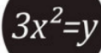


## Year 11 Curriculum Newsletter Spring Term 1

### Maths


$$3x^2=y$$

**What are we studying?** We will be focusing mainly on topics that students are still finding a bit tricky as identified from the mock papers. These topics will be different for every class - depending on their needs. Higher students will also learn about vectors and geometric proof, as well as transforming graphs. Foundation students will be revisiting topics that they haven't done in a while, and/or exam style questions which involves solving/interpreting in different contexts.

**Assessment:** No formal assessments this half term. Students will be doing exam practice in lessons every 2-3 weeks.

**How can parents help?** Students will have been given a PLC (Personalised Learning Checklist) which outlines all strengths and weaknesses for every individual student. Their class teacher will be setting home learning on Hegarty based on their weaknesses, therefore it will be very helpful if parents could encourage them to engage with all tasks set on Hegarty.

### English



**What are we studying?** Language Paper 2 (2 weeks); as with our study of Paper 1, we will walk students through P2 explicitly teaching the skills. We will quickly re-read A Christmas Carol then revise themes, characters, learn quotations and practise exam questions.

**Assessment:** Ongoing formative feedback; spring mocks are on Language Paper 1 and for Literature just one question on A Christmas Carol.

**How can parents help?** Please ensure your child brings all of their equipment, including a copy of the text, with them to lessons and that they revise ahead of the spring mocks.

### Science



**What are we doing this half term?:** You will be continuing your studies of Biology, Chemistry and Physics, working through paper 2 topics this half term to prepare for the second round of mocks. Different classes will be working on slightly different content, but all will focus on the topics that will be assessed in the mocks. Homework will mainly focus on production of revision resources and then practising exam style questions.

**How can parents help?:** Ensure your child has correct equipment such as a pen, a pencil, ruler and their own scientific calculator. Students need to start bringing their revision guides to lessons towards the end of this term. These books are an invaluable resource for your child's revision. It is also very helpful if you can monitor your child's homework. They should be attempting all questions and looking up the answers in their revision guides or books if they are unsure of the answers. It is also good practice for students to look at the number of marks a question is worth and ensure they have written an answer with the same number of points in it.

### Business & Enterprise

**What are we doing this Half Term (Spring 2024),** Within 'Business and Enterprise' all students will be completing their Non-Examed Assessment portion of the NCFE course (this is known as the Synoptic Project). This project will account for 60% of their final grade, with the remaining 40% being awarded through the written exam in the Summer Term. Due to the timing and work required to complete this project the students will not have a scheduled 'Business and Enterprise' Mock Exam in February/March but they will do a Practice Paper, in class, once the Synoptic Project is completed, towards the end of the Spring Term.

Students will be given a Case Study/Project Brief on a fictional business, they will then be given a set number of hours to complete this Assessment, broken down into individual Task sections, with each section having an allocated time allowed for completion – This is all detailed in the Project Brief Instructions. The first section is the Action Plan, with students planning their time and identify resources required to complete the Project – To complete this, students will need to review all work complete within the 8 Content Area (and Workbooks) studied over the course. Students will also be required to maintain a Leaner Log documenting time and resources used during the completion of the Project.

All work is to be completed digitally, via Microsoft Office 365 (or other Software) and students have been advised to locate any free-to-use Business Plan templates available to download.

### PE -GCSE



**Final year for GCSE PE -** In Spring 1 students will continue developing their PEP coursework by starting/finishing their evaluation section. We will continue learning about sport psychology unit, before introducing the socio-cultural influences unit for Paper 2. They will continue to practice theory exam technique. They will also consolidate skills in isolation and game application for their practical moderation. We will be looking to complete moderations for Football/Netball/Badminton/Athletics.

**How can parents help -** Actively assist with their revision and continue to support their use of The EverLearner online resources together with Seneca, and online flashcard on Brainscape.

## History



**What will we be doing?** Year 11 students will this term be finishing of their studies of Elizabeth. Looking at Mary Queen of Scots, the invasion of the Spanish Armada and the Puritan threat to Elizabeth. We will be working on course content as well as skills needed to evaluate sources and answer exam questions. This will bring us to the end of the GCSE course, after which we can focus on revision of previous units.

**Assessment:** End of unit Elizabeth exam style paper. The mock after half term will be on Nazi Germany.

**What can parents do to help?** Encourage wider reading and watching of History films and documentaries. Visit Hampton Court Palace to find out more about Elizabeth and the Tudors. Encourage use of the revision textbook and revision tasks.

## Geography



**What are we doing this half term?** GCSE Geography students will be studying Natural Hazards.

**Assessments:** An end of topic written assessment, short and long answer questions, based on past GCSE exam questions. They will cover all of the assessment objectives. These skills will be continually practiced over the course of the GCSE. AO1: Demonstrate knowledge of locations AO2: Demonstrate geographical understanding of: concepts and the interrelationships between places. AO3: Interpret, analyse and evaluate geographical information and issues. AO4: Use a variety of skills to investigate questions and communicate findings.

