



## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 04 MAY 2018

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### Important Dates      **Week commencing 07 May is Week 1**

Monday 07 May	Bank Holiday
Wednesday 09 May	Y9 /10 District Athletics, Little Marlow Track
Tuesday 15 May	Ramadan begins / Think Workshops (Year 8) Mrs Hilton
Friday 18 May	Y10 Drama Workshop (Mr Latchem)
Tuesday 22 May	Think Workshops (Year 8) Mrs Hilton
Thursday 24 May	Hairspray Theatre evening trip (Mr Latchem) . Cricket Trip (Mr Roberts/Mr Thomas)
Friday 25 May	Break up for Half Term
Monday 4 June	Students return

### Important Message / Letters home / Reminders

Please see the internal exam timetable for Y7-Y10 and Y12 which will commence after May half-term. These exams will be formalised and take place in the school hall. Please click [here](#)

Letter to Year 11 Parents/Carers re Study leave & examination arrangements. Please click [here](#)

Ltr Year 12 Re End of Year Examinations (See page 8)

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## Vacancies at Sir William Ramsay School

*Head of English*  
*Head of Religious Studies*  
*Teacher of Business Studies*  
*Facilities Manager*  
*Senior Science Technician*  
*Learning Support Assistants*

Please visit our website below for job description and details of these positions.

If you are interested please complete an application form available on our website at:-

[www.swr.school](http://www.swr.school)

## Science News

Plans are underway ready for our Year 8's to do their CREST award after May half term. The success of the year 7's in February has pushed us on to make sure that all students develop their ideas as much as possible in the run up to starting the award in class. Ideas are already coming in thick and fast from a range of Biology, Chemistry and Physics topics. If your child has an idea let us know and we can talk to them about planning their investigation after half term or even starting it in the break! There will be prizes and certificates being given out on the night (10th July 4-6pm for your diaries!) for students' achievement. Year 7's CREST award was hugely successful, let's make year 8's the same!

## What are the CREST awards?

### What are the Crest awards?

- The CREST awards are a national qualification run by the British Science Association (BSA).
- They involve you doing a full scientific investigation!!
- For the Bronze award you will spend 10 hours working on the project.

### Why do the CREST awards?

1. You get a qualification certificate.
2. You learn lots of good new scientific skills!
3. You have lots of fun!

Image 1.1 Crest awards are run by the British Science Association (BSA)



Did you know that? Over 30,000 young people across Britain have achieved a CREST Award in the last year alone.

### Project Aims:

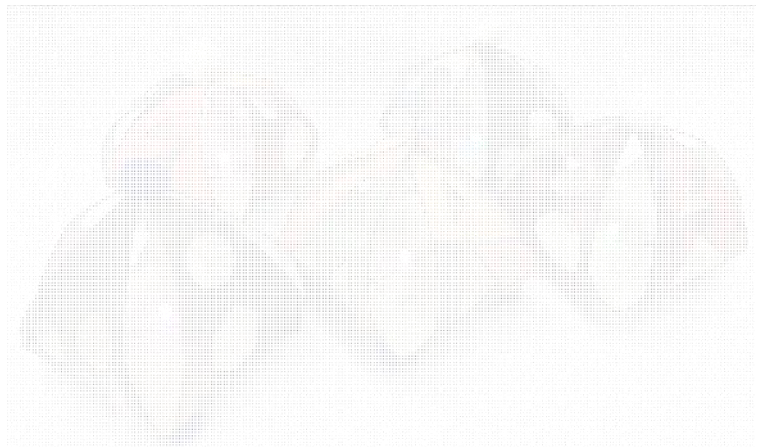
The goal of the CREST award is to develop Science research, investigation and communication skills.



## News from GCSE Design and Technology: Textiles

In the Spring term the Year 10 Design and Technology Textiles class were studying the topic of New and Emerging Technologies. Alongside the theory the class made these lovely lanterns. There were many processes involved in their production including:

- ◆ Sourcing a suitable image.
- ◆ Sublimation printing and heat pressing the image onto pelmet vilene.
- ◆ Use of 2D design to design a net for the lanterns.
- ◆ Use of the Laser cutter to cut the net from the vilene.
- ◆ Construction of a circuit using conductive thread and an LED.
- ◆ Making felt beads to stand the lantern on.



