



Poynton High School Year 10 Parent and Carer Bulletin – May 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been fantastic to see the year 10 students in their lessons this half term and continuing to progress in their subjects. This half term they have received their mock exam results and feedback from these. Students should use this feedback to help them further progress.

As you know, each half term I send out a year group bulletin, inside your will find important information about what students have been studying recently and what is coming up next half term for our students. It will also include information about strategies suggested by subject tutors to ensure students achieve their maximum potential.

Revision and examination support

As a school we are committed to ensuring that you feel that you are well equipped in supporting your young person through their GCSEs. We have been working with students about effective revision looking at 'Preparation, Performance, Progress'. It is essential that Year 10 students continue to complete regular revision to consolidate their knowledge and practice knowledge retrieval. The booklet linked below contains details of the revision techniques your young person has been looking at in school.

<https://www.phs.cheshire.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=1051&type=pdf>

Important dates

- In class assessments: 9/6/25 – 27/6/25

Equipment

It is essential that all students bring in the equipment they need for each day. This will make sure that they have everything they need to make the most of their lessons and learning in school. Students need to bring the following equipment to school with them every day:

- Exercise books for the subjects they have that day
- Pens – blue or black
- Red pen
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Calculator
- Rubber
- Reading book
- Pair of compasses
- Protractor
- Glue

We recommend that your young person should get into a routine where each evening they pack their bag for the next day to ensure they have everything they need.

English

English Language:

Paper 1
20th Century Literature reading
Creative writing

Paper 2
19th Century and 21st Century
reading
Transactional writing

100% Examination



English Literature:

Paper 1
Macbeth
The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde

Paper 2
An Inspector Calls
Power and Conflict poetry
Unseen poetry

100% Examination

Year 10 Term Three Topics:

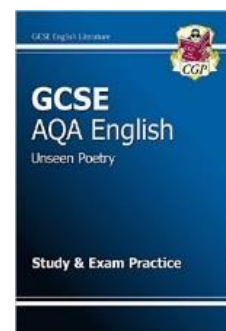
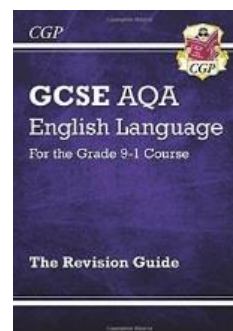
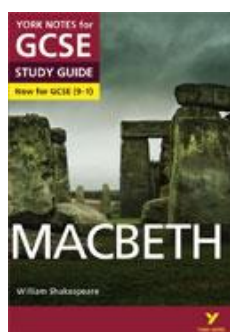
Language: Students are currently completing Speaking and Listening activities, before starting Creative Reading of a Novel, *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*, (Paper 1).

Literature: Classes have just completed a whole-class read of Stevenson's *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, and will be beginning J.B. Priestley's *An Inspector Calls* after the half-term break.

How can I help my child study English over the half-term break and the summer?

- ✓ Discuss language at every opportunity. Ask them what they think about word choices on TV, in newspapers, in conversations that they've participated in etc.
- ✓ Let them see you reading
- ✓ Encourage them to read a range of fiction and non-fiction texts including a broadsheet newspaper on a regular basis
- ✓ Read the literature texts and discuss them together.
- ✓ Talk to them about plot, character and themes; ask them to explain their ideas to you.
- ✓ Rent the films and talk about the differences between the book/drama and the film version
- ✓ Discuss characterisations, settings, and themes of TV shows and films that you have enjoyed together
- ✓ Support them in creating a study timetable.
- ✓ Test them on their revision notes.

Useful revision guides:



Maths

Following a successful set of mocks before Easter, Year 10 are now looking towards their next set of mock exams coming up in Year 11. Over the next term, they will continue to learn new content, with lots of work on data, probability, non-calculator methods and algebra skill coming up.

