



12th December 2017

Dear Parents/Carers and students of Year 11

Happy Christmas Year 11 students and parents

Students

What a mammoth term that was! Options weeks, information evenings, PPEs and a real step up in intensity. I am so proud of how you have settled into the increased demand and rigour this year and the way you look out for each other is to be commended. Over the past 12 weeks I have worked closely with you all and I rarely use the word proud, but I genuinely am. I see so much potential in you all and I am excited to see what the future holds for each and every one of you, starting with the small matter of GCSE exams in a few months time!!!

The next few weeks are crucial for two reasons:

- 1) A chance to relax and recharge your batteries, which I am sure are run down.
- 2) An opportunity to take stock and work on things that you may not have the chance to, in terms time, but that will help in May and June 2018.

So make the most of this break and ensure you relax but don't lose focus! I have asked all Heads of Department to set valuable work for you and it is an expectation that this is completed – plan your time wisely and do not leave it all until the last minute.

Parents

It is with the two points above in mind that I have devised a plan for students to complete important work over the Christmas break. In total, the work being set amounts to 20-25 hours per student depending on the subjects they are studying and most of the work is linked to PiXL Independence which aims to maximise the learning a student does without teacher input. Whilst this may seem a lot, students have 13 days excluding bank holidays etc. This means that they need to do 1 ½ - 2 hours a day on average to complete all the work set. I am aware that some of this work has already been given out and therefore proactive students may be able to show you some completed tasks already.

All work is available on Show My Homework but in addition hard copies of all tasks have been given out to students. Please can I enlist your support in ensuring that these tasks are completed for the January return, it really will make a difference.

Parents and Students

Below is a subject-by-subject breakdown of the expectations for work over Christmas, please ensure you complete all work for all of your subjects. BTEC Business and Sport do not have any work set as they have completed an exam in the last two weeks and will be starting a new unit in January. BTEC Music are mid practical and so have none set also. Please note there are 4 pages to this letter.



English

Pre 19th Century revision – choose the correct text (Jekyll and Hyde or A Christmas Carol) and complete section I-III of the PiXL independence book.

Maths

Take note of the tasks for your set using the correct PiXL independence book below:

Set 1 & 2: Higher Unit 1: Parts I - III

Sets 3 - 5: Foundation Unit 1: Section I - III

Sets 6 & 7: Foundation Unit 1: Section I, II

Science

KS4 GCSE Chemistry

Complete the multiple choice questions, Complete any 2 Level 2 tasks and 1 Level 3 or 4 task

KS4 GCSE Physics

Complete the multiple choice questions, Complete any 2 Level 2 tasks and 1 Level 3 or 4 task

KS4 GCSE Biology

Complete the multiple choice questions, Complete any 2 Level 2 tasks and 1 Level 3 or 4 task

Geography

350 credits

Students should focus on the coasts and rivers sections within the PiXL Independence Geography booklet and must complete the multiple choice and annotation sections. They can then make up the rest of the credits (250) by answering short and long answer questions and completing suggested reading. **Do not** do the Synoptic Thinking questions.

History

The requirements for the History department are that the Crime and Punishment task should take up to 2.5 hours and the Weimar and Nazi Germany task take up to 1 hour. Revision notes and reading should be brought to lesson on return after Christmas. The following need to be specifically completed to help with the above and students have hard copies and they are available on SMH.

- Complete the Crime and Punishment revision exercise
- Complete the reading on opposition and conformity in Nazi Germany

French

Students are expected to complete a minimum of 15 pages from the PiXL independence book.

Spanish

Students are expected to complete a minimum of 15 pages from the PiXL independence book.

Art

The expectation is that this will give students a good period of time on the final piece, however they won't all necessarily finish it completely. Then if the piece still needs finishing the students will be expected to do this at home over the Christmas holiday. Materials can be borrowed from the Art dept if necessary.

Those that are working with clay must finish before the holiday. Miss Hemmings will give them a list of tasks to complete over the holiday, developing their preparatory work, individual to their project.



Photography

Students have received a checklist of where they should be with their Year 11 independent project, so they can use the Christmas holidays to catch up and move their project forward. They will all be expected to complete at least 2 photo shoots over the holidays (they already know this!) and their first deadline for submission of this project is 12 January.

Engineering

- Go through each sub unit in unit 1 and traffic light your understanding.
Red – Don't know
Amber – unsure
Green – Full understanding.
- Using google classroom and class notes, revise unit 1, under the various subject areas, starting with your red traffic lighted areas.

Food

Research your chosen Task. (Use sheet given out – also on SMH)

- Create a Mood board around the chosen task.
- Create a mind map of possible dishes that could be made to meet this task.
- Select a range of recipes that could meet the criteria. Annotate the recipes stating the reasons for choice.

Resistant Materials and Graphics

Final design needs to be created for all game components, drawn to scale with full dimensions and annotations. Create a manufacturing specification, as noted down in the classroom and exemplar given. Be ready for making on the 3/1/18.

Health & Social Care

Students should read through the revision guide on SMH and complete all questions in the booklet.

Computer Science

Students should complete the entire grade 8-9 booklet from PiXL. They have a hard copy and it is also available on SMH.

IT

Students have been emailed two past papers and need to email Mr Thomas for the mark scheme when they have completed it. They then need to email him their scores.

OCR ICT

Review last year's scenario and look at how the past paper links to it. Following this students should spend 1½ hours revising and making notes on this year's scenario for their exam in January.

GCSE Music

Students need to complete section 1, 2 and two examples of section 4 for a total of 200 credits in the PiXL Music independence book.

PE

Complete at least 100 credits of the PiXL independence booklet on anatomy. Students have a hard copy and it is also available on SMH.



Economics

Students should complete the Macro past paper (hard copy given and on SMH). They should also complete the diagrams worksheets (there are two) and the economics mind maps activity.

GCSE Business

Complete the following tasks (worksheets and past papers have been given out and are available on SMH)

- Questions on cash flow
- A research task on different types of sources of finance
- The first section of revision for unit 3 to complete - 3.1
- A past multiple choice paper.

BTEC Health & Social Care

Students have been provided with a revision guide and questions. These need to be completed for first lesson back. They are also on SMH.

Media

Please spend 2-3 hours completing the Pixl Independence booklet. This has been set on SMHW and booklets have been printed and handed to pupils. Completing this booklet on Media language will extend and build upon your media vocabulary: this will help you reach the higher level of analysis needed for your exam. Research of unknown terms is encouraged.

GCSE Dance

- Complete programme notes for GCSE Choreography
- Find your group choreography music
- Rehearse your movement material

BTEC Dance

- Read through example application letters
- Complete questions worksheet
- Prepare your exam notes (2 sides of A4 - no full sentences)

BTEC Drama

- Read through and select exam question based on your strengths/interests
- Research monologues
- Select appropriate monologues for exam question

Yours faithfully

Mr P Gibson
Deputy Headteacher