

Year 11 Newsletter ~ Edition 2 Thursday 19th October 2023

What a first half term!

I would like to start off by congratulating you all on an excellent start to Year 11. I have been very impressed with your maturity and attitude towards preparing for the trial exams. You should now have received your trial exam timetables and will be able use this to prioritise your revision plan. In the exams section of this newsletter there is information about how families can support students in Year 11.

The interact programme is fully running and teachers are pleased with attendance at the sessions. A copy of the interact programme is included in this newsletter and your form tutors can provide you with more detailed information on the topics to be covered each week.

Exciting news

This year we are launching a new stepping stone in our Purple Tie Programme. The Junior Leadership Team (JLT) have chosen to call this new step *Powering to Purple* and to achieve this students will be required to achieve a positive progress score and also achieve English (either language or literature) and Maths at their band level. This is called the "basics". Progress levels and band levels are based on student achievement in their SATs at the end of Key Stage 2. Students are expected to make progress based on their SATs scores and that progress is then measured in a P8 score. A positive

number signifies that students have made more than expected progress and are on target; Negative P8 is when a student is not making expected progress across all their subjects. The JLT have agreed the privileges to be awarded to all students achieving their Powering to Purple and Purple Tie and these will be shared in the assembly tomorrow.

IT

During October half term our IT Team will be making some major infrastructure improvements and merging several systems together so you end up with one username/password for your computer, for our cloud Office365 system (e-mail, teams, file storage) and for Edulink.

During half term there will be some disruption to systems. The plan is to migrate to a central IT system which means you should have a smaller number of logins as we constantly strive to have a single login for all our IT services.

How does this effect students?

- We will be changing student login details, however your password for Office 365 will remain the same.
- To access homework in Teams or to e-mail a teacher over half term, please use your new login details.
- We will be e-mailing students separately with instructions essentially their new username will be intake year, 1st initial, surname @abbey.college, <u>23jbloggs@abbey.college</u> for example
- We will be migrating the current Shared drives & areas to a relevant Team as well. You will be able to access them from anywhere with an internet connection

It is extremely important to us that you find this newsletter a valuable means of communication in supporting you and your families throughout this stressful and demanding year. If you have any comments of suggestions regarding the content of the newsletter, then please do not hesitate to contact me.

If you have any questions or concerns then please do not hesitate to contact your form tutor or myself.

I hope you all have a restful and relaxing half term and return to school re-energised and ready for the start of the Trial Exams on the 13th November!

Miss A Beel

Year 11 Raising Standards Lead

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Exams



Only 24 days until the Trial 1 exams begin!

Students will be receiving their exam timetables this week and I have included a copy of the timetable in this section of the newsletter. Everyone should now have a revision plan and a selection of revision resources to use in their exam preparations.

Year 11 is also a stressful year for parents. Mood swings and outbursts are more likely to occur during this period. Look out for other signs that your child may be struggling, including poor sleep patterns or a change in appetite or behaviour.

It's worth preparing ways of supporting your child during exam weeks and the following is a list of some ideas that you may find useful over the half term break and in the run up to the trial exams:

- Work with your child to find what revision style works for them.
- Encourage your child to take revision breaks and find a balance between studying and doing things they find enjoyable and relaxing.
- Make sure they are eating and drinking at regular intervals.
- Encourage them to take some time after revising to wind down.
- Reassure them reinforce that you are and will be proud of them no matter what happens.

- Remain positive and hopeful!
- Plan a treat or an activity together to mark the end of the exams.
- Set aside one to one time so that they can talk to you about any worries.
- Let them know their feelings are valid and normal, but also offer support and solutions where possible.
- Anxiety is often worst at night and this means it is useful to encourage a good bedtime routine.
- Work with them to develop relaxation techniques.
- If anxiety and stress start impacting their day-to-day life, seek help from your GP.

