

I am really pleased to report that the vast majority of Year 11 were very focused during the PPE examinations and grabbed the opportunity to test themselves and prepare for the summer examinations.

The results are to be delivered to Year 11 on Tuesday 19 December and I hope that for those who prepared and worked hard, the results are those that they deserve. Please remember that the results are a test of where the students are at now and will indicate whether they are on track or not.

Following on from the results, if changes need to be made to revision timetables, how much revision is being completed or the quality of the revision itself, then the time to make those changes is now!

Please do not hesitate to speak to myself, Year 11 Pastoral Manager, Mrs Woolley, Assistant Head, Mrs Baker or individual subject teachers if you are unsure how to make any changes or if you have any questions regarding your child's results.

Mrs Evison
Head of Year 11



PPE1 RESULTS DAY : Tuesday 19 December

PARENTS EVENING : Wednesday 10 January

Acting on English PPE Feedback

For Year 11 students, PPE1 was the first full taste of what the new English examinations are like.

Students should use teacher feedback as an opportunity to think about their strengths and weaknesses. This first PPE is a springboard for us all to work from to help prepare for the two examinations in the summer.

For **English Language**, this could include using the revision sheets on SMHW to see how responses could have been improved and for trying extra practice papers. Students should be aiming to read a range of fiction texts to help with both sections of the paper.

For **English Literature**, *An Inspector Calls* and *Macbeth* should be re-read. The examination is based on the play scripts, but watching performances will help bring the texts alive and consolidate knowledge of the plot.

To help students look ahead to PPE2 and the summer examinations, the resources placed on SMHW each week should be used. Little and often is the way forward! Once your child has their target grade in January, you could consider purchasing the suggested revision guides. However they are not essential and there is plenty on SMHW.

Also in preparation for PPE2:

English Language – this is where students are required to read and explore two non-fiction extracts and compose a transactional writing piece. In preparation, newspapers should be read. Students should be aware of what is going on in the world and this will help in both the reading and writing sections.

English Literature – this is where students are assessed on *A Christmas Carol*, the conflict poetry and unseen poetry. To prepare, the text should be re-read and *Youtube* clips about the conflict poetry watched. As a challenge, your child could use other poems in the anthology to practice looking at unseen poems. It is important to revise all the terminology for the techniques writers use and to consider the effects in our set texts. Think about watching versions of *A Christmas Carol*, they are bound to be on TV in December!

Finally, the *Royal Shakespeare Company* and the *National Theatre* will be streaming *Macbeth* into cinemas next spring.

PPE Points

At the time of publication, PPE papers are still being marked for results day on 19 December. However, there is some general feedback and some specific points raised.

In Science, students showed a very positive attitude and Triple Science Physics results have been good so far. When reviewing the use of the Tassomai App, which the faculty introduced last year, it was noted that this did help students with their revision and resulting grades, and it is hoped that this will prove the case this year. Just 15 minutes use every day can help students with their examinations.

The Art Department were pleased with the motivation and preparation that students displayed and it was clear that most of them wanted to achieve their personal best. They will be gaining detailed and personal feedback during their lessons so that they can review the comments before the summer examinations. Some of the final artworks will be exhibited in the school to celebrate their successes.

Design and Technology staff were delighted by the PPE results with a number of students in Product Design, performing above their targets. The staff believe that the after school clubs in the subject make a difference, as students are able to continue projects started in lessons.

Students taking their Mathematics PPEs also showed focus and commitment. Results are still being assessed but a good outcome is hoped for.

Other points to consider for the future include remembering ALL equipment, particularly calculators for Mathematics, attempting ALL questions and being aware of the time left to answer all of the questions.

PiXL Apps for History, Geography and Mathematics

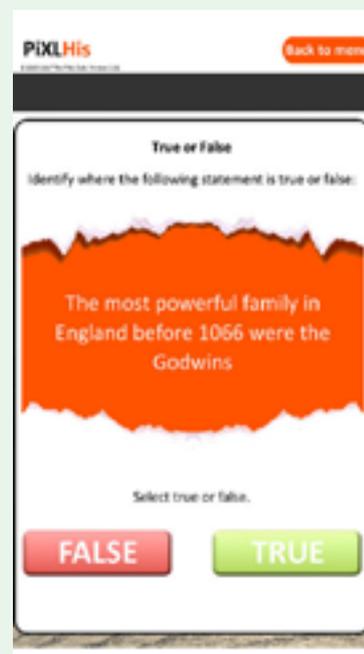
Students taking History and Geography GCSEs will be given a login and password to the free, PiXL App which we will be launching in January. An introduction will take place in lessons and from there they will be expected to independently access it.

The app is designed to help students identify and work on their own personal areas for development, raising their own expectations each time they use the app to make improvements. They will be able to increase their knowledge, practice for examinations, get help with homework and work towards improving their grades for the next examinations in the summer.

The KES Mathematics Faculty successfully introduced the app during the last academic year and are continuing to promote it as a programme that helps students to revise and improve in areas that they find challenging. In addition, videos can be selected showing step-by-step instructions on how to answer questions. We strongly recommend that students make use of this facility. To enhance their understanding, students can design a test, monitor their results with a skills overview, take a challenge or check rankings on a scoreboard. A personal log tracks their progress, giving individual targets and will focus on areas for development.

The app can be downloaded for a tablet, or for a PC the programme is accessed via the PiXL website, selecting the desktop icon.

<https://mathsapp.pixl.org.uk/>



Prom Details

Tickets for the Year 11 Prom on 29 June, can be purchased from 22 January via the School Gateway for £15. To confirm your son or daughter's intention to attend, please complete this online form at:

<https://goo.gl/forms/js7CsPkJOZQqMd1t2>

