

Dear Families,

It is an honour to work with such a wonderful year group and I look forward to supporting them through a very important year towards their GCSEs.

I want to say a big thank you to the staff who gave up their time to support events such as DofE, the school concert, sports day and various other trips. Thank you to the students who made the school proud by participating in such rewarding activities.

Looking forward to next year, you can expect further information from the school regarding mock exams, revision sessions, exams and destinations post-Year 11. If you want to put any important dates in your calendar then you can find many of them here:

30/10 MFL trial exams
6/11 Written trial exams
17/1 Year 11 VA NEA Deadline
29/1 Trial exams
22/4 GCSE visual arts exams
13/5 GCSE exams begin
21/6 Year 11 ball

If you have any questions about upcoming exams, we have put together some frequently asked [questions](#). If you have questions not answered here, please feel free to ask.

If you are looking for revision advice now in preparation for September, the John Mason [School Revision Site](#) is a great place to start. This will be updated throughout the year.

As well as having a well deserved break. It is very important that students make an effort to reduce "Summer learning loss". Here is an article summarising what I have been discussing with students in their recent assembly: [Summer Learning Loss](#)

There is also specific work that is being offered by English and Maths:

English

During this academic year students have been studying Jekyll and Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson, as this is one of the texts they will be assessed on in their GCSE Literature exam. During the summer break it would be hugely beneficial for them to revise the text. Below are a selection of things that pupils can do to revise the text:



- Re-read Jekyll and Hyde – all pupils have their own copy (we do not recommend watching a film version as they all differ greatly from the text)
- Create flash cards of the key quotes for each chapter
- Create flash cards for all the areas on the Knowledge Organiser
- Watch MASSOLIT videos on the playlist <https://www.massolit.io/playlists/jekyll-and-hyde-223682>

All of the resources, plus some more detailed information, can be found in the English Google Classroom.

Maths

Students recently completed an assessment on their most recent algebra work. Their teachers will use this information to plan some of their teaching for next year so that common difficulties are addressed at class level. Students should also address their own individual "weak spots", and we will help them to do this **using Sparx Maths**. In the coming days, their teachers will give them a personalised list of areas to work on before September, linked to the Independent Learning clip numbers on Sparx. Please encourage them to spend an hour per week on these tasks so that they are well prepared for the final, and most difficult, areas of the curriculum next year. Please also remember that Thursday after-school revision will begin in the very first week.

As with all new terms we will start with reminding the students of school expectations in terms of behaviour, attendance, punctuality, uniform and equipment. Mr Wileman will be sending a communication to you around uniform and equipment. Please let me know if you have any questions about this. It would be great to start next year with all students well-equipped and in perfect uniform so that we can focus on preparing them for the important year ahead. Thank you for your continued support in this matter.

Kind regards,

Mr Ben Gilkes
Director of KS4

Registered Office: Rush Common School
Hendred Way, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 2AW

John Mason School is part of the Abingdon Learning Trust.
Abingdon Learning Trust is an exempt charity and a
company limited by guarantee.
Registered in England and Wales: **Company No. 7931866**

School Address: Wootton Road
Abingdon, Oxon OX14 1JB

T: (01235) 524 664 **F:** (01235) 520 711

E: office.4126@johnmason.oxon.sch.uk
www.johnmason.oxon.sch.uk

