



The Final Countdown



Dear Parent/Carer,

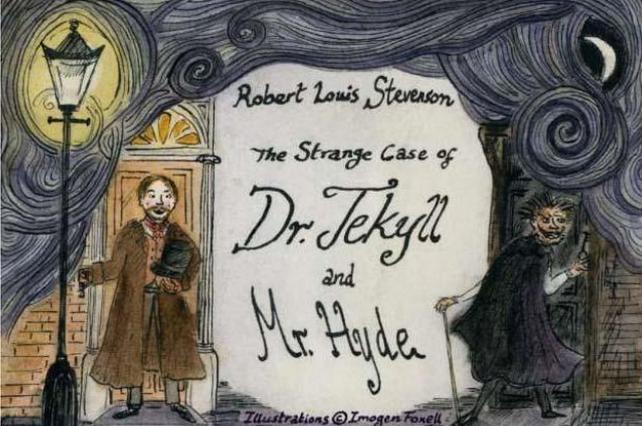
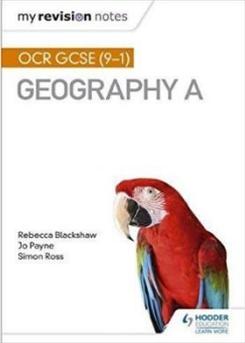
Year 11 Final Countdown – TEN

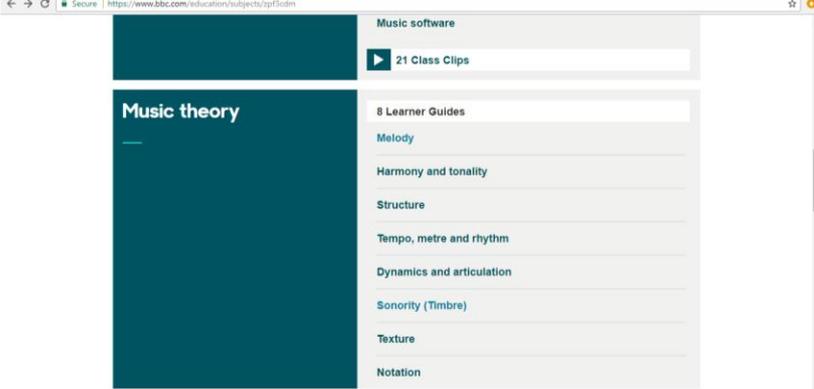
This is the first edition of a new regular email to Year 11 parents. The period over the exam season is always busy and we would like to keep parents informed of all the support being provided for students.

Each week we will send out this email with details of support offered in the following week. As you would expect it is very important to make sure that students have completed coursework and have attended revision sessions. Hopefully this email will help you as parents and carers to encourage your son or daughter to make the most of what is on offer.

As well as the information below, additional information can be found in the 'Final Countdown Booklet'. This has details of revision sessions during study leave, Final Countdown sessions immediately before the exams, and details of the exams themselves.

<p>General</p>	<p>We are now fast approaching Year 11 Leavers' Day, which staff and students alike are looking forward to. It is a lovely, celebratory way to start study leave, and I am always amazed by the imagination and ingenuity of the costumes that students wear. I would like to remind you that students will finish this day just before 12 noon. More information is in the letter that went out at the beginning of the week, which stated:</p> <p>"As a tradition of the school, Year 11 students can dress up in fancy dress on the last day of lessons before study leave on Thursday 10th May. Fancy dress should be appropriate for the school environment and not be too revealing. We ask also that there are no replica guns or swords. On this day, students will attend registration at 8.30am and lessons 1 and 2. During the third lesson Year 11 will attend the Leavers Breakfast and a farewell assembly, before leaving the school at 11.55am. Please arrange for transport for your son/daughter if needed."</p> <p>I also take this opportunity to remind you about Wednesday 9th May:</p> <p>"While we would prefer no shirt signing we appreciate that for students it is an important symbol and memento of their time at school. Therefore this year we would like to invite students to sign shirts on Wednesday 9th May. Students may sign shirts before school, at break/lunchtime and after school. There should be no offensive words or symbols written. No shirts should be signed during lessons, when revision for exams is taking place.</p> <p>There has been good demand for the Year 11 Prom tickets, which I am delighted to see. It is an evening when we really get to see students as the young adults that they are becoming and celebrate the end of the exams and moving on to new ventures. Again, you will have received a letter with the details of the evening.</p> <p>I spoke to the year group in assembly this morning about the importance of making good use of their time during study leave and keeping in mind that their summer holiday starts after their last exam. I</p>
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	<p>am sure that I have your support in helping your child to keep focus, and we welcome them in school to revise.</p>
<p>Business</p>	<p>Year 11 GCSE business students should continue to practice past papers for unit 2 (A292) – Business and People. These can be found on the OCR Business Studies website – link below http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/gcse-business-studies-j253-from-2012/</p> <p>I attach also some model answers for the case study paper (A293) – Production, finance and the external environment (Tom’s Toy’s). Students are advised to read through these answers.</p>
<p>Drama</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students to look at emails for recent revision resources - Complete annotations in their set text - Update their live production notes - Re-watch Live Production and Key Moments - Practice questions
<p>English</p>	<p>The Literature revision cards are now in!</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <p>They are £2.00 a pack. Exact money (if possible) or a cheque made payable for the correct amount to ‘St Crispin’s School’ should be given to your son/daughter’s English teacher.</p> <p>Packs available include: Macbeth/Conflict Poetry/An Inspector Calls/Jekyll and Hyde.</p> </div> </div>
<p>French and German</p>	<p>Revision of vocabulary and grammatical structures should be ongoing. You need to make sure that you are revising your vocabulary thoroughly for the listening, reading and writing exams. To help you there are several online websites available – e.g. memrise, quizlet, linguascope, languages online. Remember to check your e-mails for links your teacher may have sent you to some of these sites each week.</p>
<p>Geography</p>	<p>Year 11 are working their way towards their last week of revision lessons, and so should ensure that they make the most of this time by bringing the correct books/work for the relevant topics being focused on, and work to the best of their abilities. Should you wish to purchase revision guides, then the attached images are the most appropriate and useful revision guides specific to your child’s exam board and exam course.</p> <p>Thank you for your ongoing support in ensuring your son/daughter is as successful as possible in their GCSE exams.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>

