



## Sixth Form Bulletin w/c 18<sup>th</sup> Jan 2021

Dear all,

Being at home more has given me more time to read and I have recently enjoyed Matt Haig's book *Humans*. The main character in the book notes that humans live on average for about 25000 days. When put like that it didn't seem that many to me and I thought about Mrs Joyce's advice in Social Studies last week where she talked about having a goal each day. **My challenge to you is to make each day count.** Especially during lockdown, it is good to make every-day count: ask yourself the question at the end of the day "what have I achieved today?" A particularly tricky piece of work, completed that essay you have been putting off, been for a walk, tried some new exercise, baked a cake, maybe read a book?

If you are short of things to do, we hope this bulletin will help to inspire you. Mr Darcy reviews *More* by Philip Coggan and Mr Turnbull suggests trying a RED January. Mrs Havill has again included many opportunities relating to careers and work.

Finally, how about getting involved with shaping your future? Ofqual have published a consultation document on the summer exams. **The consultation is open until the 29<sup>th</sup> January and it is important that you have your say.** <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-how-gcse-as-and-a-level-grades-should-be-awarded-in-summer-2021>

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/8BYI4T/>

## Consultation on how GCSE, AS and A level grades should be awarded in summer 2021

Please take a few minutes to take our survey. Introduction. This joint consultation, by Ofqual and the Department for Education (DfE), invites your views on the alternative arrangements by which students will be awarded GCSEs, AS and A level grades in summer 2021.

[www.smartsurvey.co.uk](http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk)

***Good luck to students with exams on Monday!***

Kind regards,  
Mrs Haig and the Sixth Form team

Remember you can also follow what we are getting up to on our Twitter feed @Stjohns6thform.



### **Timetable over lockdown:**

Students should be following their normal timetable during lockdown with the following exceptions:

- Private study. Students should be completing a minimum of one hour per subject per week at a convenient time.
- PE for Y12: We will be suggesting things for you to do!
- Tutor time: Twice a week only (for most a Monday and Thursday) but see your individual teams invite.
- Assembly: Every other week via Teams invite
- Y13 Social Studies and Y12 Wellbeing continue as normal
- Y12 EPQ – moving to individual mentors w/c 18<sup>th</sup> Jan so times of sessions may change.

### **Support available throughout lockdown and beyond:**

- School – tutors / teachers / school nurse

- Online support such as [YoungMinds - children and young people's mental health charity](#)
- Gilly Beer – school counsellor – 6th Form - Thursday and Friday.

### **Support with printing:**

If you need to print work during lockdown and don't have access to a printer Winkworth in Devizes are offering to help. Email [devizes@winkworth.co.uk](mailto:devizes@winkworth.co.uk)



### **Information from Cambridge University:**

Lucy Cavendish College will be holding its virtual Spring Open Day on the 17th February 2021. The programme is designed for prospective students who are considering applying to Cambridge later this year. (Y12students)

The Open Day will give you the chance to learn more about life and study at Lucy Cavendish College during this particularly exciting point in their history. Having previously been a College for mature-age (21+) women, they are now accepting applications from all suitably qualified students, regardless of age or gender. Most excitingly, they have chosen to take a unique stance on widening participation: they aim to become the first Cambridge College to admit a majority of its students from underrepresented or disadvantaged backgrounds and the long-term goal is to build a student population that is representative of wider UK society.

Take a look at the website

[https://www.lucy.cam.ac.uk/prospective\\_students](https://www.lucy.cam.ac.uk/prospective_students) for the timetable of live sessions and booking info.

