

PENAIR SCHOOL

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Registered Office Address:

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Dear Y10 students and parents,

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with some information regarding the imminent trial examinations, and to inform you of some other important dates for year 10 students.

Year 10 trial examinations:

These will take place fortnight commencing 21st June. Historically, year 10 examinations have taken place in April. However, we felt that Y10 students needed more time with their teachers post-lockdown before undertaking these important assessments. Teachers will be sharing topic lists and revision strategies with their students, and students should expect to undertake their own personalised revision, as well as revision homework set on classcharts. GCSE Pod is an excellent resource from which students can revise; they can watch the interactive podcasts, complete self-checking quizzes and create their own playlists. Y10 should already have a GCSE Pod login and can visit the website: www.gcsepod.com

You can also watch this video for an introduction to GCSE Pod:

<https://web.microsoftstream.com/video/946b2ca4-74e5-47b3-b182-8df4103144ae>

Although there is a place for re-reading texts and highlighting key information, the best revision is active; making memory cards, planning an answer to an exam question and completing past exam papers are just some of the ways that students can prepare.

In the lead up to the start of trial examinations, the English Department will be running revision for year 10 students after school on Thursdays on Teams from 4-5pm. These sessions will be for all students and will focus specifically on how to revise texts. Each week will focus on a different English Literature text. We hope that all year 10 students will take the opportunity to join in these sessions. There is no need to sign up– just be ready to ‘join’ the link on Teams on Thursdays just before 4pm.

We would like to remind students and parents that no information has been shared from exam boards regarding any changes to assessment for Y10 students. This means that we need to prepare as we would for any examination series. Should

exam boards take the decision to change the terms of their assessment, we will, of course, share this with students and parents.

On Thursday, Y10 students will receive a copy of their personalised examination timetable. Students are encouraged to check this carefully, including tiers of entry. Should they have any questions, these should be addressed to the form tutor in the first instance. Miss Deborah Stephens, Exams Officer, has organised all of the seating plans for every examination. Students will need to check the exams board before every exam for their seat. Examinations will take place in the sports hall unless someone has qualified for extra time/ reader/scribe, or if they have submitted supporting medical evidence for a small room. Should you have any questions about exams access arrangements, please direct these to Miss Stephens: dstephens@penair.cornwall.sch.uk

While we encourage year 10 students to have a good break over half term, it is important that they prepare thoroughly for these examinations. An exams results assembly will be hosted in the Autumn Term; however, while students will not receive grades until this assembly, they will likely receive feedback on their papers via dedicated improvement time in lessons.

Cornwall College Taster day:

On Thursday 8th July, Y10 will travel to the Camborne campus of Cornwall College to take part in a careers festival where they will undertake two pre-selected vocational learning sessions. Lunch will be provided. Mrs Leanne Sherwood, Careers Coordinator, will write to you shortly to provide more details and request your permission via a reply slip; please look out for this important letter.

PSHE days:

We wanted to share dates for the PSHE days that we have planned for Y10 next half term. Mrs Tanya Davies, PSHE Lead, will write to you once the programme has been finalised. However, please find below the important dates:

Monday 12th July: Tutors groups I, R, S and C

Tuesday 13th July: Tutor groups P, E, N and A

Work experience:

Sadly, the disruption that we have all faced due to Covid-19 has meant that it has not been possible for year 10 to take part in work experience this year. We are acutely aware of how valuable this week-long immersion in the workplace is for our students, and we hope to give our students valuable careers opportunities in year 11.

Kind regards,

Mrs Lauren Miller

Mrs Eastburn-Cutts