

11th November 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

Please find enclosed the first progress report for your son/daughter. The format of the grades is consistent with previous reports and we hope you find it useful and informative. The target grade is set for the end of Year 11 and ought to be a challenging but realistic target based largely on KS2 data. Where a student was exceeding a target on their end of Year 10 report, the target has been increased. The emerging grade is the grade they are currently on track to achieve at the end of Year 11. A plus (e.g. 7+) denotes a small chance that a student may achieve the grade above; a minus (e.g. 7-) denotes a small chance of a drop to the grade below.

It is essential that students start such an important year in the best way possible and we have been extremely impressed with the attitude of our Year 11s in the first half-term. Early preparation and a determination to succeed is extremely important in enabling your child to achieve exam results next summer of which they will be proud.

With mock exams taking place in a few weeks, please take the time to discuss this report with your child and consider how best to encourage them in their approach and preparation. It's really important that students have a clear idea of the grade they are on track to achieve following each Progress Report.

Mock Examinations

Details of the English Language and Literature mocks are on the timetables students have already received. If for any reason they no longer have theirs, please ask them to visit the Exams Office in B block for a replacement at break or lunch. Students will receive an exam timetable nearer the time showing all other Mock Examinations, the majority of which will take place from 11th – 22nd December.

At this stage, your child should ideally be well under-way with their revision programme. All students have been given a blank Revision Timetable via Form Tutors for them to plan their daily revision slots as well as other commitments and ensure they have a good spread of subjects during the week. They have also received a slightly smaller Revision Planner, where we are encouraging students to commit to the revision classes they need/want to attend at lunch and after-school each week. Please encourage them to show these things to you – parents often like a copy for the fridge and this can be a useful method of encouraging your child to stick to a programme. Personal Learning Checklists can be found on the website under Curriculum and are a useful tool to guide students to their less secure areas for revision.

Parents' Evening

Please remember that is Year 11 Parents' Evening on Thursday 23rd November from 4.30pm – 7.30pm. It will take place in the Sports Hall and Studio, and all teaching staff will have a revision resource or strategy for you to work on at home with your child. This is an excellent opportunity for you to get specific and focused feedback on where your child is at in every subject. Please make the most of it and we will look forward to seeing you there.

Tassomai Science

As you are aware all our Year 11s are currently subscribed to Tassomai and should be completing 5% per week, which has been set as homework on Show My Homework. Please encourage your child to get into a routine to ensure they complete the tests, even if their progress is slow. The aim of the programme is to drill core knowledge for Science, and the results from both our school and others across the country who used the programme in 2017 were quite staggering. We are extremely grateful to those parents who have been able to make the voluntary contribution of £20. If your child is benefiting from Tassomai and you can afford to do so, we would still be very grateful if you could log on to Parent Pay as per the original letter and make the contribution.

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The Revision Room

This is continuing to run every Monday and Wednesday in the Library 3:15 – 4:45pm – drink and snack provided. It's been great to see so many students taking the opportunity to complete an hour and a half of high-quality revision – if your child is not completing revision at home, please encourage them to attend. The session is staffed by SLT and students work in silent/very quiet conditions.

May I take this opportunity to wish your child every success this year – please encourage them to speak to their subject teachers, Mr Thompson or myself if they have any queries about the upcoming mocks. Please address any curriculum queries about individual reports to subject teachers or the Head of Faculty in the first instance, whose email addresses can be found on the school website under Curriculum.

Yours faithfully,



Miss N Dixon
Assistant Headteacher
Raising Standards and Aspiration