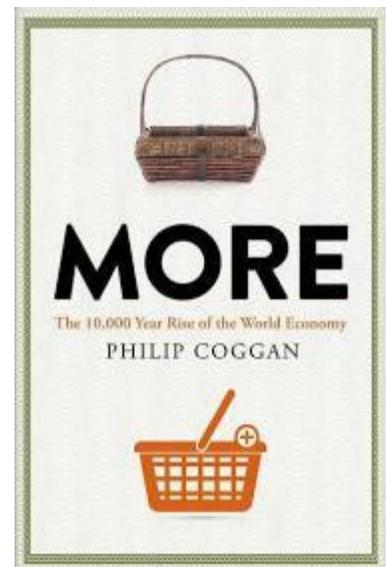
### **Supra-curricular activities:**

Students in Y12 looking to apply to Oxford, Cambridge and other Russell group universities are recommended to undertake supra-curricular activities and lockdown is an excellent time to start! These are activities that aim to enhance academic understanding. Most Oxford and Cambridge colleges have a list but here are a few ideas general ideas of things to read from Christ's College, Cambridge to get you started:

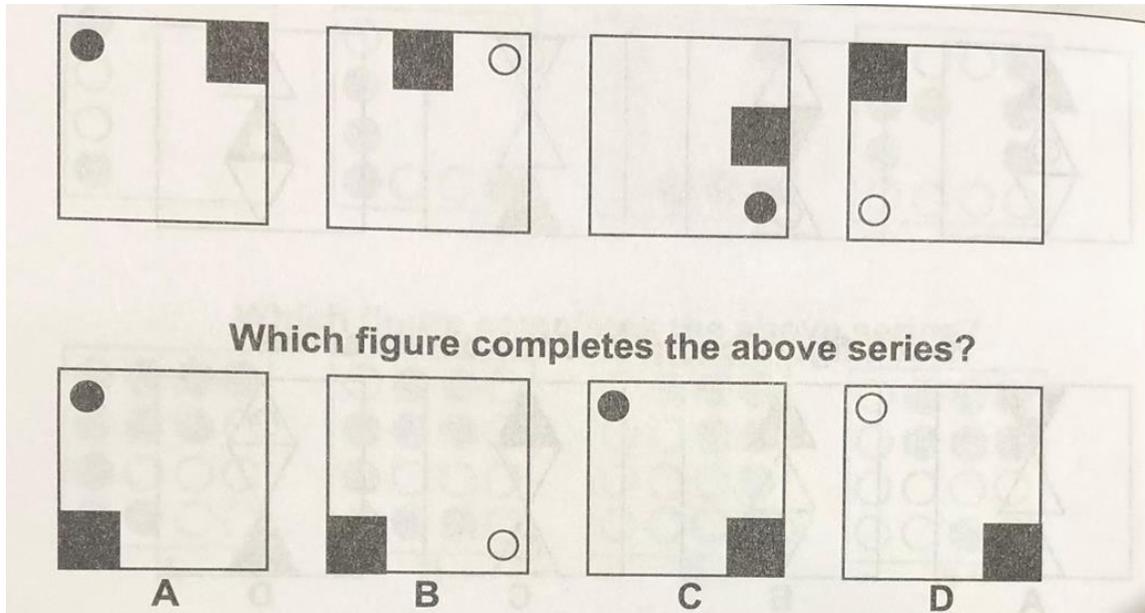
- Broadsheet newspapers: The Guardian, The Times, The Daily Telegraph
- BBC News online: [www.bbc.co.uk/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/)
- The Economist: [www.economist.com/](http://www.economist.com/)
- Reuters: <https://uk.reuters.com/> (change edition for international news)
- The New Statesman magazine: [www.newstatesman.com/](http://www.newstatesman.com/)
- New Scientist magazine, news section: <https://www.newscientist.com/section/news/>
- Al Jazeera English: [www.aljazeera.com/](http://www.aljazeera.com/)

