

## Welcome to our April Newsletter



**Dear parents and carers**

**Our Trust mission statement is 'Building Leadership and Character Together' and I am delighted with all of our students' achievements this half term which prove their progress and achievements in this area. Our aim is to support our students in building skills for life and work which complement their academic success and they never cease to amaze us with their responses to the opportunities available to them to prove these skills in action and build a foundation for their future success.**

In terms of character, our college show last week allowed our actors, singers and dancers to excel on stage and show their courage, resilience, determination and a fantastic range of performing arts skills that many will go on to channel into GCSEs, A levels and beyond. Our sports teams have achieved a wide range of successes, in athletics, cross country, netball, rugby and football, from local and district victories eight up to the national Under 16s Premier League Schools Final at Manchester City on May 8. Our Science Fair proved just how talented and curious our young scientists are and how much they could achieve. Creative events such as Words Over Weapons saw our students excel as they explored the power of language and verse over violence. As our Year Eleven main examination series approaches and our practical examinations are almost finished, I have been struck with the determination to succeed which many of our Year Eleven students have displayed and have transferred into successful outcomes, and we wish them all the best for their GCSEs. Our behaviour and attendance awards also recognise the good character which so many of our students quietly show every day, every lesson, and we are proud of their excellent attitudes.

Leadership skills have also been evidenced in abundance, with our Year Nine Specialisms students leading events at local primary schools, our SSAT leadership teams leading student research into teaching and learning, a selection of successful community events and a variety of primary outreach opportunities, our Duke of Edinburgh cohort and Sea Cadets completing expeditions successfully, and our annual Community Day about to take place. On May 3, our Student Environment Group will be raising funds for improving the outdoor eating facilities and the PE changing rooms as part of our Community Day, and we would like to encourage you to send your child in non uniform and with pocket money for charity stalls and our raffle in order to support their efforts. Tutor groups are also collecting chocolate for the Community Day tombola, if you have any spare over Easter!

We are very proud of the achievements of your sons and daughters as we approach the end of a long half term, and we wish everyone a restful Easter break, and our Year Eleven students all the best as they prepare for their main GCSE examinations, at Easter School and at home.

*Mandi Collins, College Principal*

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This term we bid a fond farewell to:  
Mrs Gaskin and Mrs Shuter, who leave us for new challenges, and to Mr Malin who is taking retirement.



## Dates for the diary

12th April	3pm college closed for Easter Break
29th April	College opens for start of Summer Term
29th April	MFL speaking tests start
2nd May	NCS parents evening
6th May	May Day - college closed
13th May	GCSE Exams start
17th May	MFL speaking test end
20th May	Drama Practical exams start
22nd May	Y8 girls HPV vaccinations
24th May	Drama practical exams end
27th to 31st May	College closed for half-term
3rd June	College opens for second half Summer term
6th June	Salters Festival of Chemistry
12th June	Y8 GCSE Options Parents Information Evening
12th & 13th June	London Music Trip

## Do you know of any student successes that we are unaware of?

Please email your information, ideally with photographs, to:

**PAtotheprincipal@thomasestley.org.uk**

We would love to hear about successes of both current and ex-students.

## Thomas Estley Rocks



*We Will Rock You*



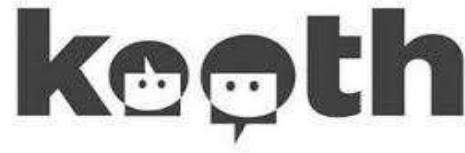
## Thomas Estley Rocks



*We Will Rock You*



# Well-being



On Kooth you can



Chat to our friendly counsellors



Read articles written by young people



Get support from the Kooth community



Write in a daily journal

This half term we welcomed to college a representative from Kooth, to deliver assemblies to our key stage three students.

Kooth is a trusted online counselling and emotional well-being platform for children and young people.

The representative introduced the service to our students talked them through how to use it to support themselves.

[www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)

We continue to look for ways to support the well-being of our students.



