



Sapere Aude

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11th November 2016

Dear Parents/guardians/carers

As we head towards the end of the Michaelmas term, it is difficult to believe that our Year 11s are now within six months of their GCSE examinations.

The mock examinations, that are scheduled to take place in the weeks beginning 28th November and 5th December, are a key staging post in the process of preparation for the summer examinations. It has been great to hear how many of our pupils have been following their own revision schedule and using various techniques to allow them to best prepare for the mock examinations. Please continue to support your son/daughter in preparing for the examinations by discussing their revision timetable with them. We have advised Year 11 pupils to leave mobile phone and electronic devices to charge overnight outside their bedrooms and they should not have their phone during their home revision sessions.

The pupils will receive the mock examination results in an assembly on Monday 19th December. We would encourage you to discuss the detail of these results with our son/daughter, to celebrate successes and to recognise where improvements can be made in their remaining study time. Parents are invited to attend a results clinic on Tuesday 20th December, 3.00-5.00pm, when they will be able to discuss any concerns they may have following the mock examination results.

For those pupils who have underperformed in their mock examinations, we will be asking for your support in attending meetings with myself and Mr Williams, early in the new year. This will give an opportunity to reflect on and ensure lessons are learnt from the mock examination process. Additionally, we will provide the opportunity for underperforming pupils to re-sit their examinations after if this would be a supportive measure.

Prior to the Christmas break, during the week beginning, Monday 12th December, we will be running a programme of study around ICT. This will provide every pupil in Year 11 with the opportunity to gain a further qualification in ICT which will support them in 6th Form applications and employability.

The mock examinations have deliberately scheduled prior to the Christmas break to allow pupils to enjoy the holiday period. However, the school does not return until 9th January, so please encourage your child to begin their final revision in the early days of the new year prior to returning to school. Pupils will be provided with a template revision timetable prior to the Christmas break with the expectation it will be completed by their return in January.




We would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that the deadline for applying for a place at our increasingly popular and successful 6th Form is 31st January 2017. If you require any information about the courses on offer then please contact Miss Graham, kgr@tbowa.org

For your information, the Year 11 Parents' Evening will be held on Tuesday 7th February from 4.00pm. The Year 11 Prom will be held on Thursday 29th June, an event to look forward to.

Year 11 is a busy and stressful year for pupils and their parents. We do try to minimise this. However, there is no avoiding the hard work required to secure success. We are here to both support and challenge our pupils as they prepare for final exams. Staff are readily available to offer both academic and pastoral support. If there is any more we can do to help further, please feel free to contact us at TBOWA.

Best wishes



Paul McKeown
Principal