**Book of the week:** *This week chosen by Mr Darcy*  
*More* by Philip Coggan

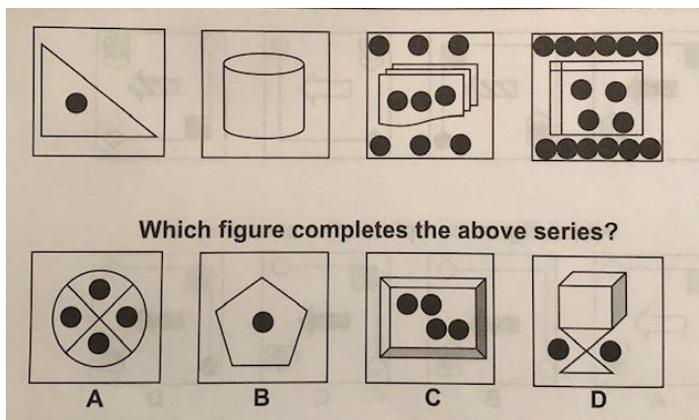
Where did all this modern stuff come from? There are 17 ingredients in toothpaste, from titanium dioxide to xanthum gum, and that's not counting the tube! Every part of it had to come from somewhere and someone must bring it all together. This is a brand-new book tracing the development of society, trading and wealth over 10,000 years and written in an easily accessible style without any jargon. The author leads us from medieval cottages through to new hi-tech hydroponic vertical farms, and from pre-historic burial mounds and the massive slave trade into modern central banks and the US-China trade war. There is plenty of evidence in there too of the role of education in various forms, and the impact of the world wars. For those interested in how the world has developed and increased its prosperity, as well as some tips on how not to wreck it, this is a fun and well-researched book where you will learn something new on every page.



**Quiz time:** Abstract reasoning puzzle



Last week's puzzle and answer:



**Answer: C**

The number of areas defined by the objects increases by 1 between frames. So the next frame has to have 5 areas, which rules out A and B.

The number of black dots equals the number of right angles in the frame. Frame D has 6 right angles but only 2 dots, whilst Frame C has 4 dots and right angles.

**Ted Talks:** *This week's recommendation from Mrs Joyce*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H14bBuluwB8>



[Grit: the power of passion and perseverance | Angela Lee Duckworth](#)

Leaving a high-flying job in consulting, Angela Lee Duckworth took a job teaching math to seventh graders in a New York public school. She quickly realized that IQ wasn't the only thing separating the successful students from those who struggled. Here, she explains her theory of \"grit\" as a predictor of success. TEDTalks is a daily video ... [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

**Keeping fit and healthy:** *from Mr Turnbull*

RED. Some of you may be doing RED January. RED initially meant Run Every Day but seems to have developed into do some form of exercise every day. Why not try RED lockdown. Try and do some form of exercise (can be anything but must be at least 25 mins) every day until we return to school? Gives you a great excuse for trying out lots of new types of activity.

**Careers Update from Mrs Havill**

**St John's Moving On** - Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January to include a talk for years 12 and 13 by Oxford Brookes University on 'Your future after university' plus UK University and Apprenticeship Careers Fair 12.00 to 18.00 hrs <https://www.ukuniversitysearch.com/fair-signup/virtual-fair-4> and Springpod Apprenticeship Fair 5.00pm onwards. All details to be sent out via email next week.

Included below are details on :

- Apprenticeships/school leaver programmes
- Virtual Work Experience (VWEX)

- University

### Apprenticeships / school leaver programmes



Springpod is holding a [Virtual Careers Fair](#), taking place on the 27th of January, which allows students to learn from companies such as HSBC, AstraZeneca, Network Rail, EY and Cancer Research UK. You need to register in advance for the talks.

Please check the apprenticeship job vacancies sites regularly and register where possible. Employers career pages aren't always being kept up to date and adverts showing on the vacancies sites don't always show on company websites. For example CGI below is on RateMyApprenticeship but not updated on their company website.