The students were really pleased with the results and developed a wide range of skills in the process.

Mrs Pitt, Acting Second of Faculty (Tech/Art)

## News from Food Tech



Year 9 have been busy producing their chosen dishes from around the world in Food and Nutrition this week!!

Some amazing show stoppers!!!

Mrs Hawes, Teacher of Food Technology



## News from Performing Arts

Year 11 Music Presents: Ramsay Music Week

What a week we have had in the Performing Arts department! The year 11 music students have organised and run their very own music event over the past week. Each lunch time a different group of students launched their event. On Tuesday and Wednesday we had two events in the Drama Theatre and then on Thursday and Friday we had events in the main hall. The year 11s had organised for students from across the school to perform and we even had some interesting staff performances too. Congratulations to all of the Year 11 music students for running some fantastic events and for managing to make them profitable enough to be able to raise some money for their respective charities.

**Mr Latchem**

**Acting Head of Faculty for Performing Arts**



Last week also saw the final performances of the Year 11 Drama students. Congratulations to them on finishing their final assessment and therefore completing their Drama course.

## **Geography**

The GCSE and A level exams are approaching fast and so the geography department have put together some resources that may help students with their revision.

### **BUG it!**

The BUG exam technique (Box the command word, Underline the keywords and Go back to the question) has worked well with GCSE classes to pull apart exam questions. It gives the students time to read the question and to focus on what the examiner is looking for. Every time they now answer an exam question they should 'BUG' it!

### **Revision websites:**

<https://revisionworld.com/gcse-revision/geography>

<https://www.bbc.com/education/examspecs/zy3ptyc>

<https://quizlet.com/subject/gcse-aqa-geography/> (lots of quizzes, also available as an app)

<https://tinycards.duolingo.com/users/CH8788>

<https://www.tes.com/teaching-resource/aqa-9-1-gcse-geography-knowledge-organisers-11829773>  
(these are free and excellent but you need to create a log in)

<https://www.tes.com/teaching-resource/new-aqa-revision-9-1-geog-5-a-day-11742490>

Get organised – plan your time and stick to it. There are websites you can create a revision timetable

<https://getrevising.co.uk/planner>

Set aside time for each subject.  
Prioritise areas you are weak at.

Revise in chunks and include doing past questions (e.g. those from :-

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/gcse/geography-8035/assessment-resources>)



### **Update from the Beauty Therapy Department**

This term Year10 students are completing their final nail assessments and being introduced to hair styling techniques. They are also working through their written assessment for creating an image based on a theme.

Yr 11's have now completed all project work and this week and next are completing their final practical assessment.

Yr12 and Y13 students have been setting and planning their practical targets up to the May half term to become fully competent with a full range of treatments ready for their exam on 20th June.

**Mrs Hall**

**Head of Beauty Therapy**



## **MFL Department**

Congratulations to all the Year 11 Spanish pupils who completed their speaking exam on Monday and Tuesday of this week.

### **Year 10 Mock Oral Exams**

Just a forewarning that the Yr10's will be sitting a mock oral exam in June. Dates and times will be given out by their Spanish teacher in due course.

### **Year 9 News**

We have had a good start back to the final term of the academic year. With the end of the school year approaching and obviously options being on students minds, it is important to stress the long term goals (especially as several subjects have started teaching the GCSE syllabus already in order to allow students the maximum time for revision toward the exam period of year 11). Over the next few weeks we will have assemblies on this topic.

Your support, encouragement and interest can make a spectacular difference to your child's motivation and ability to cope with the organisational skills needed for the next two years.

Listed in the options booklet are the course codes for all the exams and relevant exam boards for information on course requirements, useful study guides etc.

<https://www.bbc.com/education/subjects> is an excellent website with revision activities for most subjects at KS3 and 4.

Again congratulations must be given to many of our students for their extra-curricular achievements.

Connor Smith has been selected as one of only 4 in Buckinghamshire to represent the Scouts in West Virginia this summer. A fantastic honour indeed.

On another note, some year 9s are not coming into school prepared for the day. There are a lot of students in the year group missing equipment. Please can you help us by supporting in this matter and making sure that your child has everything they need.

If you have anything that you wish to discuss please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Henwood or Miss Russell.

