



Dear Parents and Carers

16 November 2016

Mrs Follett's assembly on Monday on how to approach revision for the English exam, following on from Mr Marshall's session last Tuesday as part of the Year 11 PSHCE day on revision technique, is a clear indicator that things are really starting in earnest for our Year 11 students. The mock exams start in less than 2 weeks and it is absolutely crucial that every student spends time at home revising, going over all the topics they have studied in the last 14 months, making revision notes and practising exam questions.

You reap what you sow and this is absolutely key as far as the mock exams are concerned. Far too many students go home with the attitude that "it's only the mocks not the proper exam!". It isn't just the mocks, it is the only chance students have to test themselves in actual exam conditions before the real exam. If you are going to make a mistake, make it in the mocks and learn from it. If you make a mistake in the summer session it is too late. Too many students fail to realise this and learn the hard way when their results fail to deliver the college place, the apprenticeship or the course they were hoping to access.

It is not all doom and gloom, however, and I have seen many students engaged in revision at lunchtime, attending intervention classes after school or catching up with controlled assessments. Every minute spent doing that little bit extra will help and could make all the difference between achieving or missing out on that target grade.

As always your support is invaluable and I thank you in advance for helping them and encouraging them throughout the next few weeks. Should you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me or the heads of subject.

YEAR 11 ENGLISH REVISION

After many boys expressing uncertainty about how to go about revising for English Language, on Monday I delivered an assembly to Year 11 on how they can go about this. Please see the attached slides from the PowerPoint. If you could support your son in his revision for his upcoming mock examinations using some of the strategies suggested, that would be fantastic. As I told the boys in the assembly, the best possible revision technique for English is to practise example questions. Each Year 11 student has been given a hard copy of the revision booklet for English Language Paper 1 and an electronic copy of this will be sent to them all via Show My Homework. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring your son achieves his full potential. Mrs Follett

YEAR 10 PARENT'S EVENING – THURSDAY 8 DECEMBER 2016

The Year 10 Parents' Evening takes place on Thursday 8 December 2016 from 4.00pm to 6.30pm. Appointments can be made online and boys were given letters yesterday containing further details, including instructions on how to make appointments (attached).



SOUTHPORT LEARNING PARTNERSHIP – SCHOOL COUNCIL

James Bartlett and Edward Bellerby, both in Year 7, went to Meols Cop yesterday afternoon to discuss the progression of Southport Learning Partnership which is where schools in the town come together to make a difference to their community. The students learned about all the work they, and their five accompanying primary schools, had done in their 'Helping Hands' partnership last year and began to generate ideas for this year's endeavors. The boys hope to lead the School Council and Form Captains in generating and providing support for the elderly in Ainsdale and the surrounding areas by pairing with Ainsdale Methodist Church and Community Care. The boys spoke eloquently and put forward some fantastic ideas. Well done!
Mrs Brook

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YEAR 11 REWARDS BREAKFAST – TUESDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2016

Year 11 tracking went out before the half term holiday and 2 of the areas in which staff were asked to grade boys were 'attitude to learning' and 'behaviour.' I'm pleased to say that there were a large number of students who scored highly in these areas and to thank them for their efforts there will be a rewards breakfast for those who achieved an average score of *4.6 or higher* (out of a maximum of 5) in *both* areas. Mrs Jeffery

The breakfast will take place in the Drama room from 8.40am on Tuesday 22nd November. The following boys are invited to attend:

Sam Pennifold, Jack Powell, Daniel James, Jacob Roberts, Daniel Hubbard, Max Hindle, Luke Monaghan, Laurence Fredricks, Will Berry, Morgan Neilson, Matthew Fraser, Oliver Mutch, Ethan Watson, Morgan Ashcroft, Ethan Scrutton, Connor Rylands, Martin Rimmer, Luke Harbon, Johnny Bean, Sam Livingstone, Louis Shorrcok, Edward Hammond, Red McCarthy, Ethan Fletcher, Angus Ball, Xander Yates, Aaron Mobbs-Pursell, Ismael Akesbi Baladi, Adam Heathfield, Connor Andrews, Joshua Wilkinson, Lewis Chambers and Jake Pagan.