**CGI** is one of the largest IT and business process services providers in the world, delivering high-quality business consulting, systems integration and managed services. Digital and technology Higher and Degree Apprenticeships being advertised – closing date 25<sup>th</sup> January. Find out more:-

[View all roles](#)

All of the below are from RateMyApprenticeship – register for job updates <https://www.ratemyapprenticeship.co.uk/search?show=jobs>

- **Haysmacintyre** <https://earlycareers.haysmacintyre.com/school-leavers> Two year programme including the opportunity to study for the CFAB qualification where you will be working towards gaining membership of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and

Wales (ICAEW). London Based, 112 UCAS points, Maths A level preferred but not essential. Deadline 1<sup>st</sup> February

<https://haysmacintyre.appellia.com/positions/Audit-School-Leaver-2021-22/?id=69438>

- **VISA** Degree Apprenticeship, locations -nationwide, closing date 1<sup>st</sup> February <https://www.visa.co.uk/careers/next-gen-careers/application-process-apprenticeship.html#1>
- **McDonald's** Degree Apprenticeship, closing date 12<sup>th</sup> February, starting salary £16,000, locations – nationwide <https://people.mcdonalds.co.uk/early-career-opportunities/management-degree-apprenticeship-programme/programme/>
- **M & S** Higher Apprenticeship, closing date 17<sup>th</sup> February, location – London, Starting salary £18,000 <https://jobs.marksandspencer.com/early-careers>
- **Mazars LLP** <https://jobs.mazars.co.uk/jobs/early-careers/> school leaver programme, closing date 17<sup>th</sup> February, locations – nationwide

**KPMG** 2021 Audit apprenticeship programme is now open for applications  
**[Audit apprenticeship programme](#)**



## TAKE A TOUR OF THE BANK OF THE FUTURE AND WIN AMAZING PRIZES!

**Lloyds Banking Group Virtual HQ:** Where can a career at Lloyds Banking Group take you? Explore our Virtual HQ and discover the life and culture at Lloyds Banking Group. As you explore each floor you'll find unique challenges and unlock trophies as you go – can you unlock all the trophies and reach 100%?

Make sure you explore all the floors to be in with a chance of winning amazing prizes!

Go straight to Floor 6 to register for one of our Employer Presentations. Limited places available- explore the floors now!

[Explore the Virtual HQ](#)

**Lloyds Banking Group Employer Presentations:** Experience a new kind of employer presentation, hosted weekly by Lloyds Banking Group every Thursday. Network with LBG colleagues and Apprentices and take part in Q&A panel sessions where you can ask those money can't buy questions as well as business challenges and team games. Book your place now, limited spaces available.

[Book your place](#)



## **Level 6 Applied Professional Engineering Apprenticeship (APEP)**

**Programme Duration** - 4 Years

**Qualification** - BEng Applied Engineering Programme Degree (University of Warwick)

**Salary** - Circa £20,000

There are 4 pathways to choose from:

1. Product Development
2. Manufacturing
3. Electrical and Electronics
4. Control Systems

[Apply now](#)

Remember also to check the following site for apprenticeship adverts:-

<https://workwiltshire.co.uk/apprenticeships/current-apprenticeship-vacancies-south-west/>

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

<https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/>

<https://www.getmyfirstjob.co.uk/>

Apprentice Nation <https://apprenticenation.co.uk/> Get Stand Out Skills with BT



## Discover in-demand jobs

Wednesday 20 Jan

**It can be hard to know where to begin when job searching, so BT have teamed up with LinkedIn to share insight into the professions with the most vacancies in 2020. You may just find your dream career.**

[SIGN UP NOW](#)

## Make your CV work for you

Wednesday 27 Jan

Looking for work in the middle of a global pandemic can feel daunting, but this time at home is an opportunity to be ready for when the right job comes along. Join this interactive webinar to **create a CV** that reflects your **experience** and **ambitions**.

[GRAB YOUR SPOT](#)

## Boost your LinkedIn profile

Friday 29 Jan

Feel more confident using the power of networking to kickstart your career. Get top tips on how you can **boost your LinkedIn profile**, reach out to employers, find the best roles, and avoid common pitfalls.

[SIGN UP NOW](#)

## Virtual Work Experience

Years 12 and 13 **February Half Term 15th - 18<sup>th</sup>** - Young-professionals.uk have teamed up with IBM, HSBC, PwC, Marks & Spencer's, Vodafone, EY, CGI, Capgemini, bp, GSK and CIMA taking part across the 3 days to deliver workshops and insight sessions. Please be aware this is accessed via zoom not TEAMS.

