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ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL

Directors: Mrs R Smith and Mrs J Gardiner
Headteacher: Ms S Dangerfield

9th January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you had a great Christmas and wish you a Happy New Year. As always, we wanted to let you know our plans for this Half Term. If you would like to support your child's learning at home, we thought it would be helpful for you to have a more detailed idea of what we are learning about.

Core Subjects

English GCSE and Unit Awards

We begin the year with some mock exams in English where students will encounter a Language Paper 2 and a Literature task. The Language Paper assesses their ability to read and respond to two non-fiction texts whereas the Literature task will be based on A Christmas Carol and Macbeth. GCSE students will encounter a mock paper where they write an essay on each of these texts and the AQA Unit Awards students will write their own summary of the texts.

If you would like to direct your child to the site below there are plenty of revision opportunities on there.

After that we will continue to revise the language skills needed for success in GCSE exams and study the final poems from our collection on the theme of power and conflict.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zcbchv4>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zxqncwx>

Maths GCSE and Entry Level Certificate

Year 11 students will have 2 GCSE Maths mocks in the week commencing 13/1 as part of the week of mock exams. The Maths mocks will comprise of a non-calculator and a calculator paper. As well as revision resources given by the class teacher to students, additional resources, questions and quizzes are available on BBC Bitesize (see link below) and also Seneca. Homework for Year 11 students this term will be to revise for the upcoming GCSE exams in the summer.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z9p3mnb>

<https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/>

After the mock exams we will continue with covering topics from the syllabus and begin our revision for the GCSE exams.

Science GCSE

This half-term Year 11 will be finishing the Physics aspect of the GCSE with the Forces, Electromagnetism and Waves topics. We will also be spending time reviewing the results of Mock exams and identifying areas of development.

Revision resources are available on the students google classroom page, but additional resources, questions and quizzes are available on BBC Bitesize (see link below). Students can also access revision quizzes on the website Seneca Learning and have assignments set on their class tab. Students have been shown how to access this and I would like students to be completing a minimum of 30 minutes of this per week.

BBC Bitesize: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z8r997h>

Seneca learning: <https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/>

PSHE

We will cover some independent living skills in PSHE lessons this term as well as the Sexual health unit as part of the healthy relationships curriculum.

Philosophy and Ethics

This half term we will be starting revision and exam practice. We will be focusing on Islam and Christianity and using past exam questions to refine written techniques. All materials are available on Google Classroom so students can access these at home.

Option Subjects

Art

In Art GCSE, Year 11s will be starting their externally set exam, which will be released in January. They will confidently follow the same approach to a new project by critically analysing the work of other artists, recreating work in their style, creating observational drawings and their own photography before developing their ideas into a final piece.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z8nq6rd>

ASDAN Short Courses (Animal Care)

Students will continue to work on their chosen short course option this half term. They will complete a range of tasks and activities, submit tasks on the e-portfolio and achieve more credits.

Useful websites: <https://www.rspca.org.uk/>

ASDAN PSE

We are coming to the end of this course so we are gathering portfolios together to submit.

Computer Science GCSE Option

In the next week the students will be completing their main mocks examinations and the results from this will then drive the areas of content that we will focus our revision on most over the next half term.

We will also be continuing with our computer programming work to get ready to design some final project code during the second half of this term.

Practical PE

In practical PE this half term year 11 students will be developing skills learnt last academic year focusing on unihoc (indoor hockey) and honing their ability to apply tactical concepts such as attacking and defending through a range of adapted and hybrid Games.

GCSE PE

Students will have a mock paper during mock week in January, will finish their coursework and practical assessments this half term. In classroom based lessons they will look at sports coaching and sport as a business.

ASDAN PE/PE AQA Unit Awards

This half term in year 11 ASDAN PE students will be learning about sports coaching and sports business as well as how sport impacts global warming and the environment. They will also review any unfinished tasks and

Drama

This half term, using GCSE set texts, we will be developing our social and characterisation skills through script work and Improvisation.

College Courses

Catering, Construction and Hair & Beauty - will continue as usual.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns please do make contact.

Mrs R Jones