HERITAGE
International School

THE INTERNATIONAL HERITAGE HERALD

September 11, 2020

GENERAL

Director's weekly notes- "The View from Dacia Boulevard"

I know we are "back" because the focus has shifted in these first two weeks to making sure we are all getting used to the routines, practices and behaviours in everyday school life which will keep our community safe and allow us to continue to operate a safe, physical school. But I accept, changing the culture is not so easy which is why we all have to play our part. The cases in the country keep rising and we read reports of schools who start off with the new measures but quickly stop operating them and cases inevitably occur. I am really pleased to see how we all play our part at Heritage, from the moment students are dropped off safely at school, with parents respecting the new measures, until the end of the day, when children leave safely to go home. I would ask all parents and students though, to be mindful of how they keep physical distance outside the school gates when they are waiting, not to allow students to suddenly stop all the simple measures around #HandsFaceSpace because they have left school. We want to model to the rest of society what we all should be doing to get transmission and cases down. This "next normal" means we

have to have a safe, isolated campus and all parents and visitors need to understand why we are doing this to ensure children have their safe physical school environment. The team at Heritage are working very hard, to adapt and accommodate all the new measures and at the same time to keep the school as a place of engagement, learning, familiarity and routines for all children to have their educational certainty. We operate in a respectful and professional school environment at all times and when issues arise, as they inevitably do, we work together amicably to resolve them. Our overriding school priority right now, is to keep our school campus physically safe for children to learn and staff to come to work. This is applied equally to everyone. We don't know how long this next normal will last but it won't be over anytime soon.

Getting back to normal also means the focus is on the things we do every day in school. On the whole, most students respect the uniform rules as part of being a student of Heritage, identified as Heritage, and they are very straight forward as far as school dress codes are concerned. Believe me, I am an educator from the UK where scores of students have been sent home from school for having the wrong shade of grey socks. Students cannot wear blue jeans. Non Heritage coats, hoodies, jumpers/pullovers cannot be worn in school. Students shouldn't colour their hair. Plain black trousers/pants are prefered and we have allowed smart, plain dark shorts for the warm weather. If in doubt, just ask and the dress code is available on the website and in the parent handbook. We need parents to support the school on the dress code. As far as equipment is concerned, minimal is best. We asked students to have a wide open bottle for the water cooler and preferably to have their own hand sanitizer. A spare mask or two is a must and for the safety of the whole community, masks are worn in the closed public spaces by all children, above the nose. All Heritage staff wear clean masks. If a child or an adult, doesn't keep to our safe measures then they will not be on the campus. It is that simple. As far as Hybrid learning is concerned, this is not for children who want a day at home. It is a model for those families who have informed us they are in isolation and for those quaranting with symptoms.

As we come to the end of our second induction week, it has been a tough one establishing the new way the canteen and cafe will operate but it has worked thanks to everyone's cooperation. In week 3 we see the reintroduction of clubs and there is information below. I am really pleased to see we are going to get underway our Founders' Lectures again for the second series with H.E. Steven Fisher, UK Ambassador to Moldova kindly speaking on the 23rd September. I am also thrilled to announce we have been selected to represent Moldova in the T4 Global Showcase for international education week and we are alongside some very prestigious international schools. We have also begun our formal journey to become a COBIS school joining a network of outstanding international schools around the globe so we benchmark our safeguarding and education at the highest levels as we continue to build and develop our school. If you get a moment, have a read of our second TES International article in the space of one week as I was asked to write about our innovative DLP, online learning and safety coupled with our expertise allowed the national education community in March to find a workable strategy in the crisis.

The older teachers used to always tell the younger teachers, starting in September, not to smile until Christmas, because these are long months in the academic year especially as the warm autumn/fall turns to colder and darker winter. I never believed in the advice and walking around the school, hearing the wonderful noises of the children happy to be back in school and learning, I have a permanent smile knowing all our hard work and efforts in this crisis enable our students to continue learning even in this dreadful pandemic. Thank you for all your support of our school community. We can only do this together.

