

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope that you and your families had an enjoyable half-term break. Although the coming half-term is relatively short, we have a lot to pack in! Please find below some updates and information regarding some of our year groups.

Y11 Mock Exams

As you are aware our pupils will sit their GCSE examinations at the end of this academic year. In order to prepare them for the challenges ahead they are currently sitting mock examinations until Friday 8th March. It is crucial that all Year 11 pupils see this time as one of great importance. Mr Harding has communicated within assembly today that mock examinations are a diagnostic tool in which both teachers and pupils alike can identify areas for development to ensure success in the summer.

Monday	26th February	08:45	2:00	Synergy Science 1&2
Monday	26th February	13:10	1:30	Maths Paper 3
Tuesday	27th February	08:45	1:30	Biology & Chemistry
Tuesday	27th February	13:10	1:30	DT Written
Wednesday	28th February	08:45	2:00	Art & Design
Wednesday	28th February	13:10	1:00	Health and Social Care
Thursday	29th February	08:45	2:00	Spanish Listening & Reading (Higher)
Thursday	29th February	13:10	1:35	Spanish Listening & Reading (Foundation)
Friday	1st March	08:45	2:00	History Paper 2
Friday	1st March	13:10	1:30	Hospitality and Catering Written

After School P6

In order to further support your child to make progress, afterschool P6 sessions are continuing for Y11 pupils and some Y10 P6 sessions are starting this term. Most KS4 pupils will have the opportunity to identify their own elective P6 session based on the subjects they feel they need to focus on. However, some subject leaders may target some revision sessions to pupils who need to make greater rates of progress in certain subject areas. The after school revision sessions are aimed at helping pupils to close gaps in learning and to prepare, as early as possible, for the public examinations. It is therefore of great importance to us that we have your support with this as parents/carers. Please see the table below with details of our current P6 sessions:

Subject	Evening	Details of Year Group	Room
Art & Photography	Wednesday	All KS4 pupils	AR2
Geography	Monday	Y11 pupils	HU1
Health & Social	Monday	For Y11 pupils	HU7
Health & Social	Thursday	For Y10 pupils	HU7
Mathematics	Monday	For Y11 foundation pupils	MA5
Mathematics	Thursday	For Y11 higher pupils	MA5
Music	Monday	All KS4 pupils	MU1
Drama	Thursday	For Y11 pupils	Drama Studio
English	Wednesday	Y11 pupils	EN3
History	Wednesday	All KS4 pupils	HU6
Friday	Business	All KS4	CS3

Year 9

The Options process is beginning with the Options Evening on Thursday 7th March 4.30pm-7pm. This event provides pupils and parents / carers with the opportunity to find out more about Key Stage 4 subjects and the different courses that they can choose to study in Years 10 and 11. We encourage all pupils in Year 9 to attend to help ensure that they are fully informed before they make their options choices.

Y10 Visit - Keele University

On Thursday 22nd February, a group of Year 10 pupils visited Keele Veterinary School for a day of workshops. During the visit, our pupils had the opportunity to see the University facilities and found out much more about the Veterinary Medicine and Surgery programme. There was also live talk followed by a Q&A session for our pupils to take part in.

In addition, pupils had the opportunity to explore the wider Keele University campus and experience life as a university student.

Sports Coaching Opportunities

Year 10 pupils at BHA travelled to Fenton Manor on Thursday 21st February to coach and support local primary school pupils from KS1. This visit was instrumental in enabling our pupils to recognise the importance of and to demonstrate key skills of LORIC, whilst also enabling them to practice their physical sporting skills. Our pupils conducted themselves in a positive manner and upheld our school values of respect, courage, integrity and humility. Primary school teachers expressed their appreciation and commented on how well our pupils represented our school in their coaching and encouragement of the younger pupils. Well done to all involved.

National Literacy Trust Reading Champions

On Thursday 22nd February, four of our pupils represented the school in the National Literacy Trust's Reading Champions Quiz. Competing against pupils from schools all over the country, the pupils worked together to answer questions on a variety of book and author-related topics. We are delighted to announce that our team placed 6th out of all the state schools involved. We are so incredibly proud of our pupils - well done to Codei, Hesandu, Seth and Kaleb!

Dates to remember

Tuesday 27th February– Monday 4th March Principal's Excellence Lunches

Tuesday 27th February – B Pop Y9 Enterprise Day

Wednesday 28th February – H Pop Y9 Enterprise Day

Thursday 7th March – Y9 Options Evening

Please contact us if you need this information in any other language or format if you have any questions. You can contact the office by email on info@bircheshead.org.uk.

Yours Sincerely



Ms K Dixon
Principal