**Words over Weapons is a county-wide initiative, aimed at school-age young people, to raise awareness and prevention of knife crime.**

**Five of our students from Year 7, 8 and 9 attended the Words Over Weapons programme and produced some fantastic work relating to the impact and concerns around knife crime.**

**They were asked to record their own lyrical pieces for a film which would be circulated around schools in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.**

**The film and live performances were showcased at the Y Theatre on Thursday 28th March. Two of our students performed live on the night in front of a full house, which included invited family and friends.**

**All five of our students were awarded certificates of achievement, presented by the Deputy Police Commissioner for Leicestershire, who fully recognised the amazing work of these students. The programme has been awarded funding for another year, to carry on its important work and message.**

## **Student Success—Reaching our for opportunities to lead and encourage others**

One of our Y11 students, Holly Hurn, had a role in a short film that was nominated for the INTO Film Awards, which took place on Monday 4th March in London. Holly has written and directed a number of award winning short films through her Performing Arts Academy.

The awards ceremony was a great experience for Holly, many celebrities attended and she had the pleasure of meeting David Walliams.

The film that Holly appeared in won the award for, 'Best Film 12 -15'.

Congratulations from us all!



# Pre-School news round

A quick look at how our pre-school children have been busy learning through play this half-term:

After learning about weight, size, shape and colour by categorising fruit into groups our children practiced their mark making skills by writing shopping lists.



Some children were able to copy the labels on photos to write the names of the fruit.



I'm sure the group leaders had an eye on Mother's Day when they decided upon the latest activity - making toast for a snack.

The children used a toaster to prepare their toast, then spread it and choose whether to cut it into rectangles, triangles or squares

We went outside on the college tennis courts with our big bag of equipment. We think it was the windiest day ever! Everything was being blown around, including the children, Petra and Nikki! It was great fun standing with our arms out wide and seeing if we could stand still.



At the gym we have been practicing our football skills and rope climbing alongside our favourite game of catching hoops.



We had a lovely donation of some fishing nets from one of the children's Grandads. We had lots of wet splashy fun catching fish and sea creatures. Which was biggest? How many small fish can you catch? Where do you think your fish would live?



We have begun to prepare our outdoor area for lots of fun activities, including planting in our big tyres, where we found worms last week.



We have a newly planted willow den and willow tunnel, which will tie in with some forest school activities in the coming weeks. The children chose where to hang windmills and windsocks, trying to guess where it would be windiest.



## Key Stage 2-3 Transition Events

In the **P.E master class** we got to try gymnastics, basketball and bench ball. I liked gymnastics the most because we got to use the pommel horse, the spring board and the box

I liked the **maths master class** because we got to make it into a game where we were taught that 21 and noughts and crosses are actually just maths and if you know what you're doing you can always win.

I really enjoyed the **music master class** because we did Grenade by Bruno Mars that most of us knew. I also really liked that we got to perform it to our parents after practicing all day. One of the things I liked the most was that I had never played in a group that big before and it was really fun.

I found the **dance master class** really fun, I thought it was good that we got to dance with the students that were taking GCSE dance. I also really liked the song we did it to and the dance itself.

*I am a Year 10 student doing the SSAT Leadership project. I've helped out at three different after-school events and an all-day event with the primary children. I believe that this has helped me grow as a person and taught me how to work well both with other students and college staff. Learning to work with people of all ages helps to boost confidence and gives you better skills for further in life.*

*Year 10 student Holly*

It has been a very busy term with many events taking place at TECC for children from Years 4&5. Year 4 children have joined us for a Business and Enterprise Day as well as being part of our Play in a Day and Orchestra Day. Year 5s have joined us for sessions in Maths, Science, Art, Technology and History. We have also hosted a number of sporting events here in College, the most recent ones being Cross Country and the Dance Festival. It has been wonderful to meet and work with some many young people in our college. We have seen some very talented pupils and we are looking forward to working with them on a regular basis when they join us here in the future.

The events have benefited the students from TECC who have helped to run them as well as the younger children. Here is what Year 5 have to say about their experiences:

*We have been very lucky to be picked to partake in this leadership group as we love helping younger students develop their knowledge and skills in particular subjects. So far this year we have held many events, a couple of these are the Big English Quiz and the Business and Enterprise workshop. We couldn't have done this without our helpful teachers like Mrs Clements, Mrs Taylor and Mrs Bryan. The younger students we have worked with so far have been friendly and eager to learn and develop new skills that will hopefully help them in the future.*

*Two Year 7 Leadership students Emily and Emily*

# Maths Achievers of the Week

Maths Achiever of the Week is awarded to the students who consistently achieve their best. One student from each year group is chosen, and a postcard sent home to recognise their achievement.