SKI COURSE 2017 – WINTER PARK, COLORADO, USA

A place has become available for this year's trip to Winter Park at Easter should any pupil be interested in joining us. The total cost of the trip is £1,499 which includes half board 3* accommodation, 25 hours skiing tuition and hire of skis, boots, helmet and poles for the duration. Although payment would, ideally, be needed by the end of January, if you would be interested in your son joining the trip and would be able to arrange the funds for later than this date, please do contact me at azmilner@birkdalehigh.co.uk and I'm sure a suitable payment plan could be arranged with the finance department. Mr Milner

SCIENCE QUIZ LEAGUE REMINDER

All Key Stage 4 students should complete the latest Show My Home Work quizzes set by the Science department by this weekend (Year 10 particle model of matter; Year 11 Chemistry 1.1). They can also still complete any of the 2 other quizzes set previously, irrespective of deadline. Mr Woodley

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2016

As part of Anti Bullying week, our Year 8 Peer Mentors are visiting Year 7 forms during registration where they will deliver an Anti-Bullying PowerPoint presentation.

The Peer Mentors will talk to the pupils about what bullying is, different kinds of bullying, show a short video and advise the boys of support available. Mrs Nightingale

YEAR 9 PARIS TRIP 2017

This is a reminder that the full balance is to be paid by 1st March 2017 and that there is the facility to pay in instalments of your choosing via ParentPay. Mr Glew

GREEN MACHINE

As we have so many exciting events to organise, we have had to alter our monthly meetings to fortnightly ones, so our next meeting will be this Monday (21 November) in Mrs Marshall's room at lunch time. We will be discussing the Games Tournament, a trip and a bug hunt. New members always welcome.

Don't forget – tomorrow (Thursday 17 November) is "USE LESS STUFF DAY!" How about challenging yourselves and your family to walk or cycle for short trips instead of using the car; switch the tap off while brushing your teeth; going a day without playing computer games, texting or watching telly etc. It can be done! Mrs Bradley



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SPORTS REPORT

Jack Britton and Declan Sherrington 9PZM



Last weekend Jack Britton and Declan Sherrington attended the British Taekwondo National Poomsae Championships in Nottingham. Jack became British Champion in the U14 individual category and Jack and Declan won Silver in the U14 team event. On the Sunday was Jack's first time competing in the U17 categories and he claimed 5th place in the individual category out of 17 competitors, Silver in the team event and Bronze in the pairs event. He was then awarded Player of the Championships out of over 400 competitors. On the back of this fantastic performance the GB coaches have expressed an interest in Jack representing GB in the European Championships next year. Well done Jack and Declan!

Year 7 Football

Squad:

Lucas Balshaw, Adam Dimba, Owen Kelly, Vincent Hartley, Jack Walmsley, Rico Seddon-Davidson, Bailey McDonald, Theo Davies, Mackenzie Mault, David Tear, Lucas Goodman, Konna Tzigkouras, Lawrie Woods and Harry Lambert.

The year 7 Football squad have made a promising start to their Birkdale football careers. The season started with an away fixture at North Liverpool Academy. The team created numerous chances but couldn't quite convert enough of them and unfortunately lost 3-2. The squad then travelled to Stanley High School in the EFC Cup. They played 3 local schools and won all their games which means that they have qualified for a tournament at Everton's training ground, Finch Farm, in the new year. Last week Birkdale played their first home game of the season against Stanley and won 8-1! All boys have been superb but special mentions to David Tear and Jack Walmsley at the back, to Vincent Hartley the midfield captain, and to Rico Seddon-Davidson and Owen Kelly who have been impressive up front. Keep it up boys!

Mr Ascough, Year 7 Football Manager

BPA NEWS

BPA Meeting

The next BPA meeting will take place on Wednesday 7th December 2016 at 7.30pm – please join us – all welcome to attend.

Bags2School

Many thanks to all those who have sent bags into school to support this fundraiser. There is still time to send any

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filled bags into school, as the bags will now be collected on **Friday 18th November**. If you have any filled bags, please either drop them off at school asap or email bpa@birkdalehigh.co.uk to arrange collection.

INFORMATION DAY – SEFTON PARENT CARER FORUM – THURSDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2016

An Information Day hosted by Sefton Parent Carer Forum for parents and carers and others who have an interest in SEN and Disability is taking place on Thursday 24 November 2016 from 10.00am to 2.00pm at Sing Plus, 53 Cambridge Road, Seaforth L21 1EX. There is a crèche available too for families who need it - but places must be booked! There will also be refreshments. To book you place email seftonparentcarerforum@gmail.com. A flyer giving further information is attached.