	Friday 17th			
Start Time	Exam	Rooms	Length	Seat No
9.00am	Biology Triples – Higher	North Hall or	1hr 45mins	Natalie
	Biology – Trilogy	Exhibition Hall	1hr 15mins	
1.10pm	Computer Science – Paper 1	North Hall	1hr 30mins	
	Monday 20 th			1
Start Time	Exam	Rooms	Length	Seat No
9.00am	Maths Foundation	North Hall	1hr 30mins	Natalie
	Maths Higher	or	1hr 30mins	
	Calculator Paper 2	Exhibition Hall		
1.10pm	History & Crime & Punishment	North Hall	1hr 15mins	
	Tuesday 21 st			
Start Time	Exam	Rooms	Length	Seat No
9.00am	Chemistry Triples – Higher	North Hall or	1hr 45mins	Natalie
	Chemistry – Trilogy	Exhibition Hall	1hr 15mins	
1.10pm	Computer Science – Paper 2	North Hall	1hr 30mins	
	Wednesday 22	nd November		
Start Time	Exam	Rooms	Length	Seat No
9.00am	Maths Foundation	North Hall or	1hr 30mins	
	Maths Higher	Exhibition Hall	1hr 30mins	
	Calculator Paper 3			
1.10pm	Psychology	North Hall	1hr 45mins	
	Thursday 23"	November		
Start Time	Exam	Rooms	Length	Seat No
9.00am	Physics Triples – Higher	North Hall or	1hr 45mins	
	Physics - Trilogy	Exhibition Hall	1hr 15mins	
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1.10pm	Sports Studies – paper 2	North Hall	1hr	
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	Friday 24 th I			
Start Time	Exam	Rooms	Length	Seat No
9.00am	History – Weimar & Nazi Germany	North Hall	1hr 20mins	
	ICT – paper 1	North Hall	1hr 10mins	1

	Monday 13 th N	lovember		
Start Time		Rooms Allocated	Length	Seat N
9.00am	English Language	North Hall or Exhibition Hall	2hr 5 mins	Natalie
	Non-Fiction & Transactional Writing	Exhibition Hall		
1.10pm	History - Henry VIII	North Hall	55 mins	
	Tuesday 14 th I	November		
Start Time	Exam	Rooms Allocated	Length	Seat N
9.00am	Spanish – Higher Writing	North Hall	1hr 20mins	Natalie
	Spanish – Foundation Writing	North Hall	1hr 05mins	
1.10pm	Geography	North Hall	1hr 30mins	
	Wednesday 15 ^{tt}	November		
Start Time	Exam	Rooms Allocated	Length	Seat N
9.00am	Maths Foundation	North Hall or	1hr 30mins	Natalie
	Maths Higher	Exhibition Hall	1hr 30mins	
	Non-Calculator Paper 1			
1.10pm	Spanish – Reading & Listening (higher)	Exhibition Hall	1hr 45mins	
	Spanish – Reading & Listening	North Hall	1hr 20mins	
	(foundation)			
	Thursday 16 th	November		
Start Time	Exam	Rooms Allocated	Length	Seat N
9.00am	Moral & Spiritual	North Hall or	2hrs	Natalie
	(153)	Exhibition Hall		
1.10pm	Drama	North Hall	1hr 45mins	
	Sport Studies – paper 1	North Hall	1hr	

Interact

YEAR 11 OOP INTERACT PROGRAMME								
<u>Day</u>	<u>Subject</u>	Club	Time	Location				
Monday	Drama and Music	GCSE Support/ Rehearsals	Afterschool	Frank Burton Building				
wonday	Art and 3D Design	GCSE/Coursework Support	Afterschool	T06				
(Week B)	English	GCSE Enhancement	After School	GB06/GB07				
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	Spanish	GCSE Support	Afterschool	S15				
	Maths	Grade 7+ (By invitation)	After School	M06				
Tuesday	Maths	GCSE Higher	After School	M08				
	Maths	GCSE Foundation	After School	T09/M06				
	Health and Social Care	Coursework Support	After School	IT04				
(Week A)	English	GCSE Enhancement	After School	GB06/GB07				
	Art and 3D Design	GCSE/Coursework Support	Afterschool	T06				
	Chemistry	GCSE Support	Afterschool	Science				
	Physics	GCSE Support	After School	Science				
Wednesday	History - Targeted	GCSE - Topics to improve	After school	Study 6				
	ІСТ	Unit 2 Support	After School	ME01				
	Engineering	Coursework/Practical Support	Lunchtime	T12				
	MO	GCSE Support	After School	GH2				
Friday	Psychology	GCSE Support	Lunchtime	GH11				