Rob Ford, Director

Heritage in the media:

*- **Heritage in the TES International, again!***

International schools: When the education minister came to tea | Thank you TES International for the opportunity to share our story from Moldova with the Global education community about how sectors were bridged & a national education community collaborated in this time of Covid19# Hope

***TES article here:**https://www.tes.com/news/school-government-education-lockdown-cooperation*

*- **Heritage to represent Moldova** in the prestigious T4 Global Showcase schools for International Education Week: Link here: http://worldeduweek.org/our-global-showcase-schools/*

*- **We proudly present to you the first book by Robert Ford, Director of Heritage International School! "This Heart Shaped Land"** - a reference to The Forest Of Dean, where Mr. Ford was a school principal for 4 years - is a collection of reflections of an internationally-minded educator, telling an inspiring story about positive school culture and transformative learning. (The book is available in Kindle edition; print edition coming soon.)*

Congratulations, Mr. Ford! And we eagerly anticipate reading your next book, written here, at Heritage, about bringing the 21st century education to Moldova.

In the meantime, read our director's blog at: www.mailfrommoldova.home.blog

On Thursday 17th September, our school library is to be officially named in honour of the poet, Mihai Eminescu. A huge thanks to our colleague, Elena Melecca, for her beautiful painting and sign for the new Mihai Eminescu library.

Notes from Ms Elize

We are at the end of our second week and it is amazing to see how quickly we can adjust to a new way of doing things. The students are settling into their new routines and are creative in their playing and socialising to ensure social distancing is observed.
Classrooms are buzzing with sounds of active learning and by following our safety measures and regulations we can have the school open safely.

The pandemic has brought a mind shift in the field of education and has pushed us to think out of the box and be innovative in our teaching methods. Through Hybrid Learning we can teach students at home and in the classroom giving students at home the opportunity to follow and be actively part of the class. The success of this model lies in good communication and a collaboration between the school and parents.
Here are a few tips to ensure that learning at home on the DLP give children a full rounded learning experiences:

**Please create a space where your child can sit at a desk within easy reach of stationary, textbooks and other items needed.*
**Wearing his/her school uniform can create a right frame of mind and a positive school atmosphere.*
**Assistance from parents should be given where necessary, however children should be given room to be part of the class and to learn responsibly and independently.*

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement. The mornings are slightly cooler and soon we will notice the change of the season.

"Act as if what you do makes a difference.
It does."
William James

Have a lovely weekend!
Elize Morin

News from Secondary:

A great start to our school year and well done to all of our students for respecting HMS: Hands, Mask and Space.

You have shown a great ability in adapting to our next normal - keep it up!
This week we have seen successful hybrid learning in classrooms with some students working from home, as well as science lessons all the way from South Africa with our new teacher Mr Frans! We will continue to develop our hybrid learning programme to ensure access to all learners and we thank you for your patience so far.
Uniform:
A huge thank you to everyone in the correct uniform: you all look very smart and comfortable!
A friendly reminder to parents and students that the Heritage uniform is mandatory; plain black shoes need to be worn and any jumpers or jackets must be Heritage.
Any jumpers/jackets that are not Heritage; students will be invited to store them in lockers or they may be confiscated and returned at the end of the school day.

The Heritage Ten

Over the summer, with ideas from the student council, we developed the 'Heritage Ten': a set of values we believe to be important and hope to demonstrate and uphold at Heritage:

H - Honourable: doing the good and moral thing

Onorabil: *a face lucruri bune și de valoare*
Достойный: *делать добрые и нравственные дела*

E - Engaged: being attentive, active and involved in the learning process

Implicat: *a fi atent , activ și implicat în procesul de învățare*
Вовлеченный: *внимательность, активность и вовлеченность в процесс обучения*

R - The three R's: being respectful, responsible and reflective

Cele trei R: *să fim respectuoși, responsabili și reflexivi*
быть уважительным, ответственным и размышляющим

I - Innovative: thinking outside the norm and challenging the status quo

Inovativ: *a gândi în afara tiparelor și de a provoca status quo-ul*
Инновационный: *нестандартное мышление и вызов статус-кво*