Yours faithfully

Mr G Bourgade
Headteacher

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Ages 13-18

FIFA

What do all of these have in common?

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Revising Reading Skills

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PRACTICE PRACTICE PRACTICE
PRACTICE PRACTICE PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

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Practise Example Questions and Papers

- The reading sections are all about **exam technique**
- **Timing** is tight so practising in timed conditions is essential
- Familiarise yourself with how the **questions are worded** and what you are expected to do for each one

IF RUNNING IS DIFFICULT, RUN MORE.

THIS LESSON APPLIES TO ANYTHING

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"You can't revise for English anyway."

"I know, I'm English aren't I - it can't be that hard!"

"You're either good at English or you're not."

"Miss, it's fine - I'll do it on the day of the exam."

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Ages 13-18


There's actually a lot to learn too!

Cue cards, look, cover and check, test each other, test yourself.

Word	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simile • Metaphor • Personification • Hyperbole • Repetition • Juxtaposition • Antithesis • Oxymoron • Rhetorical Question • Alliteration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protagonist • Omniscient narrator • Introduction • Denouement • Chronological • Climactic moment • Dialogue • Flashback • Flash-forward • Motif • Foreshadowing • Narrowing Focus • Widening focus
Lexical Choice		
Noun: abstract noun / concrete noun		
Adjective: comparative / superlative		
Verb: dynamic / static / Modal		
Adverb		
Personal Pronoun: Possessive Pronouns		
Determiner		
Preposition		
Conjunction		

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Find and critically read current texts by finding interesting grammatical, structural or language features and annotate the effects of them



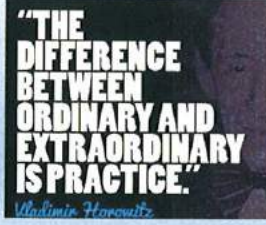
Full transcript of President-elect Donald Trump's victory speech.

"Thank you. Thank you very much, everyone. Sorry to keep you waiting, complicated business, complicated. Thank you very much."

"We just received a call from Secretary Clinton. She congratulated us. It's about us, on our victory, and I congratulated her and her family on a very, very hard fought campaign. I mean, she fought very hard. Hillary has worked very long and very hard over a long period of time, and we owe her a measure of gratitude for her service to our country. I mean that very sincerely."

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Revising Writing Skills



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YouTube - Mr Bruff - 2017 AQA English Language Exams

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Descriptive Writing

Pull up images and practise writing about them - time yourself!



Top Tip: Write and practise a brilliant description of the weather, this could be adapted to fit most descriptions.

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Age 13 - 18

gosepod
Education on Demand

ENGLISH LANGUAGE 3 exams

- English Language Paper 1: Exploration in Creative Reading and Writing Comprehension (06 June 2017) 33 Pods [VIEW PLAYLIST](#)
- English Language Paper 2: Writing Arguments and Perspectives (12th June 2017) 33 Pods [VIEW PLAYLIST](#)

PAST EXAMS

2016 English Language Paper 1 (12/12/16) 33 Pods [VIEW PLAYLIST](#)

2016 English Language Paper 2 (12/12/16) 33 Pods [VIEW PLAYLIST](#)

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Age 13 - 18


Spelling

Learn and practise these 30 most commonly misspelt words on the English Exam.

Also learn any words that have been marked as 'sp' by your English teacher

"The Dirty Thirty"


1. accommodation
2. beautiful
3. because
4. beginning
5. believe
6. business
7. ceiling
8. decided
9. definitely
10. disappear
11. disappointed
12. embarrass
13. extremely
14. friend
15. immediately
16. minute
17. necessary
18. neighbour
19. nervous
20. opportunity
21. persuade
22. queue
23. queuing
24. quiet
25. quite
26. receive
27. separate
28. sincerely
29. surprised
30. until



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Practise the different types of text you are expected to write for paper 2

- Letter
- Article
- Leaflet
- Speech
- Essay



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"Practice isn't the thing you do once you're good. It's the thing you do that makes you good." - Malcolm Gladwell

I fear not the man who has practised 10,000 kicks once but I fear the man who has practised that one kick 10000 times...

