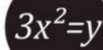


Year 11 Curriculum Newsletter Spring Term 2

Maths


$$3x^2=y$$

What are we doing this half term? 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: There are mock exams at the start of the half-term in February. Students will be doing exam practice in lessons every 2-3 weeks.

How can parents help? Students will be 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 SPARX or MathsWatch based on their weaknesses, therefore it will be very helpful if parents could encourage them to engage with all tasks set.

English



What are we doing this half term? Students will begin the Spring 2 term by revisiting Unseen Poetry. They will revise the use of the 7 step and STATE method in approaching an unseen poem, and look at writing effective comparisons. They will then go on to revisit Language paper 1 and 2 and spend time developing their Q5 skills.

Assessments: There are no assessments this half term due to mocks.

Science



What are we doing this half term? You will be continuing your studies of Biology, Chemistry and Physics this term. Lessons will focus on finishing all new learning of the final paper 2 topics for each science discipline (everything in the mock exams will have been covered in class!). We will then be focussed on revision, reviewing key topics and working on exam skills. Homework after the mock exams will be revision of paper 1 topics on Sparx science.

How can parents help? Ensure your child has completed quality revision for the paper 2 mocks. Then students should continue to complete their Sparx Science every week as well as doing independent revision for the GCSE exams at home.

History



What are we doing this half term? Shortly after half term we will finish Elizabeth and be on to revision! We will also use time after the mock exam to review areas where there were gaps in knowledge. We will then move on to revising the USA. With thorough revision both inside the classroom with your teachers, and by you at home, you should be well prepared for the summer exams; much of this will come down to individual work at home, focusing on the gaps in your own knowledge; everyone will have different strengths and gaps.

Assessment: In Class exam practice.

What can parents do to help? Read: your revision textbook and the revision materials on the year 11 Revision – History – Teams page. Watch: Rise of the Nazis – available on BBC iPlayer. Visit: the Imperial War Museum (Nazi Germany and WW2 exhibition)

PE -GCSE



Final year for GCSE PE - In Spring 2 students will continue to revisit topics from across paper 1 and 2 by looking at theory exam technique. They will also consolidate skills in isolation and game application for practical, and will be assessed (recorded) in their final practical sports for their GCSE Assessment.

Assessment: Mock Paper 2

How can parents help - Actively assist with their revision and continue to support their use of The Ever-Leaner online resources together with Seneca.

Art



What are we doing this half term? Our Y11 GCSE Art & Design students are now working on their ESA project (externally set assignment) with the theme of 'Found'. This has been set by our exam board and students are taking the project in their own chosen direction. Assessments: The ESA project is worth 40% of a student's final GCSE grade. 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 meets our weekly deadlines so they are prepared for their final 10 hour GCSE exam on w.c 20th April 2026. Leading up to this our students are expected to be spending 3-4 hours a week working on their art coursework at home outside our timetabled lessons. A space for students to work on their art coursework during evenings and weekends is an excellent way to support their progression. Alternatively please encourage your child to regularly attend our catch-up sessions after 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 support them throughout the GCSE course.

Geography



What are we doing this half term? GCSE Geography students will complete 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 have a revision help sheet for each 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 human and physical revision book organised and with detailed notes and diagrams, following the Cornell notes system. Students should use GCSE Pod to consolidate knowledge.

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.

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 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.

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



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Music



What are we doing this half term? Year 11 Music will start by looking at unfamiliar listening questions and exploring Film Music as well as recapping on Musical Forms and Devices.

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.

Drama



What are we doing this half term? Year 11 have completed their Component 2 Performance from a text (20% of the course). The focus of the next half term is their written exam in May. Students will develop their knowledge of 'Noughts and Crosses' (set text), and Live theatre analysis (The National Theatre's production of Frankenstein). They will also be taught exam technique, to build their confidence in answering questions and develop their knowledge of the requirements of the exam.

Assessments: Component 3 Exam questions.

How can parents help? Please ensure students meet all deadlines for the completion of their homelearning. Students should re read the set text, and develop their own ideas as designer, director and actor for the set text.

Computer Science



What are we doing this half term? Students will be learning how to complete more complex programming challenges, involving manipulating data using files, 2d lists and string formatting.

Assessment: During the February mock exams, students will complete a full paper 1 and paper 2 examination.

How can parents help? Support students with revision using their books. Make sure all home learning tasks are completed. If students want to build their coding confidence they could practice here: <https://www.w3schools.com/python>

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.

BTEC Sport



What we're doing this half term?

We have just completed the final Component 3 exam. As results are not released until mid-March, we will continue revisiting Component 3 content, focusing on key topics, exam technique, and timed practice to keep knowledge fresh and build confidence.

Assessments

February mock exam (Component 3) to measure progress since the final exam
Ongoing low-stakes quizzes and timed exam questions in lessons

How you can help at home

Support regular revision (short, consistent sessions), encourage students to complete practice questions, and ensure they bring the right equipment and a focused attitude each lesson. After results in March, we will review grades and decide who may need a June resit.

Business & Enterprise



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Assessments

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How you can help at home

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