Each week, students will continue to have Sparx home learning set, and to support them at home you can encourage them to aim for 100% every week, and to complete the optional additional tasks. 'XP boost' gives them further practice, and 'target' stretches them further. If students are starting to complete independent revision, they can also use revision guides if you have purchased one. If you would still like to order revision guide for your young person, it is still possible to do so via Amazon:

Higher: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Maths-Higher-Revision-Practice-Collins/dp/0008112525>

Foundation: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Maths-Foundation-Revision-Practice-Collins/dp/0008112541>

If students want to challenge themselves over half term, they can access some of the previous intermediate maths challenge papers by visiting <https://ukmt.org.uk/competition-papers/jsf/jet-engine:free-past-papers/tax/challenge-type:70/>

Science

Subject	This half term	Next half term
Biology	<p>Separate Science Students: Have finished the Paper 1 content of their course and began a Separate Science only topic on Human Impacts on the environment. They have learned about the balance between providing the resources humans need, preserving biodiversity, the problems caused by an increasing human population and the solutions to these in terms of Food Production and Environmental Monitoring.</p> <p>Combined Science: Have begun the final topic of the Paper 1 content where they will learn more about cells. They have completed 2 required practical activities. Students have developed a deeper knowledge of cells by learning about transport processes in and out of cells, the importance of stem cells and the life cycle of cells.</p> <p>All:</p>	<p>Y10 Separate Science They will be completing a test which will revisit the key skill of data analysis, which was examined on Test 2 and assess the knowledge gained on the newest topic.</p> <p>They will begin the Paper 2 content by learning about the Nervous System and control processes in the body.</p> <p>Y10 Combined Science They will complete a required practical to investigate Osmosis and work out the concentration inside potato cells. They will be completing a test which will revisit the key skill of evaluation, which was examined on Test 2 and assess the knowledge gained on the newest topic.</p> <p>They will begin the Paper 2 content by learning about the Nervous System and control processes in the body. They will examine the eye and understand how vision problems are caused and corrected.</p>

	Analysed their performance on the assessment and completed a range of follow up tasks.	
Chemistry	<p>Separate Science Students: Reflected on their performance in the recent mock exam, completed follow up tasks and identified their next steps. Have studied the final paper 1 topic on Energy changes and evaluated whether hydrogen fuel cells offer a potential alternative to rechargeable cells and batteries in the motor industry.</p> <p>Combined Science Students: Reflected on performance in the recent mock exam, completed follow up tasks and identified their next steps. Have studied the final paper 1 topic on Energy changes.</p>	<p>Separate Science Students: Will revise for and complete an assessment on the rest of the paper 1 content since the year 10 exam. They will then continue learning the paper 2, rates of reaction topic.</p> <p>Combined Science Students: Will complete an assessment covering the rest of the paper 1 content since the year 10 exam. Students will then start the paper 2 topic, rates of reaction.</p>
Physics	<p>Separate Science Students: Students SMART marked their test before returning to the large topic of Forces. They commenced this topic in year 9, so are circling back to some of the content and applying their new, GCSE-level skills to some of the topics, for example analysing distance-time graphs by calculating gradients.</p> <p>Combined Science Students: Students SMART marked their test before returning to the large topic of Forces. They commenced this topic in year 9, so are circling back to some of the content and applying their new, GCSE-level skills to some of the topics, for example analysing distance-time graphs by calculating gradients.</p>	<p>Separate Science Students: Students on the separate science pathway will be completing the same lessons as the combined science students before focusing on the triple only content, looking at moments and pressure in more detail.</p> <p>Combined Science Students: In Physics, the summer term focuses on forces and motion, a major topic in paper 2. We will be applying Newton's Laws of motion to various scenarios and looking at what causes vehicles to stop and why momentum has a large impact on cars and the safety features required to ensure safety of passengers. Students will be tested on forces and motion during the final half term.</p>

How to support your young person:

Assessments

Students have completed their year 10 exams and responded to feedback and target questions, these have given students an idea of the level they are currently working at. Students will have one final year 10 assessment after half term, week beginning 09th June for each Science subject. Their class teachers will provide information on what topics this test will include.

Seneca

Seneca is a free online resource which can be used to support students. Please encourage your young person to use Seneca regularly. They can work through topics independently and complete additional assignments and quizzes on any topics they are struggling with.