Health & Social Care	<p>Staff are planning to send out via email an exam paper per day for 5 days leading up to the exam. This will be a 10 mark paper which should be completed and emailed back for marking. Each day the paper will have a variety of question/mark types to target each area of the syllabus and will ensure the demand level (AO1, AO2 and AO3 are targeted).</p>
History	<p>Students will be issued their final revision worksheets in the coming week (meaning there will be 30 in total).</p> <p>We also attach an outline of which worksheets are relevant for which exams, a brief overview of each paper and the questions (and structures) they will face.</p> <p>We also include a content checklist for the exams to help guide students further on revision (these are in the front of each of their exercise books – we have collated them for ease of access).</p>
Music	<p>Listening: Use of an AQA GCSE Music revision guide (published by Rhinegold; follow hyperlink to purchase) is highly recommended from this point onwards, as it contains the key information required for the listening exam. This includes the elements of music and stylistic features students are expected to recognise, advice on how to tackle questions on unfamiliar music from all Areas of Study, notes on the study pieces, test questions, and a glossary of technical terms. The BBC Bitesize website is rich in content, and also offers short tests based around each aspect of music theory required (see picture below). Students are also reminded of the need to focus on the 2 set works, that are tested in section B of the paper. Completed practice questions should be brought to teachers for marking and feedback.</p>  <p>For students who have subscribed to Auralia/Musition software, skills-based priorities should also be addressed by making use of this resource independently. This software is also available in school for anyone to use, without charge, in their free time. Focus on certain areas here is essential in helping students to confidently answer skills-based questions that are certain to feature in the exam paper.</p>
Maths	<p>All students have received their individual PLC sheets for the most recent round of Wave PPE's. The PLC's show which topics they did well on and which topics were their weaknesses. They look like this:</p>

Wave AQA 1H

Algebra	Number
Equation of a circle	Fractions and ratio problems
Equation of a line through two points	Multiplying fractions
Equation of a tangent	Powers and roots
Expand the product of two or more binomials	Product of prime factors
Geometric sequences	Recurring decimals
Gradient and area under graphs	Standard form
Simultaneous equations (linear)	
Solve linear inequalities one variable	
Geometry & Measures	Ratio, Proportion and Rates of change
Area of a circle	Convert standard units
Combined transformations	Percentage changes
Congruence and similarity	Problems with compound units
Congruent triangles	Ratio and fractions
Standard trigonometric ratios	Solve proportion problems
Volume	
Probability	Statistics
Conditional probability	Cumulative frequency
	Types of data

Students need to ensure they revise any topic that is red or orange and try to master these.

To revise these topics they have 3 options:

1. Use their online textbooks to go back over the topic on kerboodle
2. Choose the online revision lessons and tasks on these topics on mymaths
3. Use the PiXL Maths APP which is now live and running.