**Mrs Henwood**

**Academic Leader for Year 9**

## Year 10 News Item- Internal Exams

The year 10 internal exams are coming up in June (see timetable in newsletter) so I thought I would take this opportunity to go through some helpful revision tips and ways that parents/carers can help support students in their studies.

Parents and carers can help reduce the exam stress of their child by helping them establish effective study and learning habits:

- Help your child find a quiet place to study without distractions. Make sure their table is uncluttered, so they can focus better.
- Encourage your child to find out exactly what the test involves - are there past test papers they can look at to help them understand what to expect? Has the teacher given them a list of what to cover?
- Encourage your child to ask for help or ask their teacher for clarity if they are unsure of something or if they feel confused.
- Help them to make 'mind maps' to collect ideas and summarise thoughts - use bright colours to help remember important links
- Help them to plan their study schedule early on so they have sufficient time to study. It can be helpful to develop a clear, realistic plan of what they want to cover in each study session. Can they break it down into small chunks?
- Know the exam schedule, maybe stick it up on the fridge.
- Remind your child to take a short rest and move around in between each part of their study.  
Offer help sometimes. It can be useful having someone to listen or practise with.

For students:

Have a look at the tips alongside and remember the revision technique we have gone over in registration. But most importantly, remember to stay calm during revision and exams. If you are feeling stressed you can always talk to the teacher to ask what you need to look over, or come to me or Mrs Thomas for support.

Revision techniques:

Mind maps  
Mnemonics  
Flow charts  
Clock revision notes  
Read aloud and recall  
Flashcards

Good Luck!

**Miss Sparks**

**Academic Leader, Year 10**

# Top 10 Revision Tips

- Rise and shine**  
Starting your revision by 9am will help you get into a routine that you can stick to.
- Breakfast**  
Having breakfast before revising is vital as it helps you to concentrate for longer.
- Log off**  
Switch off all devices, a five minute peek at Facebook turns into an hour so easily. Use internet time as a reward on a break.
- Past papers**  
Past exam papers are a perfect way to get used to exam pressure. Time yourself and use past papers to improve your confidence.
- Get colourful**  
Keep your notes organised and bright. Use different fonts, pens and diagrams. Colour coding your areas also helps.
- Stick to the plan**  
Make a revision timetable, it will help you prioritise your areas. Plan for different ways of learning (mind maps, essays, fact cards)
- Take breaks**  
Take a short break (5-10 minutes) after every half hour - It's important to get away from your work area. Adding breaks into your timetable is vital.
- Teach**  
If you are confident with a subject, teach it to your friends and they can do the same for you.
- No last minute revision**  
Cramming 10 minutes before an exam doesn't work, planning your time and working hard does!

**Breathe!**  
**You'll be great!**

## Sixth Form

Please see below the letter which has been sent home to Year 12 Parents and Carers:

ELC/LS

May 2018

To: Parents/Carers of Year 12 Students

Dear Parent/Carer

### Year 12 End of Year Examinations

I am writing to inform you about the forthcoming Year 12 End of Year exams. These exams are an important part of your son's/daughter's progress and transition into Year 13. The results from these exams will form the basis of students' predicted grades and will be used for their UCAS references (which are a fundamental part of their application).

I cannot stress the importance of these exams enough. Students need to revise and prepare thoroughly for these exams, and to take them very seriously. As Head of Sixth Form, poor results in these exams will raise cause for concern and will at the very least trigger a meeting between myself, parents/carers and students.

The dates and timings for these exams are as follows:

Date	Time	Subject	Venue
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	11.15am – 1.15pm	Maths Paper 1	MH1
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	11.15am – 1.15pm	Option 1 Psychology	MH1
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	11.15am – 1.15pm	Maths Paper 2	MH1
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	11.15am – 1.15pm	Philosophy	MH1
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	11.15am-12.15pm	English Literature	MH1
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	11.15m- 12.15pm	Physics	MH1
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	8.55am -10.55am	Biology	MH1
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	8.55am -10.55am	Geography	MH1
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	8.55am -10.55am	History	MH1
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	8.55am -10.55am	Option 3 Psychology	MH1
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	ALL DAY	Photography	Art

I would very much appreciate your help with supporting your son/daughter through this exam period. Some top tips can be found on our website covering revision techniques, revision timetables, nutrition, physical activity and sleep.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries or concerns.

Yours sincerely

**Miss Le Count**  
**Head of Sixth Form**