Stretch and challenge tasks

Below are some useful website links for any students wishing to extend their knowledge of topics covered this half-term:

How rethinking biology can positively change your life:

https://www.ted.com/talks/melanie_peffer_how_rethinking_biology_can_positively_change_your_life

How to transform the chemical industry -- one reaction at a time:

https://www.ted.com/talks/miguel_a_modestino_how_to_transform_the_chemical_industry_one_reaction_at_a_time

3 mysteries of the universe — and a new force that might explain them

[:https://www.ted.com/talks/alex_keshavarzi_3_mysteries_of_the_universe_and_a_new_force_that_might_explain_them?language=en](https://www.ted.com/talks/alex_keshavarzi_3_mysteries_of_the_universe_and_a_new_force_that_might_explain_them?language=en)

Revision guides

The majority of students purchased these in September. If your young person does not have one and you would like them to have one, below are details of how you can order directly from CGP. These are also available from bookshops/Amazon:

Double (Combined) Science revision guides:

Higher tier (sets 1 and 2): <https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science/combined-science/sahr46-gcse-combined-science-aqa-revision>

Foundation tier (sets 3 and 4): <https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science/combined-science/safr46-gcse-combined-science-aqa-revision>

Triple science students (will need separate ones for Biology, Chemistry and Physics):

Biology: <https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science/biology/bar46-gcse-biology-aqa-revision-guide-higher>

Chemistry: <https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science/chemistry/car46-gcse-chemistry-aqa-revision-guide>

Physics: <https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/gcse/science/physics/par48-gcse-physics-aqa-revision-guide-higher>

Religious Studies

During this half term students have been learning about Religion, Relationships and Families. In this topic they have studied issues of sexuality, attitudes towards same sex relationships, marriage, divorce and gender equality.

All students received feedback from their recent Year 10 mock examinations and were given detailed feedback from their teachers advising them how to improve in future assessments.

After the May half term break students will be starting a Buddhism topic for Component 1 looking at the birth and life of the Buddha and how these events influenced his early teachings.

It is not compulsory to purchase a revision guide as departmental resources will be distributed to all students in the autumn term of Year 11. But if any student would like to buy one, they can be found via the link below:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/AQA-GCSE-Religious-Studies-Christianity/dp/0198422857/ref=d_pd_sbs_sccl_3_9/259-1868624-3846011?pd_rd_w=fc360&content-id=amzn1.sym.b3680bff-f077-48e1-82e2-187909445cc9&pf_rd_p=b3680bff-f077-48e1-82e2-187909445cc9&pf_rd_r=BT68RQOEG224EXWVQFD8&pd_rd_wg=ho61Z&pd_rd_r=06dc7867-0449-4536-8d36-55bf6d85b066&pd_rd_i=0198422857&psc=1

To enhance students further knowledge and understanding of the course they could:

- Revise and consolidate the topics studied in Year 10 so far via the BBC Bitesize website - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zjgx47h>
- They could watch the movie 'The Little Buddha' (1993) starring Keanu Reeves

History

Year 10 students have completed or almost completed paper 1, Medicine in Britain, and will be completing an assessment on Medicine and Treatment on the Western Front after half term. Once this is completed students will begin the first topic on paper 2, the American West. We will be studying this topic for the final half term of Year 10 and continuing with it into Year 11, the American West exercise books must be kept safe for this purpose.

How you can support your young person:

Please check with your young person when their Medicine and Treatment on the Western Front test is and encourage them to prepare for this and this is the last time they will be assessed on the medicine topic before Year 11. To extend the knowledge of Year 10 pupils on the Western Front a good half term activity would be to visit the Imperial War Museum in Manchester.

A stretch and challenge task for over half term:

It is recommended for students to complete some revision material for the Medicine course which they can use in Year 11 for their mock examinations and final examinations. These notes could be revision clocks, mind maps or flash cards and students could make use of revision websites like Seneca Learning and BBC Bitesize (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zppr4xs>, <https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/blog/gcse-history-revision-guide/>)

Geography

Coming up next half term:

This term, following on from their very successful recent examinations our year 10 geographers are studying the Living World topic of ecosystems, tropical rainforests and hot deserts. We will also be preparing them for their compulsory GCSE fieldwork day at the end of June – one that they will no doubt be looking forward to the most, our fieldwork days, where we take the students out into the landscape to study the processes and landforms that they are studying in the classroom. Hopefully the weather will be warm and sunny and they can enjoy being outdoors, carrying out work with their friends that we then come back into the classroom and study in preparation for their exam next year. Information will be coming out to you through our Evolve system very soon so look out for this and please tick that consent button as soon as possible!

