

2 February 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

The week commencing 5 February, we have the second Year 8 assessment week, during which all Year 8 students will have the opportunity to show what they have been learning as well as receiving feedback on areas they need to improve.

Following these assessments, you will receive the second report to show you what progress your child is making and how good their attitude towards learning is.

It would be really helpful if you could encourage your child to revise for these assessments and also to arrive at school fully equipped.

Many revision resources have been shared on Google Classroom by class teachers, so please make use of those. To help you understand what the assessments are about, here are some further details:

**English:** Year 8 will be completing their second STAR reader test this half term. This will test their understanding of vocabulary, as well as comprehension of a range of short texts - both fiction and non-fiction - that they will read in the test.

**Maths:** Students should revise topics from the autumn and spring terms using the shared revision list alongside their weekly Sparx homework.

**Science:** The assessment will focus on the topics that were taught to students in the Autumn term; these are inheritance, food, exercise and health and environmental science.

**Geography:** Year 8 geographers will have an open book assessment on the impacts of deforestation on people. Remember - impacts can be good as well as bad!

**History:** Students will be given a combination of short and extended answer questions covering the Titanic and the First World War. They should ensure they're able to write developed paragraphs explaining why so many people died when the Titanic sank.

**French/German:** Students will be assessed on the topic 'My town, my area.' Students will be required to name places in their town and say what they like and don't like about where they live- topics such as their school, house, family or even neighbours are all fair game!

**REP:** Students have been looking at Philosophy and the existence of God. We started in Ancient Greece and have recently explored Aquinas' Cosmological Argument and Paely's Teleological Argument. During their assessments students will have the opportunity to examine strengths and weaknesses of the arguments before concluding on God's existence.

**ICT:** The assessment focuses on the Python Programming Language, students will be asked to demonstrate their understanding of inputs, outputs, variables, if statements and loops.

**Art:** Art students will be completing their pop art number compositions, selecting and applying a range of mixed media techniques.

**Music:** Students will be assessed on their chord playing skills and on how they create a performance using the famous sequence from Pachelbel's Canon.

**Drama:** Year 8 have been studying silent movies, and will have devised and filmed their own original short film for their assessment.

**PE:** Grading is completed using the department's Medal > Elite ladder, each ladder section will have a lower, middle and upper grade score from 1-18. E.g. Medal Middle = 2, Gold Middle = 11 and Elite Upper = 18.

We wish the best of luck to all of our Year 8 students. If there are any questions about these assessments, students should talk to their class teacher for further information.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Goodship  
Assistant Headteacher