- Bruce Lee

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£5.99 on Amazon

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My gift to you...

English Language Paper 1 Revision Booklet



It includes:

- Timings advice
- Top Tips for each question
- Top band example responses for each question
- Practice Papers at the back for you to work through

Paper 2 Booklet coming soon!

PUSH YOURSELF BECAUSE NO ONE ELSE IS GOING TO DO IT FOR YOU.



16 November 2016

Dear Parent/Carers

Our Year 10 Parents' Evening will take place on Thursday 8 December 2016 between 4.00pm and 6.30pm.

Each appointment will last 5 minutes, so please try to limit your discussions to your allotted time slot. Where possible, please try and select consecutive appointments in the same locations.

We have organised for a trial of a new online booking system and have attached the information on how to access this and make the appointments.

If you have any problems please call the school office and we will be able to make the appointments for you.

Please note the following for the Science appointments:

If your son is in 10S1T make an appointment with Z Flood
If your son is in 10S1S make an appointment with S Woodley
If your son is in 10S1C make an appointment with C Spallen
If your son is in 10S2 make an appointment with J Woodley
If your son is in 10S3 make an appointment with S Bennett
If your son is in 10S4 make an appointment with S Burcher

The online booking system will be going live on Wednesday 16 November and will close at 12pm on Thursday 8 December 2016.

It is essential that both you and your son make every effort to attend the Parents' Evening.

Your son is expected to wear full school uniform.

I look forward to seeing you on the evening.

Yours faithfully

Mr S Bennett
Head of Year 10

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Dear Parents/Carers

We have organised for a trial of a new online booking system for our Parents' Evenings. Our next event is on **Thursday 8th December** for Year 10.

Go to <http://www.parents-booking.co.uk/birkdale>

PLEASE NOTE: You need to type this address into your website browser's 'address bar'. Do not try to 'Google' this website address or use a search engine as that will not work. This is a common mistake on phones and tablets especially.

Login to see which appointments are available and select one that is convenient for you.

You will need:

- Your child's legal first name and legal surname
- Your child's date of birth

The system is live on **16 November 2016** and will be open to take your bookings until **12pm on 8 December 2016**.

Once you have logged in, we suggest you use the 'Automated Booking' wizard to make your appointments. You will be asked to enter your availability and choose which teachers you want to see before being shown the most efficient order for visiting those teachers on the night.

Troubleshooting Tips –please read before booking!

- To log in you need to enter the details we have on record for you and your child. If you have recently changed your title or surname, for example, and not informed us, we will be expecting you to log in with the details we have on record
- The email address you enter is only used to receive a confirmation of your appointment. If the system gives you an error when you log in, it will not be the email address that is the problem
- If you have several children to make bookings for, use the 'Change Child' button on the blue bar (above the school's name) in the very top left corner of the Parent's Booking Page to swap between your children. *This does not apply to the Booking Wizard, where your children are tabbed above the teacher names*

If you are unable to book at home, please call the office where a member of staff will help you.

We would welcome your feedback on the new online booking system, please send comments to smoss@birkdalehigh.co.uk, please add **Booking System** in the subject line.

Yours faithfully

Mr Moss
Head of ICT

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SEFTON PARENT CARER FORUM

are proud to bring you our next
INFORMATION DAY



To be held on
Thursday 24th November 2016
From 10.00 am till 2.00 pm
at The SING Plus Centre,
53 Cambridge Road,
Seaforth, L21 1EX

Two great speakers attending: Vicky Harris from Scope face 2 face, looking at the emotional journey to diagnosis, also bringing along their specialist sleep practitioner

Paddy Joe Moran, a young man with Aspergers who has had published books, sharing his story and ways to communicate with people on the Autistic Spectrum

Creche available, places MUST be booked in advance.

Here are just a few of the agencies/charities that will be on hand for advice and support

Caldwell Children - Scope Face 2 Face - SENDIAS

Young carers - ASK-Pergers - ADHD foundation

Autism Initiatives - Aiming High -

SEN team Reps - Contact A Family

Lunch will be provided. Please book your

Place by emailing us: seftonparentcarerforum@gmail.com



SPCF - SeftonParentcarerforum@gmail.com



@SeftonPCF