How you can support your young person:

To support their studies there are many YouTube videos explaining river and coast processes and landforms and these are really useful, we also recommend the BBC Bitesize and BBC Teach websites <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/gcse-national-5-geography/zfd6gwx> here there are many clips to help support our students in their learning.

The third assessment this year will be a Geographical Skills based one to prepare students for paper 3. This includes some general geography skills and some fieldwork unseen / general skills as well. We have found that in the past our students complete this extremely well and we will share resources on the Google Classroom closer to the time.

A stretch and challenge task for over half term:

We always encourage our students to be curious about the world they live in and to watch TV programmes that show them different cultures and landscapes that we study. The BBC series Race Across the World certainly does that <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m0029sst/race-across-the-world-series-5-episode-1> In the latest series, five couples will race from north eastern China all the way to the southernmost tip of India – Kanyakumari - a pilgrimage site where three mighty seas converge. They will have to navigate the two most populous countries in the world – India and China, which both have populations of over 1.4 billion people and counting. With over 700 languages spoken in India alone, they will also have to navigate crowds, congestion and cultural barriers, as well as a multitude of vast-ranging landscapes. Well worth a watch and a discussion!

GCSE Business

This half term we have been celebrating the achievements of our Year 10 students in the exams with many students displaying excellent understanding of the topics covered so far. All classes are now working on Marketing and will be covering the marketing mix, including developing an understanding of pricing strategies as well as the product life cycle.

After half term we will begin our final unit of Year 10, Business finance. We will be looking at breakeven and cash flow before beginning an introduction to profit and loss accounts and their importance in measuring financial performance. You can support your young person by talking to them about what is happening in the Business world news.

A challenge for half term – Choose a Business of your choice and take a look at their marketing mix. What do they do well? How can they improve it?

Modern Foreign Languages

What is coming up in MFL?

We are continuing to work through the next modules of the new GCSE course (French – healthy living and holidays; Spanish – healthy living and school) until the end of this term.

We are really pleased that a lot of students are taking in the Exchange and the Spanish arrive here in June. This is a very valuable experience for our students and their families. The French trip to Normandy will be going out over May half term. It is a great opportunity for the students to practise some speaking skills in real-life situation.

How can I support my young person in French or German?

[A PHS guide to MFL for parents](#) –here are some ideas to help our students at home, on the school website

Year 10 students are set a **vocabulary learning homework every week**. Please check with them from time to time that they are practising the lists. They are available on the students Google Classroom for French and Spanish. It is always a good idea to go back through previous lists, please keep encouraging them to practise.

Parents have received a **letter about CGP vocabulary booklets**. To support your child's learning throughout the course, we recommend that every student acquire the new CGP vocabulary books. These books include all new vocabulary from the AQA GCSE specification, organized by topic, and feature sentence builders for context. The school can order these books for £2.50 each (RRP £4.99) and they are available through your Evolve account; we encourage all students to buy their own copy. Having a personal copy allows students to use it for home learning and revision, and they can annotate it to track their vocabulary progress. These new vocabulary books are more comprehensive and specifically designed for the GCSE exams, replacing the previously printed booklets.

We highly recommend that all students take advantage of this resource.

If you want to see what these vocabulary books look like, you can find them on the CGP website:

[New GCSE French AQA Vocabulary Book \(for exams from 2026\) | CGP Books](#)

[New GCSE Spanish AQA Vocabulary Book \(for exams from 2026\) | CGP Books](#)

A stretch and challenge activity over half-term:

Choose a video to watch on Easy Spanish or French on YouTube and make a list of useful vocabulary.

<https://www.youtube.com/@EasySpanish>

<https://www.youtube.com/easyfrench>

Students could also find French music to listen to, French series/films to watch etc.