T - Trustworthy: being reliable, honest and dependable

A fi de încredere: *sincer, onest și ferm*
Доверие: *быть искренним, надежным, честным*

A - Accepting: being open minded towards those different from ourselves

Acceptarea: *a fi deschis către persoanele care se diferențiază de noi.*
Принятие: *быть открытыми для людей, которые отличаются от нас.*

G - Global: reaching out to the wider world and making connections

Global: *descoperirea lumii și conectarea cu ea*
Глобальность: *познание мира*

E - Empathetic: understanding and appreciating the experience of others

Empatic: *înțelegerea și aprecierea experienței altor persoane*
Эмпатический: *понимание и признание опыта других людей*

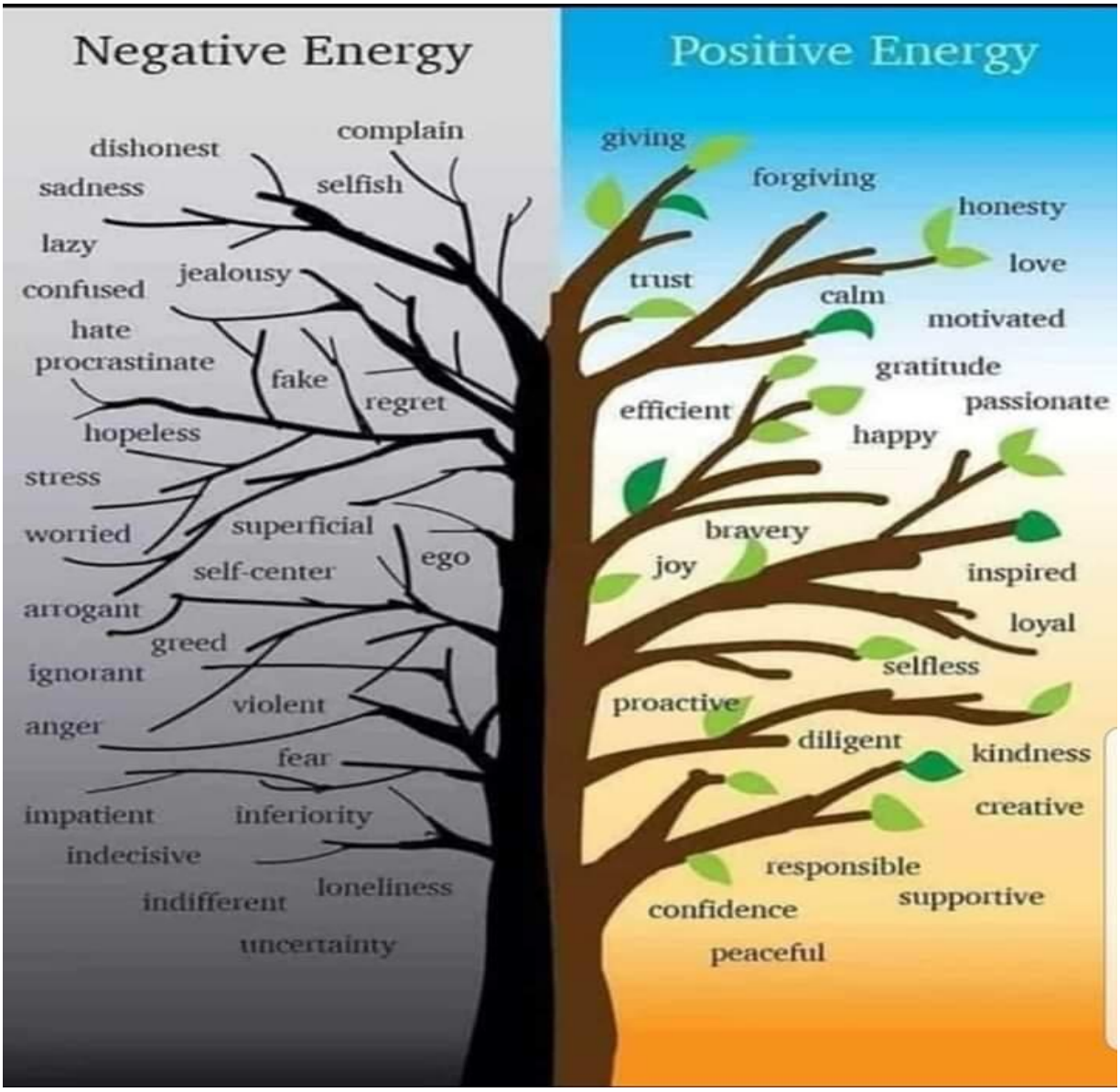
Farewell for now!
As most know, I will be taking the next few months away from Heritage in order to have a baby and enjoy this exciting time of mine and my family's life. I hope to return in Spring next year. I will miss the daily hustle and bustle of working in school and I wish everyone a meaningful and productive year.
Remember: *"You don't have to be perfect but you do have to be 100% committed" - Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez*