We have already launched the Abbey College Offers and Opportunities Programme (**OOP**); The Year 11 element will continue to be known as *Interact* and sessions are now running. These after school teacher supported sessions and are a great way for our students to receive additional support, get help with their revision and improve their grades. It is proven that regular attendance at these sessions will support students in improving their grades during Year 11. A copy of the programme is

included in this section of the newsletter, if you have any questions then please contact your subject teacher in the first instance.

Our expectation is that *every Year 11 student* will attend a minimum of *2 sessions* every week. Students should sign up for sessions through Edulink, further details on how to access Edulink are contained in this newsletter. We would request that parents also support and encourage their child to attend. They are a great way of earning "Purples"!

Every student has been issued with a loyalty card; every time a student attends an interact session they should ask their teacher to sign the card. Once they achieve 6 signatures, take the card to Miss Beel and she will add on a *Purple*.

We look forward to seeing you at the Interact sessions!

Next Steps





Mrs Pollard has now started meeting with Year 11 students. Over the course of the next term Mrs Pollard will meet with every student to discuss Next Steps, supporting students in college and Sixth Form applications and offering advice and guidance on careers and course available. It would be helpful if students can think about what career and/or courses they would be interested in pursuing after their GCSEs and in readiness for their careers meeting.

Should you or your child have any questions, concerns or need any information about Next Steps, please ask them to contact the Careers Team, Mrs Pollard <u>lesley.pollard@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk</u> or Ms Wilson <u>cwilson@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk</u>

Alternatively students may pop in to the Careers office at break or lunchtime. This is now located upstairs in the Garden Block.

Edulink



EdulinkOne is a purpose-built parental communication tool in the form of an iOS and Android App. At Abbey College, we are keen to maintain good and immediate communication between families and school. This new facility will keep you and your parents up to date with information including your timetable, homework, achievements, behavioural issues and lesson attendance. Edulink was launched to parents earlier this year, students now also have access to the system.

To access this new tool you will need to either:

Search for EdulinkOne from the Apple App Store or Google play store and install the app to a mobile device - you can have it on more than one device if you wish. Once installed, the school code is **acr** and use the micorsoft button to log in with your **school account** and then follow the instructions in the app to complete your setup.

You can also access the app via the EdulinkOne website, there is a link on your school desktop or you can click on <u>https://www.edulinkone.com/#!/login</u>

EdulinkOne uses your school login, click on the microsoft button and it will automatically log in. At home please make sure you click on the Microsoft button and enter your school email and password.

If you have any problems accessing edulinkOne then please e-mail <u>help@cmatsupport.com</u> clearly advising your name, school and school e-mail and details of the issue.

Welfare Information



Revision Guides



Revision guides are an extremely valuable aid to revision and are now available to order in school. The books recommended by Subject Lead are included on the order form and this will be shared with parents via parentmail. If you want to order any books then please print and complete the form, alternately you can come to the Year 11 Office to collect an order form.

Orders should be placed in a sealed envelope and can be posted in the red post box next to Student Support Hub in the reception area. Orders are placed on the *first of every month*. You will be advised when deliveries are ready for collection through form time notices and the weekly newsletter.

Please speak to your class teacher or Miss Beel if you have any questions regarding revision guides or other revision material.

Diary Dates



19th October 2023 ~ Ramsey Gatehouse Sixth Form Open Evening and Careers Fair 4:30 - 7:30pm

13th November 2023 ~ Trial 1 Exams commence

Week commencing 18th December 2023 ~ Trial 1 Exam Results Release Event and Celebrating Success Assembly

11th January 2024 ~ Year 11 Targeted Virtual Parent Teacher Meeting 4:20 - 6pm

26th February 2024 ~ Trial 2 Exams commence

Week commencing 15th April 2024 ~ Trial 2 Exam Results Release Event and Celebrating Success Assembly

4th July 2024 ~ Year 11 Prom!