Useful websites:

Students are regularly set tasks on <https://activehub.pearson.com/> double check that your young person knows how to access the resources. Please contact the classroom teacher for information or help.

Keep following us on Twitter too:

Mr Farrell- @MonsieurFarrell

French Department - @PH_rench

German Department - @PHS_GERMAN Spanish Department@PHS_Spanish

Computer Science

Taking a break from programming, the Year 10 students are currently looking at Operating Systems and the CPU. They will be sitting an assessment in this unit shortly. After half term, students will cover the topic of advanced Programming techniques such as sub programs, arrays and SQL.

Mr Choi plans to run a programming skills workshop after school in September for students who feel they would benefit from it. More details will follow nearer the time.

With regards to programming at home, students have been recommended to install Python

<https://www.python.org/> Lots of stretch and challenge activities can be found in the tutorials and guides.

The computing science curriculum overview can be found on the Poynton High website, if you would like to familiarise yourself with it and further support your young person.

CNAT iMedia

Year 10 students have all successfully completed their Unit R094 Visual identity and digital graphics coursework. Marks have been entered and examples of students' work has been sent off for moderation. Students will be informed of their grades for this unit in September, when they return for the new academic year. In June, the exam board will release the set board assignment for the optional unit, students will make a start on this unit in June.

As students are no longer allowed to work on their coursework at home, we encourage students to attend drop in sessions at lunchtime in Room 28, if they are behind. There are also sessions after school Wednesdays in Rm 29 and Thursdays in rm 28.

The Creative iMedia Cambridge National curriculum overview can be found on the Poynton High website, if you would like to familiarise yourself with it and further support your young person.

Food Preparation and Nutrition

This half term students have been engaging in a range of practical lessons. Students have made custard, chocolate mousse and biscuits which they have decorated themselves. Next half term we will continue with practical lessons as well as have a professional chef come into school to go into depth with students on how to joint a chicken.

From a theory perspective we have been continuing with our scheme of work with a focus of primary and secondary processing – this has allowed students to understand where the ingredients that they use during their practical lessons come from and how they could be manufactured. Next half term we will be looking into food security and the impacts food has on the environment.

It is important for students to revise the content of their lessons in their own time.

In order to be successful in Food Preparation and Nutrition it is important to use a variety of consolidation techniques which should range from note taking, making mind maps, making flash cards, producing questions on different topics, recapping practical activities through videos or assessing practical dishes produced in lesson.

Below are some ideas you could use to help support your child in their learning.

Seneca Learning:

<https://app.senecalearning.com/courses?Price=Free&Subject=Food+Preparation+%26+Nutrition>

Seneca is an online learning platform that students can use to help consolidate and revise their learning. It has a variety of resources including, summaries, notes, videos and a variety of different types of practice questions. The system is also completely adaptive so your child's learning experience will be tailored to suit their individual needs. This is a free resource for students to access.

Revision Guide and Work Book:

Students can use these resources to recap their learning in addition to short and long answer questions.

OCR Revision Guide <https://www.amazon.co.uk/OCR-GCSE-Food-Preparation-Nutrition/dp/1471867498>

At the start of year 10 you will have been offered the opportunity to purchase a revision guide with exam practice questions. If you would still like to buy one of these you can do this through EVOLVE.

Product Design

This half term students have continued to do a mix of theory and practical lessons. Both Mrs Dempsey and Mrs Cronshaw teach our Year 10 group and they have been working on the following with Year 10:

Mrs Dempsey has been working through exam review from the year 10 mock exams. The purpose of this is to use this as an opportunity to review successes but to highlight areas that needed to be developed – in particular ‘command words’ and extended questions.

Mrs Cronshaw is continuing with the Animal Fan project. This project incorporates using a range of materials including metals, timbers and electronics. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to explore these different mediums and how they can be incorporated into one project. Mrs Cronshaw has also been focussing on Unit 1 which has a focus of ‘New and Emerging Technologies’.

It is suggested that students buy the Edexcel revision guide. Edexcel is our exam board so please make sure to buy the correct revision guide. We have the pocket revision guide and revision workbook available to students on Evolve to buy.