-Ms Rose

Upcoming events:
23rd September, Wednesday- ***1st Founders' Lecture for the new second series*** *-, H.E. Steven Fisher, UK Ambassador to Moldova*

*21st September, Monday-****UN International Peace Day***

*26th September-****European Day of Languages***



Global Education:

On the 8th of September, the world celebrated the UN World Literacy Day. Children discussed favourite books and highlighted the importance of reading in our lives.

The Banned Books Week (September 27 – October 3, 2020) is an annual event celebrating the freedom to read. Typically held during the last week of September, it spotlights current and historical attempts to censor books in libraries and schools. This event will be celebrated by the upper grade students. They will decorate their classrooms with book titles and will recommend censored books to read.

***On 28th of September**, the Climate Action project will be launched worldwide. Heritage students will have the possibility to explore the causes and effects of climate change, to try to find solutions locally and globally, they will interact with peers from around the world, will take action and bring change into their communities, as well as will send messages to Mars.*

More information about this global project here: https://www.climate-action.info/

***Great opportunity to take part in** Universal Competition of Educational Poster*

https://sites.google.com/view/unicep-onlinecompetition/

https://sites.google.com/view/unicepjunior

Clubs starting Week 3:

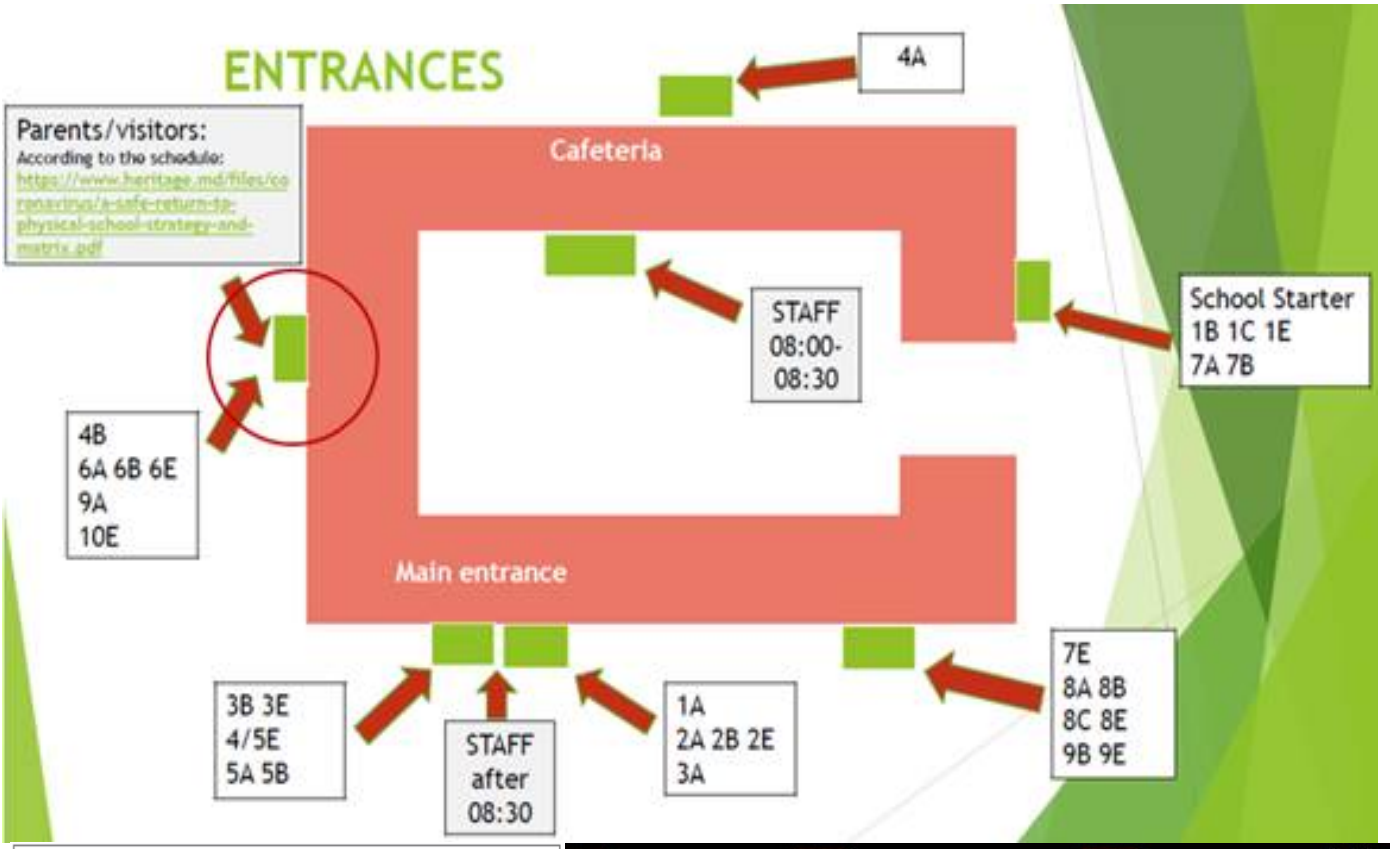
Week 3 brings school clubs, our favorite afterschool activities will take place in a different format, in each class bubbles. Each class will have activities from all areas of interest: Sport, Arts and Academic. We will be glad to offer club choice when coronavirus restrictions change, now the children can have the afterschool activities only in their class group, it will be added to the timetable and class teachers will share it on Monday.

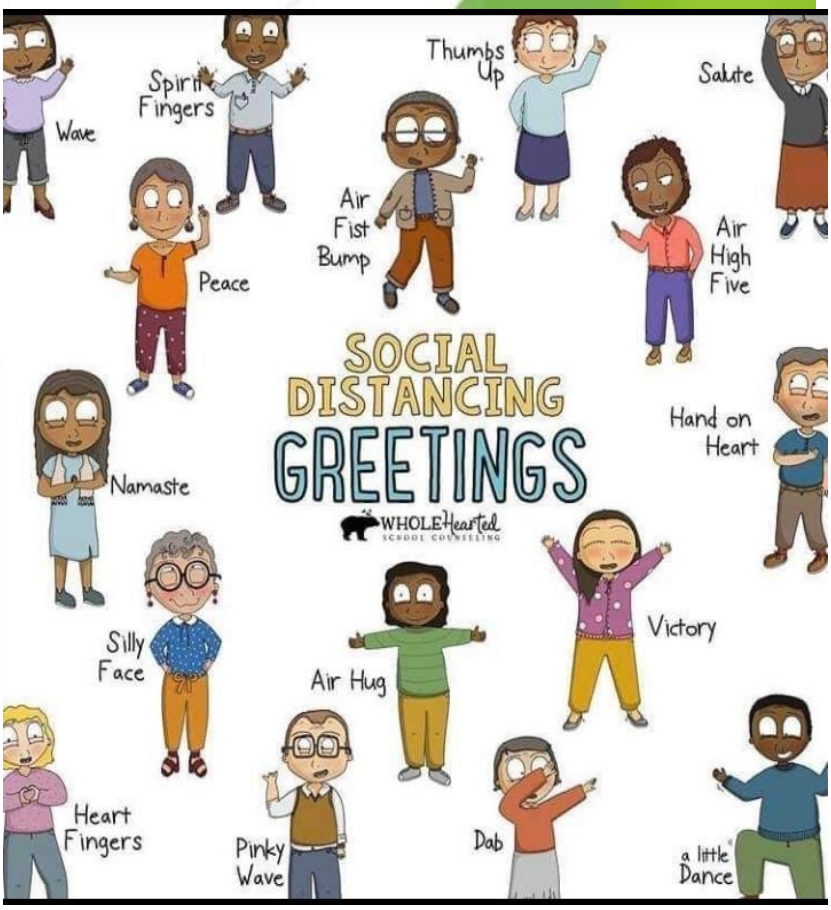
Clubs timing:16.00-17.00
Grades 1ABCE:15.00-16.00.
Grades 2E,3E,4/5E: 15.00-16.00.
Grades 5-6: 15.00-16.00.