Congratulations to all those below!

*The Maths Department*

## Achiever of the Week

### Spring Term

Date	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
25/01/2019	Jamie Gosling	Demi Day/Elizabeth Boulivant	Ashley Butler	Samuel Proctor	Caitlin Copeland
01/02/2019	Tyler Woodward	Oscar Stephens	Joe Kelly	Mia Bladen/Leo Green	Emma Kind
08/02/2019	Oli McManus	Reenie Laffety	Jacob Foskett	Katie Iakin	Oliver McClean/Thomas Halliday
15/02/2019	Sehar Saghir	Jack Henson	Lydia Fletcher	Kate Bradshaw	Finlay Grocock

### Summer Term

Date	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
01/03/2019	Jacob Rebbeck	Jack Henson	Libby Harris	Charlotte Keetley	Joel Hallam
08/03/2019	Brandon Carver	Rebecca Davey	Maddy Torbitt	Sarah Herbert	Chloe Wilson
15/03/2019	Isaac Sayers	Max Fletcher	Logan Jones	Jake Santy	Parrish Spencer-Smith
22/03/2019	Jesse Spyrou	Broden Bryanton	Chico Gill	Sarah Herbert	Lachlan Hollis
29/03/2019					
05/04/2019					
12/04/2019					

# Maths - University outreach

"On Thursday 21st March 32 Year 8 pupils and their parents from all over Leicestershire were invited to take part in maths workshops at Thomas Estley Community College.

The excellent university outreach team, including Prof. Stephen Garrett, Dr. Frank Neumann, Dr. Jason Semeraro and four incredibly talented undergraduate mathematics students visited us to explain some very modern (and very ancient!) areas of mathematics and how our pupils could begin to explore these ideas.

Over the course of 90 minutes pupils were given the opportunity to induce mathematical theories, buy goodies in ancient marketplaces, model psychological exchanges and even explore the number of real dimensions in the universe!



Feedback was all overwhelmingly positive, with the only request being that they'd have preferred the workshops to be longer!

**"Fun and interesting... great insight into the subject"**

**"A great evening that was very informative, great hands-on maths sessions"**

**"Great evening, the undergraduates' delivery was excellent!"**

Thomas Estley Community College thanks you all for coming, and wishes Lewis, Andrea, Hannah and Rebecca the best of luck in their future studies and teacher training!

*Mr Hutchinson, Mr Hillman and the Maths Department"*

# Aiming to achieve our best. Taking full advantage of every learning opportunity

Targeted Y8 & Y9 students were invited to raise aspirations at the **University of Leicester**.



First stop, students were given an overview of University life with a Q&A session with 6 ambassadors who are current students and listened to a talk entitled, 'Why Higher Education?';



next they looked around the University on a campus tour;



secondly they discussed which celebrities they thought had studied at University;



to round-up the day, students worked in small groups to consolidate what they had learnt by designing their own University using lego before - pitching to the other groups. We hope that students have been inspired!

