



30 March 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

As we come to the end of a very busy half term, I would like to acknowledge the excellent manner in which all of our students have conducted themselves through their last set of mock exams. All students received their results in a sealed envelope during Monday's assembly and experienced the emotions, both good and bad, when opening. For some of our students, their hard work both in lessons and independently has been rewarded with a strong set of results to build on in the final weeks leading up to their actual GCSE exams. Whilst for others, a sense of disappointment was felt with results some way off where they need to be in the summer to fulfil their post-16 ambition. Our students now need to use these mixed emotions as their drive to either consolidate and improve on good grades, or to ensure they now put in the work both at school and independently during the Easter break to improve on these in the summer.

Our tutors have worked hard with their tutees this week, reflecting on the mock exam process, their personal revision strategies and allocation of time to independent study at home, encouraging students to be honest, in order that where needed changes and improvement can be made. I ask for your support in following up these conversations and ensuring that actions are followed through with, particularly as an increase in engagement with effective independent study is likely to be one of the most valuable things a Year 11 student can do to improve their outcomes.

Mr Stanley and myself will be speaking to all students during period 5 on Friday, before they leave for the Easter break, regarding how to approach their revision over Easter, the importance of independent study during this time and how this fits within their revision plan for the final 6 weeks before their actual exams begin. Please direct your child to the Year 11 area of our school website where their subject teachers have posted revision information and tips - <http://heanorgatespencer.com/year-11-information/>

Easter school is offering a Science revision session on Monday 3 April 9am-12 noon, open to all students which will take place in F Block, plus an English Literature revision session on Thursday 6 April 9am-12 noon, open to all students which will take place in D/E Block. Open sessions are limited due to availability of staff, please encourage your child to attend both of these sessions as part of their holiday revision. Separate correspondence will be sent out on Friday to students invited to targeted intervention groups. Additionally, on Friday you will receive your child's final report, including their end of Year 11 projections which will hopefully inform the conversations encouraged previously.

With only 4 school weeks left before the summer exams begin, now more than ever, your support is crucial in ensuring your child puts in the time and effort needed to ensure they get the results they need to enable them to move onto the post-16 option of their choice. Whilst we always try to ensure students find a balance between work and recharging their batteries, the emphasis during the Easter break must be on independent revision in identified subject areas.

Details of wave 3 after school intervention for the final 4 school weeks following Easter will be sent out towards the end of the Easter break. As with the past intervention waves, if your child is timetabled for an after-school intervention session, we expect them to attend and will be addressing any absences as a priority.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy Easter and once again thank you for your continued support for the Year 11 team.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Boyles
Achievement Leader - Year 11