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Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

I hope you all had a lovely holiday and were able to take a well-deserved rest. I happily welcome you back to the Spring term and hope that students are looking forward to the opportunities ahead. We have a busy term ahead of us, so please see below for some important dates for the diaries and information on upcoming events. **Please ensure you read the final point for information regarding exams.**

Holocaust Memorial Talk

On Friday 21 January we are proud to present a talk from John Dobai who is a Holocaust survivor. He will be talking to students about his life experiences and what he has learnt. Drawing parallels to discrimination which is still around today, this talk will be incredibly informative and thought provoking. This talk will be taking place during period 5 on the Friday; it is a compulsory event for all Sixth Form students, but please do contact us if there are any reasons why you do not wish your child to take part.

UCAS – Information about the next steps

A huge congratulations to those students who have already got offers at their chosen universities. Students have been asked to wait until after the mock exams to confirm their Firm and Insurance choices to ensure they make a fully informed decision in picking the right courses.

Students should visit any universities that they haven't visited on their list and look in detail at the modules on the courses to compare where they want to attend.

In normal circumstances, the Insurance choice would be a course with an offer of grades lower than the Firm choice. It should be in line with how students are currently achieving as well as taking into account potential factors that may come up during exam time, which may affect performance.

Once a Firm and Insurance choice have been confirmed, there are no future decisions between the two courses; the Firm choice will be the first place university and the Insurance choice will be the next option if the student does not get the grades for the Firm choice offer and meets the offer of the Insurance choice. If students do not meet either offer, they can go into clearing and can apply for available courses on results day.

Apprenticeships

With National Apprenticeships week approaching between 7-13 February, we have invited Amazing Apprenticeships into school to give an assembly to students. They will explain what apprenticeships are, the benefits, companies involved and much more, giving students lots of information to think about. Apprenticeships are an excellent route for people wanting to go into a variety of careers, but are highly competitive!

Amazing Apprenticeships will then be returning on 28 January to run a workshop for 30 students advising them on where to look, applications, online testing and more.

Work Experience

Year 12 students should have been contacting companies for their work experience placement in July. It is important that students secure a placement that is relevant to their future career path. This may be based on what A Levels they are studying, or what they wish to do Post 18. We have advised students to contact a large number of companies to ensure a positive outcome. We are aware that some companies have moved to online work experience due to the increase in working from home. If this is the case, we still need the relevant documentation, so that you can ensure a high quality experience. We will send the forms out, to be completed by the end of February, in the next few weeks.

Lateral flow testing and face masks

With the transmission of Covid-19 still evident, a reminder for your child to continue with the twice weekly LFTs on a Sunday and Wednesday evening. If the LFT reports a positive result with no symptoms, from next week your child will no longer need to get a PCR test; they will need to isolate for 7 days. If they have a negative LFT result on days 6 and 7 they can return to school on day 8. If your child has symptoms, they need to take a PCR test and follow the government guidelines for the isolation period.

Access for lessons during isolation via Teams is available, but only if your child is well enough to do so. Please continue to notify positive cases to school through the usual absence procedure, notify NHS Test and Trace and follow all national guidance associated with reducing the risk of transmission. Students are required to wear face masks in communal areas and in lessons this term. Please support us by ensuring they have appropriate masks to wear each day at school.

Prom

We are happy to announce we have provisionally booked the Year 13 prom as Friday 24 June 2022 at Chesford Grange. We will provide more details in due course.

Mock Exams

The mock exam week is Monday 7 February-Monday 14 February. Students will have been revising over the holidays and will continue to work on revision in their time outside of lessons this term.

Below is some very important information regarding the mock examination window which takes place at the end of this half-term. Please ensure it is read and understood and ask for clarification from the Sixth Form Team (tutors or Sixth Form leadership) if you need.

Purpose of the Mock Examinations

The upcoming mock exam window will have papers based on content that has been covered in lessons and subject staff will make students aware of the scope of each paper. The Government's intention is to ensure exams can take place this summer, but we are also asked to prepare for the unlikely eventuality of centre assessed grading.

Preparing fully for the mocks is crucial not only because they would be one source of evidence in this process, but also to ensure teachers have the best indication of where each student is at and can advise appropriate next steps.