PiXL Maths app:

This is an app that can either be downloaded onto a phone or tablet or accessed through an internet browser at: <https://mathsapp.pixl.org.uk/PMA.html>

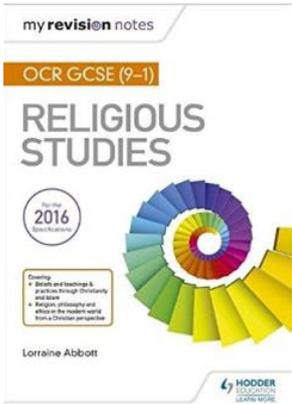
The school ID is CR803 and students have been given their individual logins by their teachers. If they have issues logging on please can they contact their own maths teacher in the first instance.

If they follow the instructions beautifully demonstrated below it will take them to their PLCs online and shows for each paper on their PPE exam the colour coded topics. It also has 'follow forward' tasks which are video revision lessons and tasks on every topic that is red on their PLCs.

This is the same system and method as they had after their year 10 exams so many will be familiar with it already. It is an incredibly useful tool to ensure time spent revising maths is spent on topics they need to revise and at a level that is suitable for them.

The screenshot shows the PiXL Maths app interface. At the top, there are navigation buttons: 'Edit profile' and 'Logout'. Below that, a menu bar contains 'Gap analysis', 'Take a challenge', 'Arithmetic', 'Score board', and 'Homework tasks'. A secondary menu bar shows exam boards: 'AQA', 'OCR', 'WJEC', and 'OTHER'. The main content area is titled 'My School Filter' and lists 'Gap analysis title' with three entries: '0 Curve 2.0 Maths H P1', '0 Wave AQA Maths H P1', '0 Wave AQA Maths H P2', and '0 Wave AQA Maths H P3'. Each entry has 'Related files' icons. A 'KEY' section explains the icons: a green 'X' for 'Students: Enter results', a red 'X' for 'Staff: Analyse results', a red 'X' for 'Download a pdf report', and a red 'X' for '(Students only) Complete an online test to focus on the areas of weakness'. Red arrows and text annotations point to the 'AQA' button (labeled '4'), the '0 Wave AQA Maths H P1' entry (labeled '4'), and the 'Related files' icons (labeled 'OR 4').

Revision classes are also running before and after school, ask your maths teacher which day these are on for your class.

<p>PE</p>	<p>Staff are planning to send out via email an exam paper per day for 5 days leading up to the exam. This will be a 10 mark paper which should be completed and emailed back for marking. Each day the paper will have a variety of question/mark types to target each area of the syllabus and will ensure the demand level (AO1, AO2 and AO3 are targeted).</p>
<p>Religious Studies</p>	<p>Year 11 are working their way towards their last week of revision lessons, and so should ensure that they make the most of this time by bringing the correct books/work for the relevant topics being focused on, and work to the best of their abilities. Should you wish to purchase revision guides, then the attached images are the most appropriate and useful revision guides specific to your child's exam board and exam course.</p> <p>Thank you for your ongoing support in ensuring your son/daughter is as successful as possible in their GCSE exams.</p> 
<p>Science</p>	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Grade 9 Revision skills</h2> <p>Lots of students are now well into revision and it is lovely to see lots of varied revision techniques, from those that are using Tassomai, to flash cards, mind maps and activities from the revision guide. However, two key activities can lift the quality of any revision plan.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <p>1 Making use of PLCS. These are our check lists that ensure everything is covered. It can seem a bit daunting as there are quite a few of them, but for the diligent and those aiming for the best grades, it is vital that no stone is left unturned.</p> <p>For those who have perhaps not started revision as well as they should or who are getting a bit overwhelmed, the PLC can be that life line that helps the student focus and identify the areas most in need. Work on these first rather than from the start of the revision guide (that is always the most visited content and the easiest, therefore of the lowest value).</p> <p>We have sent out a simplified 1 page PLC to all students that can be a useful guide on the minimum that should be covered and whilst not as in-depth as the full PLC, it serves as very useful check list.</p> <p>2 After any round of revision, it is vital that you are test yourself on what you have understood. It is far better to secure an area fully rather than make 50 flash cards on a range of topics which are poorly understood. Exam questions can help with this process.</p> <p>Whilst Exam papers (from the old specification) are useful, they will include both topics students do not know and those that they know well. This can lead to a mindset of "I get 60%, that's ok," rather than "this is the 40% I do not know, how do I fix it." Our suggested method is to use the exam bank packs which are past paper questions put into small focused topic packs, allowing effective testing of the areas that you have just revised.</p>

	<p>Please have a discussion with your child about how they can lift the quality of their revision to the next level.</p> <p>Dr Rose</p>
Sport	<p>The students completed their first attempt of the exam on Tuesday. They will have the opportunity to retake the exam on June 21st if needs be. They are expected to attend lessons during study leave to complete coursework tasks when they don't have exams.</p>