Next half term students will begin their Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) which is 50% of students end GCSE grade. There will be more information coming out about this in the coming weeks.

Art

Recently, year 10 artists have completed their Natural Forms projects, which resulted in some really interesting final pieces. They have also started the first ‘Eyes’ observational studies page for their new Portraits project. This project will continue up to the end of the Autumn term and both projects will account for 60% of their overall GCSE grade.

Over the half term break, the students have been set a homework task to complete some of the drawing tasks for their ‘Eyes, & facial features’ double pages. They started this task before the half term break and the assignment has been set on their Google Classroom.

Students can find the coursework guidance for all tasks on their Google Classroom and feedback sheets are provided in their sketchbook. Over the half term, we encourage students to use the time to replace any basic art kit materials that they have run out of, such as fineliner pens or rubber pens.

Photography

The Yr10 Photographers have been looking at the concept of mini people in a large world. They have looked at professional photographers who explore this theme, Slinkachu, Tatsuya Tanaka, Andrew Whyte and Brian McCarty.

Students have experimented with their mini figures considering composition and lighting in producing a series of photoshoots. These have then been explained in detail in their project portfolio. This project will soon be completed and they will then start the next one based upon distorted portraiture.

All portfolio work is completed on Google Drive so that it can be accessed on the internet from home and in school. This enables students to work on their portfolios outside of school.



GCSE PE

Coming up next half term:

- The students have been working on their AEP NEA (written coursework), which, together with their practical marks, equates to 40% of their overall mark. They will complete approximately half of the content of this and then finish it in Year 11. Alongside this students are starting the learning of Paper 1 content. They will complete the skeletal & muscular system sections and have an interleaving test before we finish for the summer. They will then complete the rest of the content during Year 11.
- For practical activities we are currently covering Athletics and some Tennis. The Tennis will be minimal due to needing to see as many events as possible in Athletics so if students are tennis players they need to submit external video evidence on to Google Classroom (GC). This will be better quality than we can provide due to our courts not being of a good quality or lined.

How you can support your young person:

- Students need to be ensuring that they are completing any video evidence for their external sports – this refers mostly to the summer activities, e.g. Cricket, Tennis & Athletics, etc. We have a very limited time frame to gather this type of evidence. Any other sports that are being externally videoed should have been uploaded to GC by now (e.g. Lacrosse, Rugby, Basketball, etc.). If not, then again there will be a limited time frame in Year 11 to catch up with this, but please don't leave it until the last minute as injuries can occur and if we don't

receive anything we cannot give the students marks for these externally performed activities).

A stretch and challenge task for over half term:

- Students are covering the skeletal & muscular systems and so should be learning the names of the bones & the muscles in the body and their locations. Students can use the links below to test their knowledge and the resources on Google Classroom.
- Skeleton games:
 - <https://www.purposegames.com/game/label-the-skeleton-game>
 - <https://wordwall.net/en-gb/community/skeleton-game> to test their knowledge and the resources on Google Classroom.
- Muscles games:
 - <https://www.purposegames.com/game/label-the-muscles-game>
- General PE revision
 - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/ztrcg82>

Year 10 CNAT Sport Studies

Next half term:

- Our Year 10 students have made excellent progress in their Cambridge National Sport Studies qualification. They have been begun to lead their coaching sessions to our younger students and the assessment has been a fantastic success. Well done to all of our students in the year 10 cohort for their hard work and commitment to making this a really positive experience.
- In the coming weeks, students will continue to focus on the **R185 Leadership unit**. Theory lessons will now focus on completing Task 5, which is a review of their leadership session. Students must look at the positive and negative aspects of both the planning and delivery of their sessions. Practical lessons will switch focus to athletics and handball – two sports which a lot of our students score highly in and use as part of their R185 unit grade.

How you can support your young person:

- You can support your young person at home by discussing their leadership session with them and encouraging them to think about how their positive and negative aspects could have impacted the session. Students can also be supported by making sure they complete their competition log book for their chosen sports.
- **CNAT Catch-up Club** will continue to take place every Tuesday after the Easter holidays in Room 36 from 3:15pm to 4:15pm. This is a great opportunity for students to get additional help and ensure they stay on top of their coursework.

