



## **Poynton High School**

### **Year 11 Parent and Carer Bulletin – December 2023**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 11 have worked incredibly hard this half term, especially during their mock examinations where they acted in a mature and positive way.

Each half term I will send out a year group bulletin, inside your will find important information about what students have been studying recently and what is coming up next half term for our students. It will also contain information about strategies suggested by subject tutors to ensure students achieve their maximum potential.

#### **Revision and examination support**

As a school we are committed to ensuring that you feel that you are well equipped in supporting your young person through their GCSEs. Our website contains lots of practical support for both yourself and your young person regarding revision techniques and strategies. The booklet linked below contains details of the revision techniques your young person has been looking at in school.

<https://www.phs.cheshire.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=1051&type=pdf>

<https://www.phs.cheshire.sch.uk/keystage4exams>

In the New Year there will continue to be a Year 11 Study drop in session on a Tuesday in room 36 where students can come to do their own revision and homework. Miss Dovey will be there to support them with their revision. This will run 3:25-4:15pm. Also running on a Tuesday in room 33 is a Year 11 Welfare drop in session where students can drop in to speak to Miss Hollingworth if they have any welfare concerns. This will run 3:15-3:45pm.

#### **Important dates**

- Reports: 24/01/24
- Parents Evening (online): 25/01/24
- Mock Exams: 26/02/24 – 01/03/24
- Progress Grades: 23/04/24
- GCSE Exams: 09/05/24 – 26/06/24
- Leavers Day and Prom: 27/06/24

#### **Student voice**

At Poynton High School we value our students and want them to have the opportunity to share their views. Each half term Mr Shaw is meeting with representatives from each form in year 10 and year 11 with a different focus. This half term they discussed extra curricular activities and revision skills. As a Year team we will use this to help us continue to support our young people.

## Parent/Carer Update on Class Charts

- Since September 2022, we have used Class Charts to monitor our students in school. Parents and carers have access to Class Charts via the app, and students have recently been given access to their own Class Charts accounts via the student app.
- We are keen to encourage our students to take ownership over the monitoring of their timetabled lessons in school, as well as their house and behaviour points totals.
- The student app allows young people to view their timetable and we would encourage parents and carers to advise their young people to check this before packing their bag each night.
- The Class Charts app for parents and carers allows you to monitor attendance, rewards and behaviour points.
- We are grateful for the support of our parents and carers in discussing any behaviour incidents with their young person and to encourage them to make positive choices for the benefit of their learning.
- We are also grateful for the support of our parents and carers in celebrating the achievements and successes of our students in school; every day, thousands of rewards points are issued to our students for the positive choices they make, inspirational achievements and in celebration of their successes inside and outside the classroom. Your support in ensuring your young person sees the value in this is very much appreciated.
- Further guidance around the use of Class Charts can be found on our website here: <https://www.phs.cheshire.sch.uk/page/?title=Class+Charts&pid=338>
- For enquires around accessing the parent/carers or student app, please email [info@phs.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:info@phs.cheshire.sch.uk)

## English

- In both GCSE Language and Literature, Year 11 have just completed their Mock Exams.
- In GCSE English Literature, they are returning to study *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*.
- In GCSE Language, students will be returning to study Paper 1.
- To support students with their learning, it would be fantastic if you could:
- Encourage students to read as many books as possible! The more they read, the more they become used to understanding a wide variety of texts. This will assist with their completion of the both Language and Literature GCSEs;
- All home learning is being set on a weekly basis on Google Classroom so please encourage students to complete this work. Completing these home learning tasks IS revising for the exams, but students can also use the flowcharts that have been assigned on Google Classroom to target areas they are unsure of.
- Encourage students to ask as many questions as possible and get involved with the various activities and learning experiences on offer!
- Read and re-read your GCSE English Literature texts. Check through lesson notes and ask your teacher to clarify anything you are unsure about. Use the revision tips below to help organise your exercise book!
- **Revision – thinking about your learning:**
- *For each lesson, in your exercise book, write a 12 word summary of the content. What was it you learned in the session?*
- *Prioritise ... For each lesson in your margin list the TOP 3 most important pieces of information from the lesson. Put them in order (1=most important)*

