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12th May 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

As the Easter holiday approaches and Year 11 plan and organise their time for relaxing and studying, I would like to take the opportunity to highlight a few key messages.

All students have been having plenty of practise for their upcoming exams. The recent mocks should have provided them with a clear indication of their current progress and identified areas to focus on. Results have been mixed with some students rightly delighted with the outcome and some now clearly focused on what they need to do to achieve their targets. It is now really down to the students' own motivation, commitment and determination to do their best in a few weeks' time.

The two week Easter break comes at the end of a long term, and many of the students are understandably flagging. It is critical that they get to 'recharge their batteries' over the holidays, but this is also a critical time for revision. I spoke to all Year 11 yesterday and emphasised the importance of high quality not high quantity revision activities. Practice questions and active engagement in revision are critical tools in allowing students to assess their understanding (and the effectiveness of their revision). The PIXL resources that are available to all students also provide an excellent set of tools to do this.

PIXL independence log on details are as follows:

Link: <https://students.pixl.org.uk>

PiXL School Number: 304674

Password: Indep162

The exam period begins on May 13th with Computing then all Year 11 will be sitting Science on the May 14th. Many students will be completing oral exams in languages or their Art practical exam from **DATE** here. As a result, the next two school weeks are going to be critical in ensuring everyone is ready for their exams in May.

The DFE have recently published this very useful guide on coping with exam pressure for students which can I have attached to this e-mail. If students are concerned at any stage about their exams or are looking for more strategies to help manage any anxiety then they should speak to their form tutor or student services as the first point of contact.

Yours sincerely

Henry Gowney-Hedges
Deputy Headteacher