

13 WEEKS TO START OF EXAMS

ISSUE 1 – February 2017

Welcome to the first issue of 'Year 11 News'. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep parents and carers up to date on the strategies and activities that we have put in place to help your son or daughter make rapid improvements towards achieving their 'Personal Best' in their exams this summer.

If you have any ideas for information that could be featured in the next edition, please send them in an email to Mrs Clark at: miac Clark@kes.essex.sch.uk.

Mr Osborn
Headteacher

KEY DATES

- PPE's start – 20 February 2017
- Limo Passport Deadline – Friday 31 March 2017
- Summer Exams start – Monday 15 May 2017
(Please be aware there will be other moderations that may start on other dates, e.g. GCSE PE)
- School Prom – Friday 23 June 2017

Pizza, Pizza, Pizza!

Brainfood for students!

To encourage students to attend after-school support sessions, we are providing pizza at random sessions throughout each week. If your son or daughter loves a cheesy slice, why not try and persuade them to attend?



Good luck to all our students
in their upcoming PPEs 🍌😊🍌

Help for Students with Special Educational Needs

Students with special educational needs (SEN) may require additional support during the lead up to the exams. They may benefit from a different way of learning and recalling information. They may be eligible for additional time in exams, or could make use of a laptop or scribe.

Mr Atheer, Head of SENCo, is available to discuss any aspect that parents or students may be concerned about. To get in touch with him, please call the school or email him at: amranatheer@kes.essex.sch.uk.

FINAL DRIVE TOWARDS SUMMER EXAMS

There are a number of members of staff who will play a role in ensuring that students reach their goals, alongside the support they receive at home. Some of these staff members are: Mrs Baker (Assistant Headteacher – Curriculum and Interventions), Mr Bowman (Head of Year 11), Mrs Jenkins (Head of Year Pastoral Achievement Lead), Miss Walsh (Pastoral Support Manager), Miss Louis (Exams Officer), Mr Amran (SENCO) and, of course, students' subject teachers and form tutors.

We have been working at ensuring that students have a number of opportunities available to them in order to succeed, some of which have been reported in the parent bulletin and via letters home. Below is a review of a few of these strategies:

1	Quiet rooms made available for students to carry out revision after school. Form tutors have a copy of the list of which rooms are available, and these are also displayed on the screens around the school.
2	Revision packs issued to all students so that they have the resources they need to create revision materials.
3	After-school revision and support sessions.
4	Homework tasks focused on exam techniques and past exam questions.
5	Registration interventions – students working with key members of staff to receive focussed revision in order to reduce gaps in understanding.
6	Subsidised Tassomai subscription – prizes are also awarded to students completing/answering the most questions.
7	Monitoring of attendance and rewarding good attendance at school via regular raffles. Ensuring that students are at school every day is a key way to ensure success.
8	Raising the profile of Year 11 and maintaining clear communication to parents through the new 'Year 11 News' newsletter.
9	Saturday controlled assessment sessions.
10	Small group withdrawal for English, Maths and Science – working with a teacher to address key concepts.
11	Student voice – we have listened and A15 is now open at break 1 and break 2 as an area designated for Year 11.
12	Study skills and revision techniques are prioritised as we move nearer to the exams.
13	Rewards are available to students who complete significant revision or attend after-school sessions.
14	Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) support offered to all students. If your child feels that they would benefit from another careers interview, please ask them to speak to their form tutor.
15	Further IT qualifications such as ECDL (you will be contacted with more information about this if your child is selected for this intervention).

We are confident that your child can reach their full potential, and, with sufficient hard work, will exceed all expectations.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Baker
*Assistant Headteacher,
Curriculum and Interventions*

EXAM INFORMATION

Please be aware that provisional timetables have been issued to students, week commencing 6 February, for their summer exams. Please check the timetables with your son or daughter, and if there are any questions, please contact Miss Louis, Exams Officer, on the main school number. Final timetables will be issued by the Easter holidays at the latest.

Please can you ensure that your son/daughter has the following equipment for their examinations: black ball point pen, pencil, scientific calculator, eraser and ruler. These should all be in a clear pencil case.

Please also be aware that mobile phones, iPods and smart watches are prohibited in the exams.