Electronic devices for learning purposes:

Secondary school students will be expected to bring their own electronic devices for learning purposes starting September as part of a shift toward a more personalized, collaborative and tech-based learning model. Bring your own device refers to permitting students to bring personally owned mobile devices (laptops, tablets) to school, and to use those devices to access school information and appropriate applications for learning. School will not be mandating a certain type of device or model or operating system. It's up to the student and family to determine what makes them comfortable to access the learning options, a variety of learning activities and avoid sharing the school devices.
Promote good habits of using and securing the devices each day by encouraging students to use a sturdy storage case, back up all files on a regular basis and charge the battery on a nightly basis.Encourage students to keep the device secure while at school by not leaving their bag unattended.

- ***BACK TO SCHOOL IN THE NEXT NORMAL:*** *IMPORTANT RULES TO KEEP EVERYONE SAFE:* https://www.heritage.md/en/news/back-to-school-next-normal-important-rules/





Protect yourself and loved ones from coronavirus.

Wash your hands regularly with **soap** and **water**.

Cover your mouth and nose while **sneezing** or **coughing**.

Avoid close contact with anyone who has a cold or flu-like symptoms.

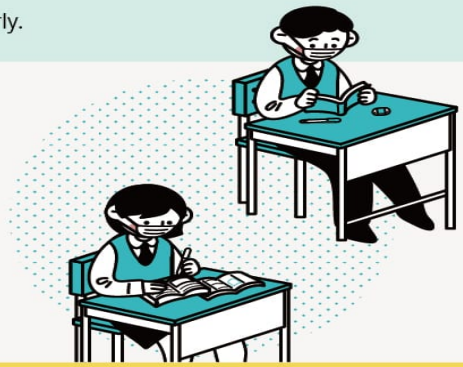
If you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing, **seek medical care early**.

unicef | for every child

A Smart School Life to Prevent COVID-19

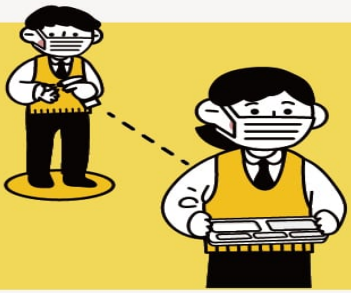
Open windows often to let fresh air in and clean your desk regularly.

- Occasionally open the windows for your health and that of your friends. Especially, do so right after arriving at school and during break, lunchtime, and clean-up time!
- Clean your own desk regularly.



This is how your school life should be:

- Always wear a mask during classes and breaks.
- Wash your hands often.
- When coughing or sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with your sleeve.
- Avoid physical contact, such as holding hands.
- Do not let others use your personal belongings.



Be considerate to your friends during lunchtime.

- In the school cafeteria, line up at double arm's length apart from each other.
- Do not talk while eating.
- Take off your face mask right before eating your meal and put it back on immediately after.

If you are feeling ill, tell your teacher.

- If you have fever, sore throat, cough, or runny nose, tell your teacher right away.
- If your friend becomes a confirmed case, do not panic; just follow your teacher's instructions.

교육부

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