



Chesham Preparatory School

Dear Children and Parents,

I hope you have all had a good week and are looking forward to the Bank Holiday weekend. The bank holiday tomorrow celebrates the 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE Day), marking the formal end of the Second World War. Under lockdown and social distancing measures, events will have to be a little more subdued than originally planned but there are still plenty of ways to mark the occasion and pay your respects at home. The following link is from English Heritage and includes some 1940s recipes, lyrics to some popular songs of the day and even instructions for the 'Lindy-Hop', a swing dance introduced into the UK with the arrival of US servicemen in the war years.



<https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/siteassets/home/visit/ve-day-75/eh-ve-day-at-home-pack.pdf>

If you are enjoying the chance to dance, further Lindy-Hop tutorials are available on YouTube. Other useful links to celebrate this weekend include a Spotify 1940s playlist produced by Bletchley Park, the top secret home of the World War Two code breakers and, for those of you wanting to learn more, an excellent link to the sights and sounds of 1945 produced by the Imperial War Museum.



<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/4HBeS8yZUGRy4mM6Xq3f8H>

<https://www.iwm.org.uk/history/victory>

A televised musical event VE Day 75: The People's Celebration takes place on BBC 1 from 8pm on Friday giving the chance to join in a national sing-a-long with 103 year old Dame Vera Lynn.

The following link is also very much worth visiting, especially by all of Year 6 studying the Second World War. It has come from Sophie Lewis in 5B and is a letter her great grandfather, Arthur Sanders, sent to his wife Winifred, from Jersey, the day it was liberated.

https://www.theislandwiki.org/index.php/Letter_from_Liberation_boat_commander

It has been a pleasure to visit so many class zoom meetings this week and I am looking forward to seeing more happy, smiling faces (if at times a little bleary-eyed) next week. The teachers continue to do a fantastic job of motivating and cajoling and I was even lucky enough to join in a couple of class quizzes this week. The 6B 'unusual headgear' form time allowed me to sport a wig (a Secret Santa gift from a member of staff!) earlier this week but it paled into insignificance compared with the following selection of photos from Reception's 'crazy hair' form time.





Reception M joined in the fun this week with a joke telling session. Mrs Moores' favourite was Oliver's little gem,

What does a storm cloud wear under its clothes?

Thunderpants

While Mrs Hanchant picked Molly-Mae's joke as her favourite

Why did the toilet roll roll down the hill?

To get to the bottom!

As I am sure you are aware the Government plans to announce further news on lockdown and any easing of restrictions this weekend. I will of course be watching with great interest to see how schools are affected and will provide an update next week.

My very best wishes for a happy bank holiday weekend.

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads 'J Beale' with a horizontal line underneath.

Mr J Beale
Headmaster