English

All Year 11 students are working towards GCSEs in English Language and English Literature.

They will sit four exams in total, on the following dates:

- Monday 22 May English Literature Paper 1: Shakespeare and post-1914 Literature
- Friday 26 May English Literature Paper 2: 19th-century Novel and Poetry since 1789
- Tuesday 6 June English Language Paper 1: Fiction and Imaginative Writing
- Monday 12 June English Language Paper 2: Non-Fiction and Transactional Writing

Other key dates:

- Thursday 23 February English Language Paper 2: PPE
- Monday 27 February English Literature Paper 2: PPE
- Monday 13 March After-school English revision begins
- Friday 17 March Final deadline for Spoken Language Endorsement

Mathematics

All students will sit three GCSE exams in total, each 1 hour and 30 minutes, on the following dates:

- Thursday 25 May Mathematics Paper 1 Non-Calculator (both tiers)
- Thursday 8 June Mathematics Paper 2 Calculator (both tiers)
- Tuesday 13 June Mathematics Paper 3 Calculator (both tiers)

Other key dates:

- Monday 20 February PPE2 Mathematics Paper 1 Non-Calculator
- Monday 27 February PPE2 Mathematics Paper 2 Calculator
- Wednesday 1 March PPE2 Mathematics Paper 3 Calculator
- Tuesday 7 March After-school Mathematics revision begins

Science

Year 11 students are studying either GCSEs Double Science (Core and Additional Science) or Triple Science (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) awards.

Double Science students will sit six exams in Biology, Chemistry and Physics on these dates:

- Tuesday pm 16 May B1
- Thursday am 18 May C1
- Wednesday pm 24 May P1
- Friday am 9 June B2
- Wednesday am 14 June C2
- Friday am 16 June P2

On the other hand, Triple Science will sit nine exams on the following dates:

- Tuesday pm 16 May B1
- Thursday am 18 May C1
- Wednesday pm 24 May P1
- Friday am 9 June B2 and B3
- Wednesday am 14 June C2 and C3
- Friday am 16 June P2 and P3

Controlled Assessment (ISA)

Students have already completed their controlled assessments (ISA) part of the course, which forms 25% of their overall grades. There is an opportunity on Saturday 11 March for Double Science students to improve their ISA grades in both Core and Additional Science. A letter of invitation will be sent to parents at a later date.

QUIET ROOMS AND SUPPORT SESSIONS

Support sessions are held after school between 2.30pm and 3.30pm.

DEPARTMENT	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Business Studies	Business Club – S1	GCSE Applied Business and Business Studies – Coursework Catch-Up – S1			
Childcare	GCSE Childcare & Health & Social Grade Raising – V4/V6				
Drama/ Performing Arts		GCSE Dance – Practical Rehearsal/Revision – D8		GCSE Drama – Coursework Catch-Up – L1	
English					
History		History Club – E5 (Week 1 only)			
Hospitality	GCSE Hospitality Grade Raising and Coursework Catch-Up – B7				
ICT		ICT – Computing Club – V7			
Maths		Maths Club – F7			
MFL	GCSE French Grade Raising – C3 (Week 1 only)			GCSE French Grade Raising – C3 (Week 2 only)	
Science				GCSE Science Coursework Catch-up – D19	
Quiet room	C2 – 2.30–4.00pm C3 – 2.30–4.00pm C6 – 2.30–4.00pm B1a – 2.30–4.00pm M3 – 2.30–3.30pm D2 – 2.30–4.00pm E7 – 2.30–4.00pm V2 – 2.30–3.30pm L3 – 2.30–3.30pm	C2 – 2.30–4.00pm C4 – 3.00–4.00pm D2 – 2.30–4.00pm E7 – 2.30–4.00pm B1 – 2.30–3.30pm B4 – 2.30–3.30pm C8 – 2.30–3.30pm		C2 – 2.30–4.00pm C4 – 3.00–4.00pm V7 – 2.30–3.30pm E7 – 2.30–4.00pm D14 – 2.30–4.00pm L3 – 2.30–3.30pm C8 – 2.30–3.30pm E2 – 2.30–4.00pm	D2 – 2.30–4.00pm E7 – 2.30–4.00pm C4 – 3.00–4.00pm