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11 March 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

As Year 11 students make their final push towards the end of the year, I have really noticed a growing focus and determination within the year group and willingness to engage positively with all the support mechanisms available in school. Please see a number of key events that either have taken place recently, or are on offer for students over the coming weeks and months.

Mock Results

During assembly on Friday 11 March, students will receive their final Mock grades for assessments completed in Maths, Science and English last half term. As always, the focus will be on improvement and filling in gaps for learning in and out of lessons over coming weeks. I can only commend the students on their approach during this most recent Mock window. Although these formal assessments always pose a challenge and potentially heighten anxiety at the time, they are really beneficial and support in making the process of the real exams more familiar and accessible in May/June.

In addition to these mock examinations, students have been completing a number of final assessment and coursework activities in school over the last 2 weeks, including controlled assessments in a number of subject areas. In addition, MFL speaking exams are due to take place after the Easter holidays before the start of the formal examination window.

MFL Speaking Exams

French Class 11C /FR - The speaking exams will take place on Wednesday 4 May

Spanish Class 11B/SP – The speaking exams will take place on Monday 9 May and Tuesday 10 May

German classes 11A and 11C – The speaking exams will take place on Monday 25 April (first day back after Easter break), Thursday 28 April and Friday 29 April (not BTEC Dance students).

All students have speaking books with prepared work which they should be learning now. Individual times will be handed out closer to the dates.

Parents Evening

Monday 14 March is the final Year 11 Parents' Evening of the year and it is great to see the high number of students and parents/carers already booked in. If you are having any challenges with this please see attached documentation or contact your child's Learning Mentor or Mr Foxon via email. I would also recommend students also attend these evenings, as all the feedback from staff will focus on individual improvements that can be made over the final few weeks of the year. This can be especially beneficial in terms of revision foci and identifying specific areas of improvement.

Passport to the Prom

Our Passport to the Prom initiative is now in full swing, with pushing 100 students attending revision sessions each night (Monday to Thursday). This has been wonderful to see and students are aware there is going to be a pizza delivery for students involved on one night week beginning 14 March. The best bet to avoid missing out, would be for students to attend an activity on each of the days. Information on specific evenings can be found below, students need to remember to get each session signed off to ensure they earn their money off activities on the Prom event itself.

Mon 3:20-4pm	Tues 3:20-4pm	Wed 3:20-4pm	Thurs 3:20-4pm
Computer Science/IT	Art Group 1	Art Group 2	Drama
History	Design Technology	Business	Mathematics
Geography	English	Media	Modern Foreign Languages
	Food	Science	
	GCSE PE		
	Textiles		

Linking to the end of year celebration, a couple of bits of information have been shared with students this week:

Leavers' Hoodies

Leavers' Hoodies are now available to order on ParentPay (see separate flyer). There is a strict deadline of Friday 20 May 2022; **unfortunately, late orders will not be able to be processed.**

Yearbook

All students have been emailed a form to complete to provide consent and other relevant information for the yearbook. They do have the opportunity to provide an alternative Y11 photo and additional photos of their time at NLS, which they can submit via email to the yearbook team.

Can you please remind your child to complete this information by **Friday 18 March** otherwise, they will not be included. Information about payment for yearbooks will be on PayPal in due course. Any queries please contact the Yearbook team at yearbook@northleamington.co.uk.

Careers

Finally, there have been lots of activity in school recently, linked to Year 11 students' careers and potential post 16 pathways. Thank you to Mrs Barley-Morey and Ms Rhule (new careers advisor) for all their hard work with these activities, particularly the mock interviews which I know were a huge undertaking to which the students responded fantastically. Over coming weeks, Ms Rhule will be giving all Year 11 students the opportunity for a 1:1 interview, to secure a positive post 16 destination,

if required. This is in addition to careers club on a Monday and Tuesday (see below). If you would like any further information, please contact our careers teams via email: careers@northleamington.co.uk

CEIAG Y11 Mock Interviews

The aim of this event was to provide an opportunity for Y11 students to have an experience of an interview in a positive and confidence building environment.

We could not be prouder of every single student who took part in the interviews that took place on Tuesday 1 March. We will be looking to offer an additional opportunity for any students who were unable to attend their interview at a later date.

Here are just a few of the comments made by the team from external interviewers who supported the event:

- A huge thank you for having us. It was most definitely rewarding to have this opportunity in speaking with students and helping them to prepare for their individual futures.
- Thank you for all the work that went into organising these interviews. It was really energising to be part of the team supporting the students and I loved hearing their stories.
- All students answered exceptionally well and I was impressed with the examples and context given behind their answers. Once they lost their nerves after the first few questions, they were able to speak with more confidence and passion.
- All the students were prompt, polite, engaged and really wanted to do well. Any nerves I think showed they cared about the interviews
- I was amazed at the extra-curricular activities (sports and jobs) that so many of the students have achieved and engaged in, despite Covid lockdowns.
- Everyone, absolutely everyone, had something to say, a real range of different personalities and interests, it was really interesting. It was also very humbling to be face-to-face with their lives and for many of them what they manage day to day, re their own challenges or challenges at home.
- I thought the students were great, most of mine were quite nervous and they handled this really well by calming their nerves, keeping control and taking time to consider the questions to give their best answers. I was really impressed by the honesty of those who shared how disappointed they were by year 10 results and how they were in effect pulling their finger out to change their ways to get better end results in Year 11. This honesty about self-reflection and a change in motivation is very endearing and entirely believable and helps you understand someone's story.
- Thank you so much for inviting us to be interviewers for your Y11 students. I felt the interview day went extremely well and felt all the students had prepared well for the interviews.
- Many thanks for yesterday's event – I came away so positive and inspired by your students, and on a personal level it gave me hope! Having talked to my company about the success of the event, we would love to be involved with any future events that you run, so please keep me posted!
- As part of my role, I interview candidates almost every day for roles within our company. Your students had clearly prepared well for the interview, and were able to give thoughtful, informed answers.
- Many of the students performed so well, had they been applying for an apprenticeship or a role with my company, I would have had no hesitation in employing them! It was an absolute

pleasure to interview your students. Their positivity and enthusiasm as they shared their experiences, and their hopes and dreams for the future was truly awe inspiring – congratulations to all involved!

NLS Careers Club

This will be taking place on Mondays and Tuesdays after school in addition to the regular Careers Service delivered during the school day this term. Click on web link for further details and sign-up. <https://forms.office.com/r/egR10WAAb1>

Warwickshire College Open Days

Warwickshire College Group are hosting their Open Day events from the 24 March to 7 April to give school leavers the opportunity to learn about their college courses and qualifications. Participants will learn more about the campus, facilities, and have an opportunity to speak with course tutors and get answers to their questions. Parental consent is required. To sign up simply click on web link: [Open Events - WCG - Warwickshire College](#)

National Careers Week

To coincide with National Careers Week 2022, Michelle Donelan, Minister of State for Further and Higher Education, is writing to students and parents about the education, training and work choices available to young people after they finish their GCSEs and once they turn 18. Please see the link below.

[Open the letter to parents, carers and guardians](#)

Kind regards,



Mr M Atkins



Mr J Foxon