

18 December 2015

Dear Parent/Carer

Y11 Maths information letter – Holiday Revision material and January mock exams

I am writing to inform you of some critical events within maths as we approach the summer GCSE examinations. Up to now all students have sat two full maths GCSE papers under examination conditions and will have three more before their GCSE exams in May and June, one during each Praising Stars cycle. From these exams we can look at how well a student is performing and then apply intervention, such as inviting students to after-school maths, additional maths lessons or 1:1 tutor support. It is therefore essential that students prepare for every mock exam that they sit in maths and treat it like their real exam. Such attention to detail has a real impact on final GCSE grades.

The next exams for Year 11 mathematics are on **Monday 11 January 2016** (Paper 1) and **Tuesday 12 January** (Paper 2) and this is a vital opportunity to assess how students are performing. To help prepare over Christmas, every student has been given two holiday exam papers to complete. These papers are due in on **Wednesday 6 January** to their maths teacher.

I would ask for your continued support in ensuring your son/daughter spends the proper amount of time completing these papers to the best of his/her ability, and meets the deadline for return. Students have already received various revision materials to help them at home and within school. All students have access to online revision in the form of 'MyMaths' and 'MathsWatch', which are both excellent ways of revising topics at home. The links are on our website via Links > MyMaths or Links > MathsWatchVLE. MyMaths is an interactive website which shows students how to do certain aspects of maths and then has questions and booster packs to practise exam style questions. Maths Watch is a website which has a video for each topic with a worked example and an attached worksheet. Together both of these websites are a great way to work on concepts that students struggle with, and to revise effectively. Students who work hard independently in this way invariably achieve considerably better grades, which can make all the difference in a competitive world post-16.

All students have also been given a revision guide and a revision workbook. In the New Year, students will be given homework to complete from the workbook on a weekly basis. This is to ensure that every topic is being covered by the time their summer GCSE examinations come around. Our approach also models how to structure revision in chunks, and to create the discipline and culture of setting time aside each week to revise, in addition to homework.

Thank you, as ever, for continued support, it is appreciated.

Yours faithfully



Paul Upex
Head of Mathematics