- 9am - 4pm each day (times may vary)
- Online webinars and workshops with group exercises + prizes to stand out students
- All sessions will be taking place on Zoom (so a laptop, tablet or phone will be needed)
- Everyone that completes the 3 days will receive a certificate and reference for their CV's

This work experience program is **FREE** and places will be allocated on a first come first serve basis (**ONLY 200 PLACES and offered to a number of schools**). To book on, students will need to register their interest following the below link.

<https://www.research.net/r/Virtual-Work-Experience>

Speakersforschools – deadlines extended for:-

### [Build Yourself with Wates – Virtual Insight Day](#)

- Dates: 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021.
  - Eligibility: 14 – 19 year olds keen to network and learn about roles available in the construction industry.
  - Application Deadline: 29<sup>th</sup> January 2021
- ### [Wates: An Insight into the Construction Industry - International Women`s Day 2021](#)
- Dates: 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021.
  - Eligibility: 14 – 19 year old females keen to network and learn about why construction is a rewarding career choice for women.
  - Application Deadline: 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021
- ### [Build Yourself with Wates VVEX \( London and The South\)](#)
- Dates: 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021.
  - Eligibility: 14 – 19 year olds keen to network and learn about roles available in the construction industry.
  - Application Deadline: 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2021

For a full list of placements at Speakers for Schools - [sign in here to search and apply](#). Full list of placements at Springpod - <https://www.springpod.co.uk/virtual-work-experience-programmes/>

WEEK STARTING MONDAY 18<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2021 - [Live Broadcasts Schedule](#).

DATE	SPEAKER	INFO
Tues 19 <sup>th</sup> January 5-6pm  <a href="#">LINK TO JOIN</a>	Anthony Salcito, Vice President of Microsoft Worldwide Education for KS4-5/S4-6	Anthony Salcito is the Vice President of Microsoft Worldwide Education and was previously the Vice President of the Public Sector & Government. Anthony's role involves empowering educators and inspiring students to achieve more. He aims to transform the way we all learn, with the support of the best technology, to help build the skills needed for the 21st century workplace. In this SFS broadcast, tune in to hear Anthony's thoughts on how technology has impacted education, what skills are important for your future career and get the opportunity to ask your questions!

- Join 10 minutes before the broadcast to be ready, You can join without needing an account – [Watch how here](#) For full speaker descriptions visit the [Broadcast Schedule here](#)
- Watch pre-recorded broadcasts from our library [here](#)

### University

**Veterinary Medicine** – please see below useful links about getting into veterinary science including a webinar from Liverpool University about general veterinary applications and VWEX:-

- <https://youtu.be/3ovDKpe-8lY>
- <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/vet-school-application-support>
- <https://www.vetschoolscouncil.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/VSC-course-guide-2021.pdf>



Meet the **Russell Group** virtual event on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February, 12.00 – 19.00, find out more and register at <https://russellgroup.vfairs.com/>

Quick summary of UCAS application dates this year:

- **29 January: UCAS Undergraduate application deadline**  
Equal consideration date for all courses. Applications received by 18:00 on this date are given equal academic consideration
- **25 February: Extra opens**  
Applicants can add a choice in UCAS Track if they have declined all their offers or are unsuccessful with their initial five choices.
- **20 May: UCAS Undergraduate ‘Reject by default’**  
Providers must decide on applications received by 29 January by this date, or they will be rejected by default.
- **10 June: UCAS Undergraduate applicant ‘decline by default’**  
Applicants must reply to their offers by today if their last decision was received by 20 May, otherwise their applications will be ‘declined by default’
- **30 June: UCAS Undergraduate ‘main scheme’ closes**  
Applications received after 18:00 today are entered into Clearing.
- **4 July: UCAS extra closes**
- **5 July: Clearing opens**
- **13 July: UCAS Undergraduate ‘Reject by default’**  
Providers must decide on applications received by 30 June by this date, or they will be rejected by default.
- **14 July: UCAS Undergraduate applicant ‘decline by default’**  
Applicants must reply to their offers by today if their last decision

was received by 13 July, otherwise their applications will be 'declined by default'