- *Points as pictures .... sum up each lesson with a quick image (stick people are fine!). Make sure you would be able to explain this to your teacher.*
- *Ask an expert ... Underneath each lesson's work write one question you could ask an expert on the subject.*
- *Get the colours out! Highlight the key ideas or messages from each lesson to make them stand out.*

## Maths

Students have been working hard to prepare for and sit their mock exams and we are pleased with the initial results that are coming out of them. These results will be shared with students in the new year when we will be able to give them a GCSE grade based on their performance. Students will be given time during lesson to input their scores into AQAs analysis programme which will then generate individual revision lists for them and provide model answers to questions each question from the papers. Students should use this, along with other areas they may have identified themselves, to focus their revision where it is needed most.

If you have ordered a revision guide for your young person, they should have now received this and can use this to continually revise topics they have covered in class. If you missed the deadline to order a copy and would still like to purchase one, it is still possible to do so via Amazon:

Higher: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Maths-Higher-Revision-Practice-Collins/dp/0008112525>

Foundation: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Maths-Foundation-Revision-Practice-Collins/dp/0008112541>

## Science

Subject	This half term	Next half term
<b>Biology</b>	<p><b>Separate Science Students:</b> Have been learning about the structure of DNA and how it is a code, as well as preparing for the paper 1 mock examinations</p> <p><b>Combined Science Students:</b> Have been learning about different types of cell division in organisms, as well as preparing for the paper 1 mock examinations</p> <p><b>All:</b> Have completed a Paper 1 mock examination for Biology and will gain feedback after the Christmas holidays</p> <p><a href="#">BBC Bitesize link (double)</a></p>	<p><b>Separate Science Students:</b> Will learn about how DNA controls the body and how genetic characteristics are inherited</p> <p><b>Combined Science Students:</b> Will learn about how DNA controls the body and how genetic characteristics are inherited</p> <p><a href="#">BBC Bitesize link (Triple)</a></p>
<b>Chemistry</b>	<b>Separate Science Students:</b>	<b>Separate Science Students:</b>

	<p>They have continued to study topic C8 Chemical analysis looking at pure substances, formulations and chemical testing. They have carried out a required practical to identify an unknown substance.</p> <p><b>Combined Science Students:</b> They have also completed their studies of organic chemistry (topic C7) looking at products from crude oil and move on to study Chemical analysis (topic C8) looking at pure substances, formulations and chemical testing.</p> <p><a href="#">BBC Bitesize C7 Link (double)</a></p> <p><a href="#">BBC Bitesize C8 Link (double)</a></p>	<p>They will start on topic C9 the chemistry of the atmosphere, looking at the evolution of the atmosphere, climate change and carbon footprints. They will move on to topic C10 (using resources).</p> <p><b>Combined Science Students:</b> They will start on topic C9 the chemistry of the atmosphere, looking at the evolution of the atmosphere, climate change and carbon footprints. They will move on to topic C10 (using resources).</p> <p><b>BBC Bitesize C7 Links (triple)</b> <a href="#">Part 1</a> and <a href="#">Part 2</a></p> <p><b>BBC Bitesize C8 Link (triple)</b> <a href="#">Part 1</a> and <a href="#">Part 2</a></p>
<b>Physics</b>	<p><b>Separate Science Students:</b> Students have continued their studies of Waves, before moving onto Electromagnetism.</p> <p><b>Combined Science Students:</b> Students have continued their studies of Waves, before moving onto the final topic of Electromagnetism.</p> <p><b>All:</b> Have completed a Paper 1 mock examination for Physics and will gain feedback after the Christmas holidays</p> <p><a href="#">BBC Bitesize Link</a></p>	<p><b>Separate Science Students:</b> After feedback from their Paper 1 mocks, they will begin studying their final two topics – Electromagnetism and, finally, Space.</p> <p><b>Combined Science Students:</b> After feedback from their Paper 1 mocks, they will begin studying their final topic – Electromagnetism.</p> <p><a href="#">BBC Bitesize Link</a></p>

### Celebration

Well done to all those students who successfully completed their Paper 1 chunked revision for Biology, Chemistry and Physics. This was designed to help students prepare fully for the large amount of content assessed in the December Paper 1 mocks and gave them opportunities to practice and refine exam technique.

