primordial Soup. We are very excited to announce that "[Primordial Soup: Tales of the Greek gods in Oxford](#)" is now out and available to view online. In September 2020, the two Year 8 Latin classes took part in a project to design, write and illustrate a graphic novel which imagines the primordial Greek gods in modern day Oxford. They found out all about the different primordial gods, explored the art form of the graphic novel, and looked at how ancient characters have been imagined in different settings. They then chose characters and story lines, and worked together as a group to decide how to plan the story arc and what to call it. In the end, they settled on having a compilation of mini stories, which they decided to call "Primordial Soup"! Here is their back cover introduction:

Long before Zeus and his gang took over, the Primordials were running the show.

Overthrown and forgotten, somehow they've ended up living out their lives in twenty-first century Oxford.

Chronus owns a clock shop in St Clements and Gaia is running allotments up the Cowley Road. Oceanus lives in a boat on the River Cherwell and Memnosyne has a cafe nearby. Nyx and Erebus are warring over night and day in the backstreets. Meanwhile several

others are living in a tower block incognito, until an unwitting human moves in next door...

Explore the unexpected tales of the Primordial Greek Gods as they hang about, plot and squabble in modern day Oxford!

We are fortunate to have been supported in this project by Ahmed Alameen, a Kuwaiti author who has created a graphic novel based on characters from the epic Gilgamesh. We were also delighted to have been joined in this project by Oxford Brookes University Artist Lydia Hall. Lydia worked with the students on the artwork for the story, and turned their artwork and ideas into a cohesive graphic novel.

We are very grateful to have been supported by a grant from Classics for All for this initiative.

We hope you enjoy their stories and hope that the students feel very proud of what they have [produced!](#)

Safeguarding Newsletter: [Safeguarding Newsletter February 2021](#)

Rumble Museum Newsletter: [Rumble Newsletter #4 01.02.2021](#)

School Health Nurse Newsletter: [Secondary School Health Nurse Team Newsletter, Term 3, February](#)

INSET Monday 22 February. The school will be closed to all students, unless invited in for lateral flow testing or specific interventions, on Monday 22 February for INSET.

Years 7- 10

Optional Years 7-10 extend and challenge home learning activities. As promised last week, in response to some support from the parent survey, we are now issuing a small selection of [additional and optional home learning tasks for Years 7-10](#). These are entirely optional and should only be attempted once classwork is completed. Students should be particularly careful to make sure they finish any sentences started during the lesson!

Photography cancelled. Photography for Years 8-10, planned for Tuesday 23 February has been cancelled.

Year 8 Parents and Carers

HPV1 vaccinations. The new vaccination session has been confirmed for Tuesday 23 February 2021 (this is the session postponed from 20 January). Please ensure you complete the [consent form](#) by 19 February.

Year 10 Parents and Carers

Library news. The new KS4 reading list has been sent by email to all Y10 families and students. Read a book from the new KS4 reading list and receive house points in the

process! Every time a student uses the [library software](#) to review one of the books, they earn 20 house points.

Year 11 Parents and Carers

Science Key Information. From the Science team, [revision strategies](#) and key information for Science students.

Applications to Sixth Form. A reminder that applications close on Tuesday 9 February. See the [website](#) for application information and the latest subject videos.

You will find all our letters and notices on the [website](#) and/or on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Kind regards

Cheney Communications