Task for over half term:

- A stretch and challenge task over half term that is recommended is for the students to consider two targets that they would set themselves if they were to complete another leadership session. The students can write this down and bring it into their first lesson back after half term.

- Looking ahead, Year 11 students will be sitting the **R184: Contemporary Issues in Sport** exam in the summer, and it would be beneficial for Year 10 students to begin some prior reading in preparation. If they would like to get a head start, they can purchase the revision booklet here: [OCR Cambridge National Sport Studies \(Revision Guide\)](#).
- Keep up the fantastic work, Year 10! We're really impressed with your dedication and progress so far!

Dance

Year 10 have begun learning their Set Phrases which will be marked early October next Year. They need to rehearse these to ensure the accuracy of the studies. They should also continue updating their Flash Cards for memory retrieval to ensure they know the subject terminology. Exam style questions has been set on Google Classroom for over half term which will help them continue to know how the paper is structured. They have worked hard this year in preparation for completing their practical exams next year.

Music

It has been a busy year for Year 10 learning brand new keywords for the GCSE listening Exam paper, learning how to compose, and experience recording under pressure – a solo and an ensemble for the NEA performance unit.

It's been a joy to watch them achieve good results in their performances and their recent mock listening exam paper. throughout the year. We have just started to learn this year's set studies which are songs from the band Queen – “Bohemian Rhapsody”, “Love of My Life” and “Seven Seas of Rhye”. AQA will test our students on historical context, music analysis and essay writing on all three tracks. During the holiday Y10 will be set some home learning on “Bohemian Rhapsody”. Hopefully you will hear the iconic track several times at home!

Drama

This half term, year 10 students have produced and rehearsed a devised piece of drama for part of their mock exam (**component 1**) and are working on a performance script-based piece of drama (**component 2**). There have been some fantastic concepts and designs so far for both of these components and some excellent first attempts at the written exam (**component 3**) demonstrating a creative vocabulary and a good understanding of the set text. This work will set students up to know what they will embark on 'for real' next year.

They will produce and perform the two pieces after the holiday and performers should prepare for them by planning/rehearsing individually (or in their groups if possible). Designers should have detailed plans/sketches/and have sourced materials for bringing their designs to life. Please help students by looking carefully at the Google classroom tasks to ensure they are fully completed to the very best of their ability. This is their chance to get ahead with the GCSE as the work done now can be used for their real GCSE saving precious time for them next year.

Students should be immersing themselves in as much theatre as possible and the access they all have to Digital theatre plus and the National theatre's online collection offers hours of free and enjoyable viewing and research into different possible scripts, Brechtian principles (the practitioner style being used for their devising) and for analysis and evaluation of theatre from their own homes. Or they could always go out to see some live theatre!

Free school meals

You can claim free school meals for each child who attends school in Cheshire East if you receive one of these benefits:

- Income Support
- Income based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income related Employment Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit - as long as you have a yearly household income of less than £16,190 (as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs) and do not get working Tax Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit with no earned income or with net monthly earnings less than £616.67

Phone 0300 123 5012 for further information and help or you can apply online at https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/school-meals/free_school_meals.aspx

Child and Adolescent Mental Health

Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust's (CWP) nationally recognised Child and Adolescent Mental Health website 'MyMind' is a dedicated website for young people across Cheshire and Wirral experiencing mental health difficulties. MyMind provides advice and guidance around the key topics identified as most important to young people and their families: how to cope with mental health challenges, how to get help and what to do in a crisis.

The site includes a host of interactive self-help resources for young people, parents/carers and anyone who works with young people around the topics of Mood, Lifestyle and Relationships, as well as details on local mental health services in your area.

Visit www.MyMind.org.uk

Thank you

Thank you for all of your hard work year 10 and well done on a brilliant half term. We hope you have a fantastic half term break and look forward to welcoming students back on Monday 2nd June for their final half term of Year 10!

Please contact us if there are any issues or if you have any questions at all.

Thank you for your continued support.

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