



14 October 2020

Dear Year 13 Parents

October Half Term - Reading and Revision week

Thank you very much indeed for supporting us at the Year 13 Information Evening last night. Following on from that, I wanted to send you the detailed information from subjects about learning over the October Half Term and [I attach the slides here](#) from last night's presentations.

On the whole, we are very happy with the way academic departments have been able to cover the course content and the way students have engaged with this. However, this half term is a great opportunity for them to address any concerns and put themselves in a confident position for next half term.

Following the September Assessments we have been able to identify areas where students may have needed guidance on how to revisit learning. Some Year 13 may benefit from additional consolidation tasks and others are having further assessments after half term to support them.

Each subject has been asked to set homework for Year 13 that consolidates or moves on their learning or focuses on a significant part of the course, such as an NEA (Coursework).

[This document contains information from each subject.](#)

Since lockdown, every subject now has a Google Classroom which makes it very easy for students to access work set and resources. I would encourage you to ask to see the Google Classrooms that your child has access to you, so that you can see how they are structured and the way that work is set.

We are asking students to make a plan for half term using the VESPA model as follows:

- **Vision** - decide on your goals for the week
 - look through the learning document to see the expectations from each subject.
 - Look through the Google classroom to see if there are missed homeworks that you need to catch up on.
 - If you have not done so already, fine tune your personal statement and send it to your UCAS mentor.
- **Effort** - work out how much time you need to spend on your learning. We recommend at least 15 hours over the course of a week. Make sure you have plenty of time off from studying.
- **Systems**

- Make an overall plan for the days that you will dedicate to study
- Allocate specific time on those days for study
- Make sure you have a suitable space for studying and remove distractions
- Prioritise your learning - make a list of the urgent and important tasks and do those first
- **Practice** - how do you consolidate your learning:
 - if you are studying a subject where you need to practice learned skills in context, make sure you are doing harder/past paper questions as well as simpler textbook exercises.
 - If you have a large amount of knowledge to learn, use the “Blank Sheet of Paper” techniques described by Mr Simpson in the Parents Information Slides.
 - Learning strategies are described within the student planner if you need further inspiration.
 - Use mark schemes where possible.
- **Attitude** - continue to develop a positive attitude to your studies - if you plan your time and give yourself time off from studying, you will have a more positive attitude to the time you spend studying and get more done.

If your child is unsure about what they should be concentrating on at the moment, and it is not clear from the linked document or Google Classroom, they should email their teachers to ask. If you have any general concerns then do email myself or Mrs Bungey via parents@swbgs.com

I hope you have an enjoyable, relaxing and productive half term break.

Yours faithfully

Louise Walder

Director of Studies