### Assessments

Year 11s have recently completed their paper 1 mocks. They will gain feedback on how they performed at the start of next half-term. This will enable them to review their progress and identify their own areas for development.

The results from these mocks will help to guide their teachers with regards to deciding the correct tier entry (higher or foundation) for the next mock examinations in March and ultimately for the Summer GCSEs.

**Mock Examinations 2 (Starting end of February)** : These will assess the Paper 2 content of the course. All students will sit 3 separate papers (one for each of the Sciences). It is essential that

students fully prepare for these as these will be the last assessments before the real GCSE examinations in the Summer.

### **Revision for Paper 2 mock**

To help support your child in preparing for the upcoming Science GCSE Paper 2 mock exams, the Science team has coordinated several revision resources to help ensure students are fully prepared. We would really appreciate your support in encouraging your son/daughter to complete these tasks. These include:

### **Chunked revision**

This will start towards the end of January. All students will be set revision tasks/past paper questions to complete for Biology, Chemistry and Physics. These will be set in designated weekly 'chunks'. There will be tasks to complete for each science and then one question/task per science will be set each week leading up to their March mock exams.

Students should revise the topics of the questions each week and then complete the exam questions to apply their knowledge and practice exam technique.

### **Seneca**

All students have a **Seneca account- please note students will need to use their emails ending @phs.cheshire.sch.uk, and the initial password is seneca2020.** Seneca is a free online resource which can be used for teacher directed revision, independent revision and to help students consolidate work from previous topics and years. The more students complete on Seneca, the better it tailors tasks personalised to each student and the areas they need to focus on. **If students are not sure how to log in or access their Science class assignments please tell them to ask their Science teacher.** <https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/>

### **Revision Guides**

The majority of students purchased these last year. If your child does not have one and you would like them to have one, below are details of how you can order directly from CGP:

#### **Combined (Double) Science revision guides:**

**Higher tier (recommended for students in sets 1 and 2):** <https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science/combined-science/sahr46-new-gcse-combined-science-aqa>

#### **Foundation tier (recommended for students in sets 3 and 4):**

<https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science/combined-science/safr46-new-gcse-combined-science-aqa-revision-guide>

#### **Separate (Triple) Science students (will need separate ones for Biology, Chemistry and Physics):**

<https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science/biology/bar46-new-gcse-biology-aqa-revision-guide-higher-i>

<https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science/chemistry/car46-new-gcse-chemistry-aqa-revision-guide-higher>

<https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science/physics/par48-new-gcse-physics-aqa-revision-guide-higher-i>

### **Other useful resources**

We highly recommend that your young person watches 'The Secret Genius of Modern Life' which is available on **iPlayer**. It is a series that explores lots of topics that students study over the course of their GCSE in different applications. See also the BBC Bitesize links in the table above.

### **Religious Studies**

Students have continued to apply themselves fully to the study of 'Religion and Life.' They have been exploring the sensitive and ethical issues of animal testing, animals for food, abortion and euthanasia. Students have shown sensitivity when learning about these topics and curiosity to find out more. This topic will be continued in January after the mock exam period.

To consolidate their learning, students can make revision cue cards or mind maps to aid their long term revision planning and preparation. Students do not need to purchase published revision guides, but if they do want to refer to other resources, then the link below will guide you to the correct revision materials for this course.

