

23 January 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

The week commencing 2nd February, we have the second Year 8 assessment week, during which all Year 8 students will have the opportunity to show what they have been learning as well as receiving feedback on areas they need to improve.

Following these assessments, you will receive the second report to show you what progress your child is making and how good their attitude towards learning is.

It would be really helpful if you could encourage your child to revise for these assessments and also to arrive at school fully equipped.

Many revision resources have already been shared on Google Classroom or ClassCharts by class teachers, so please make use of those. In addition to the information students have been getting in lessons, here are some further details:

English: Pupils will be demonstrating their reading ability through an online reading test, quizzing them on vocabulary acquisition and comprehension.

Maths: Year 8 will be sitting an assessment which covers a variety of topics including rounding, estimation and finding the algebraic rule for sequences.

Science: The assessment includes organisation, matter and forces. Pupils should be able to talk to you about the effects of smoking, alcohol and an unhealthy diet on the body as well as describing the layout of the periodic table and why some elements react more than others. Pupils should also expect to see some questions covering topics from Year 7 in order to consolidate their learning across KS3.

Geography: Geographers will complete an 'open book' 9 mark question evaluating the human impacts on the Tropical Rainforest.

History: The majority of marks will come from a piece of extended writing about the Titanic disaster. Pupils should be prepared to write about 3 factors such as human error, ship design and the weather.

RE/P: Year 8s have been looking at Philosophy and the existence of God. We started in Ancient Greece and have recently explored Aquinas' 'First Cause Argument' and Paley's 'Design Argument'. During their assessments Year 8s will have the opportunity to examine strengths and weaknesses of the arguments before concluding on the existence of God.

French/German: This half-term is all about social media and the use of technology. A helpful way to test your child would be to ask them this question 'Was machst du online?' or 'Qu'est-ce que tu fais en ligne?' (What do you do online?) Though be prepared- you might not like the answer!

Computer Science: The assessment tests pupils' knowledge of Python programming and binary representation. Pupils need to be able to read Python code to find and fix errors, and work out what the program will output. For binary representation, pupils need to be able to convert between binary and denary numbers, and be familiar with how computers use binary to represent text in ASCII and bitmap images. There are also a few questions on computer hardware from Year 7.

Art: Year 8 will be developing their knowledge of the pop artist Jasper Johns by exploring mark making using mixed media.

DT: Year 8 will be tested on the knowledge they have learnt so far in DT, Textiles and Food - depending on what rotation they are currently in. Ask your child to recap what they have learnt about CAD/CAM, fidget spinners, preparing and cooking food using knife skills and following recipes plus sublimation printing, needle felting and soft circuits!

Music: Pupils will be assessed on their chord playing skills and on how they create a performance using the famous chord sequence from Pachelbel's Canon.

Drama: Students will be assessed on their devising and performing skills from the silent movies that they have created. These were inspired by the work of Charlie Chaplin and Rowan Atkinson as Mr Bean.

PE: Assessment is based on their skills, application of skills, decision making, tactics and strategies and progress throughout their activity. Activities include Handball, Netball, Rugby, Basketball, Table Tennis, Badminton, Gymnastics and Healthy Active Lifestyle in the Fitness Suite.

We wish the best of luck to all of our Year 8 students. If there are any questions about these assessments, students should talk to their class teacher for further information.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Goodship
Assistant Headteacher