We are told to expect in early February from the relevant Government bodies, advance information for some subjects that will help to focus the revision for students in the second half of the spring term. The completed mock papers together with this information, will aid staff to continue to support students in the approach to the summer season in the best way possible.

We will keep you updated through our Friday communications with any other information as appropriate.

The Mock Exam Window

- Students will receive a personalised timetable with seat numbers and rooms on shortly before the exam window
- There is no Study Leave as we believe students need to have quality and quantity of contact with their subject teachers to best support them via face-to-face learning experiences
- Students should report to the canteen at least 15 minutes in advance of the exam time
- As soon as an exam is finished, students return to timetabled lessons or study sessions in school
- In the Mock Exam window, lessons students go to will be about consolidation, review, revision
- If any exam is missed by a student, it will be undertaken on the “contingency” days noted on the schedule below

Examination Week 1 (NB This is Timetable Week 2)

Timetable Week 2	Mon 7 Feb	Tue 8 Feb	Wed 9 Feb	Thu 10 Feb	Fri 11 Feb
09:00	Y13 Maths Paper 1 (2h) Y13 RE Paper 2 (2h) Y12 RE Paper 2 (2h) Y12 Maths Paper 1 (1h)	Y13 English Lang/Lit (3h) Y13 Media (2h15) Y13 RE Paper 1 (2h) Y13 Biology Paper 1 (2h) Y12 English Lit. (2h30) Y12 Further Maths Paper 1 (1h30) Y12 Sport (1h)	Y13 English Lit (2h30) Y13 PE (2h) Y13 Physics Paper 1 (2h) Y12 RE (2h) Y12 Maths Paper 2 (1h30)	Y13 Further Maths Paper 1 (2h) Y13 Geography Paper 1 (1h30) Y13 History (2h15) Y12 Chemistry (1h30) Y12 History (2h15) Y12 Media (2h15) Y12 PE Paper 1 (1h30) Y12 Health & Social (1h30)	Y13 Psychology (2h) Y13 Physics Paper 2 (2h) Y13 Computing paper 1 (2h30) Y12 Psychology (2h)
13:00	Y13 Business (2h) Y12 Business (2h)	Y13 Chemistry Paper 1 (2h) Y13 Computing Paper 2 (1h30) Y13 Health & Social (1h30)	Y13 Maths Paper 2 (2h) Y13 Sociology Paper 1 (2h)	Y13 Biology Paper 2 (2h) Y13 Further Maths Paper 2 (2h) Y12 Further Maths Paper 2 (1h)	Y13 Sociology Paper 2 (2h) Y13 Chemistry Paper 2 (2h)

		Y12 Computing (1h30) Y12 Geography (1h30) Y12 Physics (1h30)	Y12 Sociology Paper 2 (1h 15) Y12 PE Paper 2 (1h)	Y12 Biology (1h30)	Y12 Sociology Paper 1 (1h)
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Examination Week 2 (NB This is Timetable Week 1)

Timetable Week 1	Mon 14 Feb	Tue 15 Feb	Wed 16 Dec	Thurs 17 Feb	Fri 18 Feb
09:00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
13:00	Y13 Geography Paper 2 (1h30) Contingency Exams Clash Exams	NA	NA	NA	Contingency Exams Clash Exams

Expectations, Examination Rules and Conduct

- Students need to ensure they are familiar with the examination rules that they will have heard in assemblies over the course of this half-term
- JCQ exam regulations sheets will be issued over the next week or so for signing by students to indicate they understand what is required - this is usual practice and in line with other students sitting examinations
- The basic outline of these expectations are:
 - DO learn your CANDIDATE NUMBER, EXAM ROOM and SEAT NUMBER - which is shown on your individual candidate timetable
 - DO bring all your own equipment to the exam – you will need:
 - CLEAR PENCIL CASE (see-through) with no markings or writing
 - 2 x BLACK INK PENS – no erasable or gel pens, no correcting pens, fluid or tape
 - HIGHLIGHTER PENS – are not allowed for your answers, but can be used on question papers to plan your answers
 - 2 x HB PENCILS
 - PENCIL SHARPENER
 - ERASER
 - RULER (cm/mm)
 - PROTRACTOR
 - PAIR OF COMPASSES
 - SCIENTIFIC CALCULATOR (with no lid) when permitted for use in the exam

It is the student's responsibility to bring the correct equipment to every exam.

