

# BEAMINSTER SCHOOL

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February 2023

Dear Year 11 Parents and Carers

## Final Weeks, Trial Exams and Revision Timetables

Firstly, thank you for making the time to speak with staff at the **Year 11 Parents' Evening** on Wednesday. We are very keen to maintain close communication with you over the coming months, and this was an ideal opportunity to discuss the progress made by your child and to identify ways that we can support them further. If you were unable to attend, or have any questions that you wish to raise, as always, please do contact your child's Tutor:

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
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After half-term we begin the final 10 weeks of schooling before the **GCSE examinations start on Monday May 15<sup>th</sup>**. To ensure that we support Year 11 as best we can, staff are providing additional revision and study sessions during lunchtimes and after-school. The **attached programme** sets out the various days and times when these sessions will run; we encourage every student to identify just two or three subjects where they need to target their efforts.

As discussed with students on Stop the Clock day, effective revision is a process that *involves* students; making sure they understand the topic they are revising (and seeking clarification if they don't); condensing information into its key points; using techniques, for example mind-mapping, to allow the condensed information to work its way into memory, and then regularly reviewing this condensed information so that it sits within the memory and can be applied to exam specific situations: **Understand it; Condense it; Memorise it; Review it; Apply it.**

As well as this ongoing revision, many subjects also have **Non-Exam Assessments** (NEAs) where students are completing ongoing coursework. Please be aware that the following subjects will be completing essential elements of the course before the final examinations start. This includes:

- **Food** practical exams week beginning February 20<sup>th</sup>
- **Product Design** during the next half-term
- **PE** practical assessment completed over the next half-term with moderation May 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>
- **iMedia** coursework up until May 15<sup>th</sup>
- **French** speaking examinations straight after Easter
- **Art** examination days straight after Easter.

Mrs Emmett has kindly provided individual timetables for the **March Trial Exams** which begin on **Wednesday March 8<sup>th</sup>**. Students will receive information on the content of these exams and be provided with guided revision to prepare themselves; an overview exam timetable is attached.

We are also very aware that this period can be a real challenge for students, and for their parents and carers, and that we all need to encourage a healthy work-life balance. The students have shown a growing maturity and positive attitude during this half-term and we look forward to developing this over the next few months so that we can ensure student success in their final examinations.

Mr Hales

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