**University of Southampton Parents Webinar** - Monday 18 January 2021 - An opportunity to join the School Liaison and Access teams at University of Southampton as they talk about the value of a degree, student tuition fees and finance. They will also talk about why it's worth applying to University for 2021 and what teaching and learning will look like under the impact of COVID. Book your place [here!](#)

**University of Southampton** The Faculty of **Medicine** is committed to **widening the participation** of Medicine. There is a free 3 day taster course for Year 12 students on April 12th - 14th, eligibility criteria applies. Join on Tuesday 19th January for a live webinar to find out about the taster course and how to apply. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/widening-access-to-medicine-virtual-residential-launch-tickets-136279247899>

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLT3AipgP4I\\_z3FIEYgbrq9obCbMMIdT3o](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLT3AipgP4I_z3FIEYgbrq9obCbMMIdT3o) includes a range of subject videos produced by University of Southampton that may help with looking at degree ideas.

**Year 13 Evidence Portfolios** – check with universities if you are unable to provide everything due to school closures e.g. Falmouth University issued this statement:-

***Advice for students who don't have access to all their work for a portfolio*** - *Your students as part of the application process may have been requested to submit a portfolio, but don't have access to all of their work due to Covid restrictions. Please tell them they don't have to hold up their interview, just create the portfolio with what they have and add in a note mentioning bigger pieces that they don't currently have access to. Once they've uploaded their portfolio link, we can then invite them to interview, where they can always talk us through the pieces they couldn't include. Further advice can be found [HERE](#)*

Falmouth University are also running [Fortnightly Portfolio Advice sessions](#)

other Thursday from 4pm - 5pm to give an overview of what they look for in a portfolio at Falmouth as well as some top tips on how to put together a

strong portfolio using digital or online platforms. Students can register for an event of their choice [here](#) And For students getting ready to attend an online interview, their students have created a short film with some useful hints and tips. Watch the video below or click [here](#)



## **Medical School Applicant Webinars**

Are you in sixth form and thinking of studying medicine? Do you want to know more about what medical school interviews might involve?

To book your free place, follow the links below:

[Wednesday 13 January 2021, 12pm-1pm](#)

[Wednesday 20 January 2021, 12pm-1pm](#)

[Thursday 28 January 2021, 12pm-1pm](#)

[www.medschools.ac.uk](http://www.medschools.ac.uk)

University of Bristol – widening participation summer schools

### **Sutton Trust Summer School**

2 - 6 August 2021. Sutton Trust Summer School offers students the

opportunity to experience student life in one of the UK's most exciting cities.

[For further information follow this link.](#) [To apply follow this link.](#)

### **Insight into Bristol**

26 - 30 July 2021. Insight into Bristol summer school is aimed at Black and Asian students who are from widening participation backgrounds and who have the academic ability to study at the University of Bristol.

Click here to download the Insight into Bristol [brochure](#). [Visit our website to apply](#)

**University of Lancaster** - Spotlight: [Sports and Exercise Science](#) with lots of different webinars available

<https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/study/connect/events/?filter=sport>

**Oxford Brookes University** - **Discover Brookes [FAQs video](#)**, in which two of our Student Ambassadors answer commonly asked questions from students about the programme [promotional video](#) Students and parents/carers can find more information on [our website](#), where they can also find the application form. **The deadline for applications is 7th February. There are** spaces available on all subject streams, and you can find more information about them below:

- **Business and Management** - This stream will give students an insight into the topics taught on Business related courses at university. Students will be introduced to key concepts, alongside opportunities to apply these to practical industry examples. They will further their understanding of four key areas of Business: Marketing, Accounting and Finance, Events and Hospitality Management, and Business Management. This stream will build on the knowledge students have gained through A level Business Studies or Economics, or BTEC Level 3 Travel and Tourism. It is also open to students who haven't studied Business before!
- **Healthcare** - This stream will give students the fantastic opportunity of exploring different health related degrees. Students will interact with virtual lab resources, as well as completing activities they would take part in at university such as interdisciplinary case studies,

reflective discussions and group work. Students will explore the vast array of careers within the NHS, and the pathways to get there.