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/AQA-GCSE-Religious-Studies-Christianity/dp/0198422857>

## **History**

Year 11 have had a busy half term in history, completing the American West unit and completing their mock exams. In January Year 11 will be continuing with their final unit on the Reigns of King Richard and King John in their History lessons, this will include completing exam questions in class and at home to practice key exam skills. Students will also continue with the revision booklet started in September and should be looking to continue with their own revision in preparation for the summer exams. Seneca Learning is very useful for GCSE History revision. Thank you to parents who have ordered the GCSE revision guides these will be delivered to school in January

## **Geography**

Year 11 have now completed their first set of mock examinations and hopefully will see the rewards of all that preparation for them in their results. After the Christmas break they will be planning their next steps forward as we feedback so that they can all set meaningful targets. We will also be continuing with the specification on our Living World unit of lessons. This starts with a very useful overlap with the Biology GCSE on food webs and chains and well as ecosystems across the world before we study tropical rainforests – locations, physical characteristics, the challenges facing them and the opportunities for people who live there as well as ways to mitigate their exploitation. We also study hot deserts and consider the same challenges and opportunities facing these areas as well as how desertification is a growing issue. This is the final unit of paper 1. As ever the BBC Bitesize link is a useful extra resource <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z2tqwx> as there are quizzes as well as content.

As students develop their revision techniques this provider on YouTube is a brilliant explanation of how to answer GCSE style questions in geography <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7fQJ1S6Ydis> as well as guided revision here on the Amazon rainforest where you can draw an infographic along with the teacher here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CifpJSoO1mA> For some students this might be their preferred way of collating all of their notes on one sheet of A4 in order to then answer past exam questions. We would love to hear if any of your young people use and like this method of revision. Best of luck everyone for the next half term!

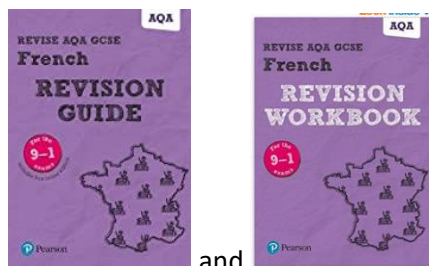
## **MFL**

Well done to Year 11 students for their work this term! Year 11 Spanish are working on Module 7 on jobs and careers. In German they completed the module on holidays. In both languages, after Christmas, students will complete the last module of the course on global issues (environment, healthy lifestyles, international events etc...)

Year 11 students have now completed their Mock exams. We have been impressed with their efforts and are looking forwards to some excellent results to come in the new year.

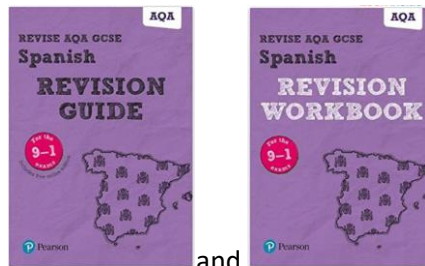
If you haven't yet purchased revisions guides, you can the guides here:

#### French:



and

#### Spanish:



and

We hope you have a lovely and very restful Christmas holidays.  
See you all in the new year!  
Joyeux Noël, Feliz Navidad, Frohe Weihnachten!



#### Useful websites:

Most classes have used [www.memrise.com](http://www.memrise.com), [www.quizlet.com](http://www.quizlet.com) or [www.pearsonactivelearn.com](http://www.pearsonactivelearn.com) in their language lesson in the computer room. These are great websites to use at home too. Any student can join by using their google account and individual teachers have set classes and home learning tasks.

Username and passwords for [www.pearsonactivelearn.com](http://www.pearsonactivelearn.com) have been given out and students should have written their usernames and passwords for the different websites on the first page of their vocab booklets. If your child hasn't had access to this website, ask them to check with their teachers on Google Classroom.