**How can parents help?** Ensure your child has the correct equipment such as a pencil, ruler, glue, scissors and a green pen for peer and self-assessment. Students will be given a revision help sheet at the start of each new topic, and should be encouraged to complete revision notes at the end of each week's lessons, so they are producing them in manageable detailed chunks. Please assist students in keeping their revision folders organised and with detailed notes and diagrams. Use GCSE Pod and Time for Geography to consolidate knowledge. Students should be revising work from Y10 and Y11 a minimum of once a week.

## Computer Science



**What are we doing this half term?:** The students will be revising the GCSE topics that they struggled with on the November mock exam. The focus for this will be on topics 3 and 4 (hardware, software and networks). They will continue to practice their programming skills by creating complex programs that incorporate the advanced programming techniques that they have learnt about.

**How can parents help?:** Parents can make sure that their child is revising and preparing for the next mock exam. Students need to spend 45 minutes a week practising their programming skills.

## Art



**What are we doing this half term?:** Our GCSE Art & Design students begin their ESA project based on a theme set by the exam board this term. This project is worth 40% of their final GCSE grade. Students produce their final outcome for this project in their 10 hour GCSE Art & Design exam in April. Students are assessed against the following objectives: AO1 Developing Ideas, AO2 Experiment & Refine, AO3 Recording Ideas, AO4 Present. These assessment objectives are equally weighted and students are graded holistically based on all the work they complete.

**How can parents help?:** Please ensure that your child is consistently working towards their weekly deadlines to stay up to date with this project. Students are expected to be spending at least 3-4 hours a week working on their project home outside our timetabled lessons. A space for students to work on their artwork during evenings and weekends is an excellent way to support their progression. Students purchase a pack of materials at the beginning of the course but if parents are able to also purchase acrylic paints for students to also use at home, this would be a really supportive measure to ensure that coursework can be completed both at home and at school. If parents are also able to support students in visiting different museums and galleries and engaging in conversations about artworks, this is a great way to prepare them for and support them throughout the GCSE course.

## Drama



**What are we doing this half term?:** Year 11 are working on their Text in Action assessment in anticipation of their assessment by a visiting examiner on the 6th February. Students will perform two key extracts from their given text, or work as a designer with a group. Students will refine their performance skills, learn their lines fluently to complete their final assessed performance.

**Assessments:** Performance of their text to visiting examiner and completion of their Devising coursework.

**Help at home?:** Please support your child to complete their improvements on coursework. Help your child learn their lines for their performance exam.

## French



**What are we studying?** We will finish the course with the world of work (jobs, work experience & future plans.) We will then briefly revisit all topic areas & do exam-style questions in all skills in preparation for the GCSE exam.

**Assessment:** Mock speaking exams at the start of January. Mock exams are in Reading/Listening/Writing in Feb.

**How can parents help?** Ensure your child knows the day and time of the Mock speaking. They should be regularly rehearsing answers. Revise vocab & phrases from the AQA vocab book & use the purple workbook.

## Spanish



**What are we studying?** We will finish the course with the world of work( jobs, work experience & future plans.) We will then briefly revisit all topic areas & do exam-style questions in all skills in preparation for the GCSE exam.

**Assessment:** Mock speaking exams at the start of January. Mock exams are in Reading/Listening/Writing in Feb.

**How can parents help?** Ensure your child knows the day and time of the Mock speaking. They should be regularly rehearsing answers. Revise vocab & phrases from the AQA vocab book & use the purple workbook.

## Food and Nutrition



The GCSE non-examination assessment (NEA 2) this term and will consist of completing a written portfolio and preparing for the practical exam. Students will plan, prepare, cook and present a 3 dishes for the chosen task. This will provide students with an opportunity to showcase their creativity and culinary skills. They will apply their existing knowledge, skills and understanding of nutrition to produce a concise portfolio that will represent 50% of their final grade.

**What parents can do to help:** Experiment with dishes and food at home adapting and improving on recipes, practising their culinary skills. Encourage and schedule time for your child to read over their year 10 class notes regularly and memorise the key points and factual details.

## PE (Core)



**What are we doing this half term?:** Students continue to receive a balance of activities with the goal of further developing their love for physical activity and their ability to perform with confidence.

**Assessment:** Students are not formally assessed in core PE.

**How can parents help?:** Please ensure students are organised with their full kit on PE days.

## DT GCSE

**What are we doing this half term?** We will be looking at the Non-Exam Assessment and continuing onto the initial design ideas and getting them to a high standard. We will also continue onto developing, modelling and assessing construction techniques for the final prototype. In theory sessions, the students will revisit the theory content that has the highest difficulty, in order to aid the recall in the exam. They will also practice a range of exam style questions.

**Assessments:** The NEA is assessed throughout and the final outcome will form part of the final grade. We will also be using past papers to help assess student knowledge.

**How can parents help?** Continue to be a good vocal client, checking in on their design work and giving constructive feedback. Take them to shops that sell similar products to their chosen design work and let them look at them to get an idea of how they are constructed.

## Music



**What are we doing this half term?** Year 11 Music will start by looking at unfamiliar listening questions and exploring Music for Ensemble and Film Music.

**Assessments:** Formative teacher feedback of compositions and listening tasks in lessons.

**How can parents help?:** Please encourage your child to complete regular instrumental/singing practise and to listen to lots of music! Support learning musical vocabulary.