

Year 11 Newsletter



Issue 1

October 2009



Subject Information

Maths

Mr Mason, Deputy Headteacher, spoke to all students at the start of term about the pleasing Unit 1 results that many had achieved. Every student was then given information by their class teacher comparing their Unit 1 result with their target grade. Unit 1 is the easiest of the modules, so students should have some marks in reserve at this stage, ideally having achieved one grade above target in Unit 1.

The next Unit 2 module examinations are on Friday November 13th.

All students will sit a 30 minute Unit 2 Stage 1 non-calculator multiple choice test

Students in 11w1a, 11w1 and 11g1 also have the 30 minute Unit 2 Stage 2 written paper which the rest of the year group will sit on Tuesday March 2nd.

Revision Countdown to November 13th

Every week a new interactive practice multiple choice test is published on the VLE. Students can see their results immediately and link directly to revision resources. Printed multiple choice tests are available for students without internet access. Students sitting the Stage 2 exam also have plenty of past papers to practice.

MathsWatch CDs

MathsWatch CDs containing video clips and worksheets have proved an exceptionally popular revision resource with successful students over the last 2 years.

These CDs are only available for purchase through a school and we currently have a limited stock available for £3 each. CDs can be bought at the **GCSE Maths Revision club which runs every Thursday evening in G11 from 3pm to 4pm.**

English

GCSE English exam in January

The exam is worth 60% of the final mark, coursework is worth 20% and speaking and listening is worth 20%.

Paper 1 will be on the 11th January 2010. Paper 2 will be on the 19th January 2010.

Paper one focuses on non-fiction and media and writing to inform, explain, describe.

Paper two focuses on a novel (either *Old Man and the Sea* or six short stories from other cultures), writing to analyse, review and comment and writing to argue, persuade and advise.

How to support your child

Encourage them to read a wide variety of newspaper articles and discuss with you (in their own words) what the article is about. You can encourage your son/daughter to consider the presentational devices used in articles such as headings, images and different fonts and how they help the article target its audience.

Past papers can be found on the OCR website, along with mark schemes and examiner's reports which your son/daughter can use to practice their exam technique. (http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/type/l_gcse/english/english/documents/index.aspx)

Coursework

The deadline for this was June. The folder should consist of a short story (students may choose what they write about), Shakespeare (*Romeo and Juliet*), Poetry (*London* and *Composed upon Westminster Bridge*) and Prose (*Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* or Edgar Allan Poe's short stories or selected Sherlock Holmes stories). Your son/daughter will be aware what coursework is missing and to what extent their coursework is on target.

Speaking and Listening

These are orchestrated in class. If there are any issues regarding speaking and listening tasks your son/daughter should speak to me as soon as possible.

GCSE English Literature

Will be sat in June 2010 and further information will be given about this exam closer to the time.

Science

Key module dates

Double Science - Monday 25th January 2010—A215 Module test (B4, C4, P4)

Retakes - A211 (B1, C1, P1) - 14th January. A212 (B2, C2, P2) - 18th January.
A213 (B3, C3, P3) - 20th January

Triple Science - A221 (B1, B2, B3) - 14th January. A321 (C1, C2, C3) - 18th
Retakes January. A331 (P1, P2, P3) - 20th January

ICT:

- After half term, all year 11 students are due to start the **final unit of BTEC**. This unit will be due in April and it is worth one third of the overall Double GCSE in ICT.
- Mr Benzid's and Mr Garara's year 11 classes are due to hand in their Database course work this week.
- All students are reminded that **ICT club** is up and running again and this is every lunch time in C1. This provides students with an opportunity to catch up with any coursework and to also seek extra help if required.

Thanks! Miss Doherty (Assistant Headteacher 14-19)