#### Keep following us on Twitter too:

Mr Farrell- @MonsieurFarrell

French Department - @PH\_rench

German Department - @PHS\_GERMAN

Spanish Department@PHS\_Spanish



## **GCSE Business**

Our Year 11s are coming to the end of Unit 2, looking at the external environment of business. This important topic will feature on both Paper 1 and Paper 2 of the summer examinations. Students should try and find out more about the external environment by reading articles, watching the news and looking at economic information such as exchange rates and interest rates. After Christmas, students will begin work on the final unit which is Marketing. Following the mock exams, students will be guided towards revision resources on Google Classroom, Seneca and BBC Bitesize to target the areas they need to improve. Home Learning is set using Seneca and Google Classroom and students should be completing this weekly as an excellent source of revision for their mock examinations. The revision guide and workbook for the course is <https://www.amazon.co.uk/My-Revision-Notes-Eduqas-Business/dp/1510426531>

## **CNAT Enterprise and Marketing**

Students have finished working on R069 and have switched their focus to preparing for their mock in R067. Their results for R068 will be released on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December and I wish them all the best of luck with these results. After Christmas, we will continue to work through the R067 specification focusing on ownership types, sources of business support, functional areas and the design mix. We will also continue to recap key topics such as market research, breakeven and the marketing mix. A revision guide to support students can be found here <https://amzn.eu/d/gn8nOQK>

## **Computer Science**

Year 11s have been studying utility software as well as preparing for the mock examinations, that are currently taking place. After Christmas, students will begin working on their programming projects.

With regards to programming at home, students have been recommended to install Python and use the IDLE, in order to improve their programming skills.

## **CNAT iMedia**

Year 11 students have been working on their Interactive Multimedia Product for Westgress Sport. This unit of work will be completed by February half-term, allowing plenty of time to prepare for the examination unit.

As students are no longer allowed to work on their coursework at home, we encourage the students to attend drop in sessions at lunchtime in Room 28. There are also sessions after school Wednesdays in Rm 29 and Thursdays in rm 28.

Suggestions for further wider learning that students can do over Christmas, include watching the highly recommended films of How to Build a Human and Coded Bias. How to Build a Human can be found on Channel 4. The plot centres around the main character exploring Artificial Intelligence and how she uses it to build an AI version of herself.

Coded Bias on Netflix begins by explaining how training AI to make future predictions uses historical data, which can lead to propagation of the human biases contained within that data into the AI's



actions. However, clearly this is only part of the problem, it helps to visualise the threat to our freedoms and quality of life that AI and big data surveillance present.

### **Textiles**

Year 11 Textiles have been focusing on their mock examination in Textiles. Students were given a list to focus on and practice questions have been completed in lesson. All students have a revision guide and workbook with exam questions. These resources should be used to revise. Please could you remind students to ensure they bring their exercise book, revision guide and workbook to each theory lesson.

During practical lessons with Mrs Mottram students have been focusing on their NEA. All students have started an NEA portfolio. The majority of student are up to date but it is advised students attend the catch-up sessions in room 54 and 59 on a Tuesday and Wednesday after school. In recent lessons student have been making their toile. This is using our calico fabric but students will be required to purchase their own fabrics for their final product. A list of local stores have been added to Google Classroom to help source materials.

### **Food Preparation and Nutrition**

During this half term students have completed their NEA 1 which is 15% of students final GCSE grade and began their NEA 2 which is 35% of their GCSE grade.

Students were given a task from the exam board which is the framework for their NEA 2. Students have been looking into their chosen topic as well as selecting dishes and beginning to understand the skills involved for each dish. Next half term, students will choose three of these dishes which they will make as part of their mock exam. Students will choose dishes with a range of skills which they will be able to demonstrate during their mock exam. Their practical mock exam will be either 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> January dependent on which group they are in.

It is suggested, students practice their dishes at home as much as they can. This will be really useful for them for their mock exam.

As well as this we have been working on exam technique ready for students written mocks which we will carry through into next half term.

A Huge congratulations to Millie Jo Lomax who has recently won the local final of the future chef competition. In January she will be competing in the regional final in Liverpool. We wish Millie Jo the best of luck!