- **Teaching and Education** - This stream will explore 'Education for a Better World'. Students will explore the role that teaching and education play in large political issues, such as climate change, activism, Black Lives Matter and the de-colonisation of the curriculum. Students will consider the influence and contribution of young people in these movements, by focusing on the power that young people have, and the role that education plays in this empowerment.
- **Engineering and Design** - Technology is advancing fast, and those working in the Engineering and Design sector are forging the way. Automotive Engineers are exploring the possibility of hydrogen-powered cars, Biomechanical Engineers are developing bionic limbs, Urban Designers are designing future-proof cities, and Mathematicians are using their skills to model the spread of viruses in a pandemic. On this stream, students will explore how these industries are building our future, from the creativity of design all the way through to the theory underpinning it all. They'll be introduced to different fields in the sector, with subjects including Automotive Engineering and Urban Design.

If you have any questions please email at [discover@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:discover@brookes.ac.uk).

## Subject Webinars

### University of Bristol - STEM Up!

This new online programme is for students nationwide in the first year of their A-levels, BTECs or prospective mature students or equivalents who are interested in studying a STEM subject at university. From April 2021, students will attend 5 online sessions each Thursday after school. [To find out more visit the webpage linked here.](#) [Students can register by using this form.](#)

### Languages webinars

We are running a series of webinars for students studying languages, from GCSE to A-Level. 'The Year Abroad and Languages Webinar' is for

students in Years 11- 13 and 'The A-Level Language Film Webinar series' is for for students in Years 12 -13. [Teachers and students can find more information and sign up here.](#)

### **Library of key subject specific Virtual Resources**

To access University of Bristol's library of subject specific resources, including pre-recorded lectures, lesson plans, podcasts and blogs [you and your students can sign up following this link.](#) These can be used by students to enrich their home learning and support their university application or by teachers within virtual lessons.

**Loughborough University** – Inspiring Minds is a series of virtual taster days designed to give students an insight into what it's like to study at university - taking place from 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021, sign up <https://www.lboro.ac.uk/study/school-college-liaison/events/inspiringminds/>

### **Explore studying in the USA and get help applying to American universities**

Applications are open for the Sutton Trust US Programme 2021, and close this Sunday, 17th January.

The [Sutton Trust US Programme](#) helps state school students from across the UK explore US study and access leading universities through support, advice, UK residentials and a one-week trip to visit a variety of US universities. Year 12 (England and Wales) - **It is free to take part in the programme.** The student application deadline is **11:59 pm on Sunday 17 January 2021.** Please do pass on this information to any students who may be interested.

### **Who can apply?**

To be eligible to apply, students must:

- Currently be in Year 12 in England and Wales, S5 in Scotland or Year 13 in Northern Ireland
- Attend, and have always attended, a state-funded school or college i.e. non-fee paying

- Not hold US citizenship
- Be from a low or middle income family (generally, this will mean a household earning £45,000 or less)
- Be interested in US culture and higher education

Take a look at the Sutton Trust US Programme website to learn more about [eligibility and selection](#).

**Mrs F Havill**

[fhavill@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk](mailto:fhavill@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk)

### **Five things to be grateful for during this difficult time**

Inspired by Mrs Parry's work with Yr9 in the first lockdown we will ask one member of staff each week to share 5 things they are grateful for. This week's come from Mr Whittaker:

1. 'BBC Good Food' to find new recipes that work and are well photographed so we don't run out of ideas for dinner
2. 'BT Sport' so I can AT LEAST watch some rugby
3. Friends from school and university who send me jokes, funny clips etc. keeping in touch.
4. A Nespresso machine to make good coffee
5. Space both inside and out, so all have a chance to work and relax as they want.



***Stay safe!***  
***Best wishes from the Sixth Form team.***