- DO bring DRINKING WATER in a clear bottle with a SIP/SPORTS CAP lid and with all labels removed – no other drinks are allowed
- DO NOT bring any food into the exam
- DO arrive to school as normal and make sure you go to the exam meeting area at least 15 minutes before the start time of your exam
- If you are ILL or going to be LATE, your parent/carer must contact the school before 08:30 and advise Reception as usual, but specifically tell them to inform the Exams Officer
- If you feel UNWELL or have a PERSONAL ISSUE before the start of the exam, you must tell the Exams Officer before you go into the exam room
- DO remember to take your glasses (no cases allowed), inhalers, EpiPen or any other medical equipment to the exam - which will be checked by the Invigilators before the exam starts
- DO remove everything from your pockets (including tissues) and put in your bags
- DO ensure all electronic devices are switched off, and all watches removed, and are all put in your bags - which must be left in the bag store room assigned to your exam room
- You will be called to your exam room by your SEAT ROW NUMBER – proceed to the bag store room assigned to your exam room, then under the instruction of the Invigilators you may enter your exam room in a quiet and orderly fashion
- DO NOT talk as soon as you enter the exam room and REMAIN SILENT as you will be under formal exam conditions
- DO NOT touch anything on your exam desk until you are instructed to do so by the Invigilators
- DO NOT make eye contact or talk to any other student and face the front at all times
- DO NOT borrow any equipment from any other student – if you have forgotten something please raise your hand and one of the Invigilators will assist you

Incidents of malpractice will be reported to the Exam Board and could lead to disqualification.

- LISTEN CAREFULLY to the instructions given by the Lead Invigilator at the start of the exam
- DO NOT write anything until you are instructed to do so by the Lead Invigilator
- Only when instructed to do so, fill in your details on the front cover of the answer booklet or the top of line of the A4 lined paper you are given – you must write your FULL NAME (first name and surname) and candidate number, you may also be instructed to include the centre number (31155) and your subject teacher’s name
- If you have a QUERY during the exam – e.g. faulty pen or calculator, need a tissue, need to go to the toilet, feeling unwell – raise your hand and one of the Invigilators will assist you
- If you complete the exam early you will not be allowed to leave the exam room – please check through your work and sit quietly at your desk (you may put your head on your desk) and DO NOT disturb others who are continuing to work

- At the end of the exam you must REMAIN SILENT as you are still under formal exam conditions until you leave the exam room
- The Invigilators will collect the exam papers and you will be dismissed a row at a time to collect your bags
- RESPECT other students when leaving the exam room, REMAIN SILENT and DO NOT attempt to communicate with anyone until you are outside the exam room

If you have any queries please see the Exams Officer as a matter of urgency.

Support

Preparation is key - students should recall and put in to practice all the study skills and advice communicated to them by subject teachers and the Sixth Form Team. We in the Sixth Form Team and the wider school are aware that this can be a challenging period for students and families. If we can help in any way, please do contact us so we can arrange support: sixthform@northleamington.co.uk. We wish students every success in these and future examinations as well as in all that they go on to do.

Key Dates Year 12 & Year 13 – Spring Term 2022

Date	Event	Year group
Thursday January 13	Amazing Apprenticeships Assembly	Year 12 & 13 – in the Theatre
Friday January 21	Final School Deadline for UCAS applications	Year 13
Friday January 21 – p5	Holocaust Memorial Extended PHSE	Year 12 & 13 – in the Theatre
Friday January 28	Apprenticeship Workshop	Year 12 & 13 (30 students)
Monday January 31	Work Experience Placement Confirmed	Year 12
February 7 to 11 (14 for Geography)	Mock Exam Week	Year 12 & 13
Monday February 28	All Work Experience Forms completed & returned	Year 12
Monday March 7	Year 13 Subject Evening	Year 13
Friday March 11	UK University & Apprenticeship Fair	Year 12
March tbc	Oxbridge Convention	Year 12
Date tbc	Sex & Relationships Extended PSHE	Year 12 & 13

Yours sincerely,



Miss R Hase
Assistant Head Teacher /Head of Sixth Form