### **Product Design**

Students have been continuing with their NEA (Non-Exam Assessment) which is 50% of their GCSE alongside the theory element of the course which is also 50% with an exam at the end of Year 11. We have been working on materials properties and key materials alongside exam technique. This has been feedback from the students of what they would like to work on in their theory lessons. Students need to begin to start their revision resources and thinking of the 3 P's which are 'Performance, Preparation and Progress'. It would be fantastic if students could implement this at home, working on past papers/questions. Students can buy a revision guide online:

[https://www.amazon.co.uk/My-Revision-Notes-Pearson-Technology/dp/1510480501/ref=sr\\_1\\_4?crid=3U0SJE5UA8KDU&keywords=edexcel+design+and+technology&qid=1697534544&sprefix=edexcel+design+and+technology+%2Caps%2C3695&sr=8-4](https://www.amazon.co.uk/My-Revision-Notes-Pearson-Technology/dp/1510480501/ref=sr_1_4?crid=3U0SJE5UA8KDU&keywords=edexcel+design+and+technology&qid=1697534544&sprefix=edexcel+design+and+technology+%2Caps%2C3695&sr=8-4)

Next term, we will be continuing the NEA and students 'Design Development' section and then begin with the making aspect of the NEA. Students are keen to begin making in the workshop but this cannot be done until they have finalised what they are making. Please encourage students to be working on their NEA. Some students are behind on some sections which we will not revisit in lessons so they will need to complete this in their own time. The NEA is time consuming and so students do need to be adding to this in their own time. There is a catch-up session available to all students on Thursday's after school. I would highly recommend that students use this opportunity.

### **CNAT Sports Studies**

Our year 11 students have been working hard in both theory and practical elements of the course as they continue to complete their review of their recent leadership sessions which they led fantastically on the Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October to our year 7 and year 8 students.

Students have been working hard on their last ever piece of coursework, the review of their leadership session, where they evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of their recent session.

Once this has been completed, our students will be preparing for their R184 Exam, which they will sit in the summer. We continue to offer catch up club for our students every Thursday in room 7 from 3:15pm to 4:15pm.

### **GCSE PE**

The Year 11 GCSE PE students have been working well on their theory topics. They have completed the Components of Fitness and Principles of Training topics. They have just sat their mocks before Christmas and for PE, this was on Paper 2 content.

After Christmas, all students will complete their controlled assessment in lessons. This goes towards their final PE grade and is worth 10% of their grade.

Students have been bringing in video evidence for any sports that they have taken part in outside of school and Christmas is the deadline for this. Shortly after Christmas, we have to send the marks for the practical, including the controlled assessment to OCR.

There is a revision club every Monday afterschool 3.15 – 4.15pm in Room 7. All students will be welcome to attend this after Christmas

### **Drama**

Year 11 Drama students have been working all term on their final 'devising' project (comp 1-worth 40% of their GCSE). They have been working alone or in small groups to devise or design for a short piece of their own drama in the style of Brecht which will be ready for a day off-timetable to do a one day technical and dress rehearsal in January TBC (either the 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup>). Many students have taken advantage of the free after school sessions offered each week and this has been a great

opportunity to enhance performance ideas and skills. Final performances and designs will be shown, celebrated and assessed on the evening of Jan 31st or 1<sup>st</sup> Feb.

They are on their way to submitting a complete portfolio too detailing the whole process. (See ongoing google classroom assignment for details). A mock of the written paper (based on their set text *Find Me* and an analysis and evaluation of theatre – comp 3) has been completed and they will undertake the ‘scripted’ performance or design in the spring term (comp 2)

We would urge all parents and carer to access the Google classroom where all tasks key to completion of the GCSE are methodically uploaded. This is essential to tracking progress and student’s meeting of deadlines during the coming busy term.

