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ROYAL ALEXANDRA & ALBERT SCHOOL



22 October 2019

Dear Parent

As we draw to the end of the first half of Autumn term, I wanted to take this opportunity to update you on a couple of key areas.

Firstly, I wanted to draw your attention to the Y11 'prep pack' which all students have received electronically. This booklet has been compiled by Heads of Department and contains a number of resources designed to support your child with revision. In assembly last week, I spoke to the students to congratulate them on a successful first half term; however, I reminded them that, whilst it is important to find time to relax over the half term break, it is also important to dedicate time to study. They may find the 'prep pack' a useful support for this. A copy of the pack can be found here <http://www.raa-school.co.uk/downloads/ks4%20prep%20pack%202019-2020.pdf>

Secondly, I wanted to outline the plans for revision clinics for the second half of Autumn term. It is, of course, vital that students are focused throughout the year on academic study; however, it is also important that mental health and well-being is protected. As you will know, through our Co-Curriculum programme, we are proud to offer a wide range of activities to encourage children to go beyond the realms of the traditional curriculum; within a busy boarding school, there is always a healthy tension between these two areas of the school. Research has shown that involvement with Co-Curricular activities improves academic attainment and, with this in mind, we are keen to ensure that our children are able to get the right balance.

To support students with this, throughout the second half of Autumn term, students must continue to complete their two (flexis) or three (boarders) Co-Curricular clubs a week. In addition, we offer a range of teacher-led revision clinics before school, during school and during the evening. We also offer some sessions between 4pm and 5pm on a Thursday and Friday; this means that that students have the capacity to fulfil their Co-curricular club requirements outside of this time.

In addition to teacher-led revision clinics, we also offer students a variety of slots where they are able to complete independent study. This is markedly different from revision clinics and would include, for example, working on a creative piece in an Art class, working on coursework in the D.T. room or undertaking a timed essay in a classroom.

I have listed below the different sessions which staff have made available for students. The sheer breadth of courses that we offer will mean that students will have to make choices about which sessions they need to attend; however, we believe that giving them some degree of autonomy is ultimately in their best interest.

You may notice that some subjects are not listed on the table below; please can I assure you: we review the clinics offered on a half-termly basis and the programme grows throughout the year. Equally, the Co-curricular requirement also changes throughout the year. We believe that this is an effective model as it builds momentum in a gradual way which is vital for maintaining motivation and good levels of mental health.

I will continue to keep you informed of updates to the calendar below and I very much look forward to seeing you at the Y11 parents' evening next half term.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R Mitchell". The letters are cursive and slightly slanted to the right.

Mrs Rea Mitchell
Deputy Head - Academic

Revision Clinics in Autumn 2

Day	Time	Subject	Teacher	Room
Monday	15.45-16.15	Independent Study French	AD	13
Monday	16.00-17.00	Independent Study DT	PNE	Tech Room
Monday	16.00-17.00	Independent Study English	HS/ABA	6
Monday	16.00-17.00	Independent Study Biology	PRO	L7
Monday	16.00-17.00	Independent Study Art and Design	ECO	Art 2
Monday	17.00-17.45	Independent Study Music	LED	Bothy
Monday	17.00-17.45	Independent Study Art and Design	ECO	Art 2
Tuesday	16.00-17.00	Independent Study DT	PNE	Tech Room
Tuesday	16.00-17.00	Independent Study Maths Foundation/Higher crossover	PFR/RWH	MA5
Tuesday	18.30-19.00	English Poetry Revision Clinic	RMI	Cornwall House
Tuesday	19.00-19.30	English Poetry Revision Clinic	RMI	Gloucester House
Wednesday	07.45-08.25	Independent Study Music	LED	Bothy
Wednesday	12.45-13.15	Revision Clinic Music	LED	Bothy
Wednesday	16.00-17.00	Independent Study Spanish	JSI	13
Wednesday	16.00-17.00	Independent Study French	CZA	Elizabeth House
Wednesday	16.00-17.00	Independent Study Music	LED	Bothy
Wednesday	16.00-17.00	Independent Study Chemistry	MMC	L1
Wednesday	16.00-17.00	Independent Study Art and Design	LBR	Art 1
Wednesday	18.30-19.15	Revision Clinic Geography	RKI	Cornwall House
Thursday	07.45-08.25	Independent Study Music	LED	Bothy
Thursday	07.45-08.25	Revision Clinic Computer Science	TPR	ICT1
Thursday	12.45-13.15	Revision Clinic Maths	CBR	MA2
Thursday	16.00-17.00	Independent Study DT	PNE/KOF	Tech Room
Thursday	16.00-17.00	Independent Study English	HS/ABA	6
Thursday	16.00-17.00	Independent Study Physics	WPE	L5
Thursday	16.00-17.00	Revision Clinic Maths (Higher)	JLE	MA4
Thursday	16.00-17.00	Revision Clinic Business Studies	STE	Room 17

Thursday	16.00-17.00	Independent Study Art and Design	LBR	Art 1
Friday	07.45-08.25	Independent Study Music	LED	Bothy
Friday	12.45-13.15	Revision Clinic Spanish	JVA	13
Friday	12.45-13.15	Revision Clinic Maths	CBR	MA2
Friday	12.45-13.15	Revision Clinic PE	MBR	21
Friday	13.15-13.45	Revision Clinic French	CZA	Elizabeth
Friday	16.00-17.00	Revision Clinic English	HS	9
Friday	16.00-17.00	Revision Clinic BTEC Enterprise	AER	17
Friday	19.15-20.00	Revision Clinic Geography	AV	Gloucester House
Saturday	07.45-08.25	Independent Study Art and Design	SAB	Art 1