Huge congratulations to all the students who were in any way involved in Grease – either in design, costume, lighting, sound or on the stage. An absolutely wonderful time was had by everyone and our students contributed so much to the life of the school. Most exciting was the backstage world during the show. Everyone helping each other and making new friends across the year groups.

We have access to a range of live theatre and we would urge everyone and their families to enjoy this fantastic free service that was paid for by our amazing PTA. Here are the two on line services which give us access to the National Theatre collections and the fantastic resource of Digital Theatre Plus which enhances any drama student’s work

Details are below and on Google Classroom:

National Theatre Online:

<http://dramaonlinelibrary.com/national-theatre-collectional>

Username: Poyntonstudents

Password: Pa55word

Digital Theatre Plus:

<https://edu.digitaltheatreplus.com/login?redirect=%2F>

Username: user.poyntonhs

Password: morning@7738

## **Dance**

Due to unforeseen circumstances the date of the students Set Phrases is now 12<sup>th</sup> January. They will have completed a rehearsal day before Christmas in preparation for this. Students have been busy preparing for the other parts of their practical examination and their Performance Pieces are well underway and looking good. Students need to continue to use lesson time to finish these or ask to book a rehearsal slot with me. Some students have started their Choreographies which I commend them for, however if a student has not started this it is vital that over the next half term this becomes a priority. This can be a solo or a group and they do not have to dance in their own piece. This is the heaviest weighting of the Practical Examination and therefore extremely important to get started. Monday’s after school is a good rehearsal time but students can still rehearse after clubs which finish at 4.10pm. Their practical exam day and Performance Evening is 28<sup>th</sup> March. Good luck to all.

## **Music**

Many Year 10 and 11 students took part in our fantastic school musical production of 'Grease' this term. Some had lead roles and were truly inspirational, but everyone played their part as if it was a lead role, with confidence, skill and with immense commitment. Backstage, Year 10 and 11 students were brilliant too, helping with props, scenery, sound, lighting, make up, costumes... there was so much to do! The students deserved the sell-out performances and standing ovations – the experience was one they will treasure forever. Also... lots of Year 10 and 11 students have taken part in our School Christmas concerts, performing in the Senior Choir, Concert and jazz bands and some taking on solo and ensemble roles too. Again – truly memorable and inspirational performances, brilliantly supported by parents and other members of our local community.

## **Uniform**

Details of our uniform policy can be found here:

<https://www.phs.cheshire.sch.uk/aboutus/schooluniform>

## **Equipment**

- Students need to bring the following equipment to school with them every day:
  - Pens – blue or black
  - Red pen
  - Pencil
  - Ruler
  - Protractor
  - Pair of compasses
  - Calculator
  - Rubber
  - Reading book
- It would also be handy to have their own scissors and glue!

## **Free school meals**

You can claim free school meals for each child who attends school in Cheshire East if you receive one of these benefits:

- Income Support
- Income based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income related Employment Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit - as long as you have a yearly household income of less than £16,190 (as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs) and do not get working Tax Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit with no earned income or with net monthly earnings less than £616.67

Phone 0300 123 5012 for further information and help or you can apply online at

[https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/school-meals/free\\_school\\_meals.aspx](https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/school-meals/free_school_meals.aspx)

## **Child and Adolescent Mental Health**

Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust's (CWP) nationally recognised Child and Adolescent Mental Health website 'MyMind' is a dedicated website for young people across Cheshire and Wirral experiencing mental health difficulties.

MyMind provides advice and guidance around the key topics identified as most important to young people and their families: how to cope with mental health challenges, how to get help and what to do in a crisis.

The site includes a host of interactive self-help resources for young people, parents/carers and anyone who works with young people around the topics of Mood, Lifestyle and Relationships, as well as details on local mental health services in your area.

Visit [www.MyMind.org.uk](http://www.MyMind.org.uk)

## **Thank you**

Thank you for all of your hard work year 11 and well done on such a brilliant half term. Have a lovely and restful Christmas holiday and we will look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

Please contact us if there are any issues or if you have any questions at all.  
Thank you for your continued support.

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