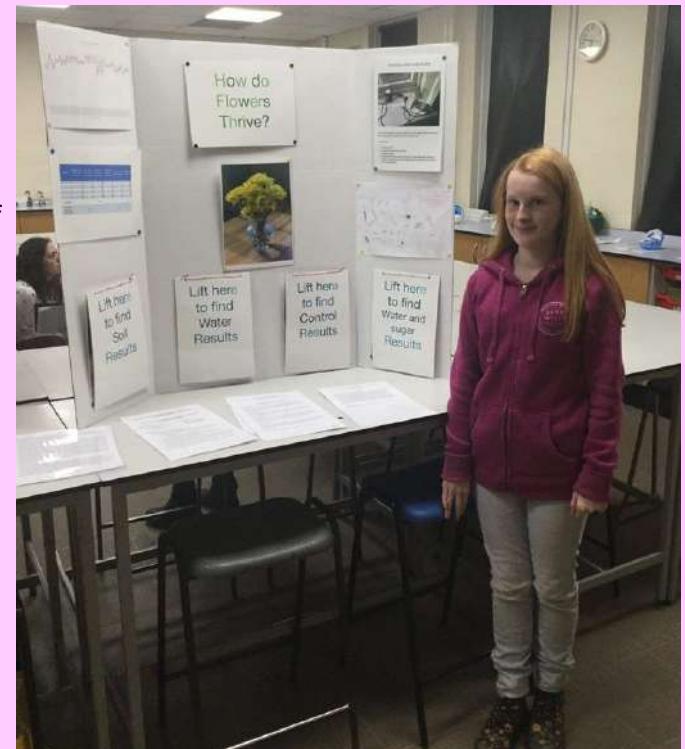
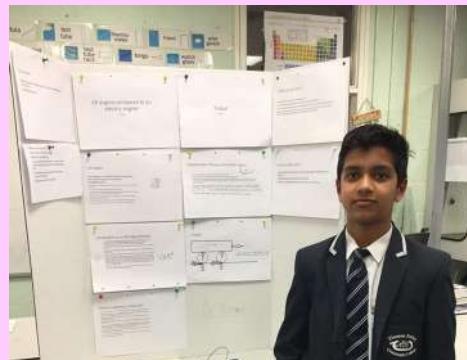


# Seeking out our talents and following our dreams



## Super Science!

A big well done to all the contestants of the sixth annual science fair, demonstrating some of the incredible scientific talent that we have at Thomas Estley. With subjects such as electric cars, the effect of temperature on a Cello, the construction of a Stirling engine, and the physiology of language, it was very difficult to pick a winner. However, the project on 'How do flowers thrive' by Lolly Tunnicliffe, took a very worthy first place.



# Showing resilience through our experiences and challenges

## Sports Hall Athletics, District Finals

Our Year 7 & 8 team had a fantastic afternoon of Sports Hall Athletics at Beauchamp College in the District Finals.

We may have been the only school competing that does not have a sports hall to practice in (we are looking forward to January 2020 when we will!), but that did not bother our amazing athletes who gave everything they had.

Our Year 7 Boys Team finished as runners up, by just 1 point, to Brockington.

Our Year 8 Boys Team, which contained 2 year 7 boys, also finished as runners up, this time by 4 points, to Lutterworth College.

Both of our Girls teams were crowned **District Champions** after some brilliant work in both track and field.

On 2nd April, the girls represented the district (against 9 other Leicestershire district champions) in the County Finals, held at Uppingham Sports Centre.

Year 7 finished 6th and Year 8 finished 4th.

Our teams were great ambassadors for the college



# Seeking out our talents and following our dreams



## Superleague Netball

Some of Thomas Estley Netballers were invited to the Ricoh Arena on 10th March, to provide a guard of honour to welcome the Wasps team onto the pitch at their game against Severn Stars.

They must have been lucky mascots too as the Wasps won!

In addition to performing their duty of waving their Wasp's flags they were lucky enough to meet the England Roses Manager, Tracey Neville and England Roses shooter, Rachel Dunn.



## Making a positive difference and celebrating success



### Netball success

Twenty-two of our netballers were involved in the Leicester Grammar School tournament.

Our Year 9 Team played in the Cup competition (exclusively for school A teams), finishing 6th out of 9.

Although it was a tournament for Year 9 we entered our two Year 8 teams into the plate competition, as we had been unable to participate in the tournament for their age group.

The Year 8 B Team secured wins against South Wigston B Team and Leicester Grammar D Team. They drew 2-2 with Robert Smyth B team, lost their other 3 matches and finished a very creditable 4th.

The Year 8 A Team had an amazing afternoon, winning all 6 of their matches, beating along the way Leicester Grammar's B, C and D Teams, Robert Smyth B and South Wigston B.

All of our girls were a credit to the College once again, but the competitive side to our teams just wouldn't be possible without the continued support of our volunteers Hazel Butler and Michelle Davis, who gave up their time for our girls to achieve. We really are very grateful.

# Seeking out our talents and following our dreams



**Our Year 11 Boys football team** who already hold the Blaby and Harborough title, added the County Title to their honours on 9th April.

The score was tied at half time after TECC conceded a penalty - equalizing after a goal mouth scramble led to an own goal.

In the second half the boys began to dominate play and Harry Read scored to put us ahead for the first time in the game.

Elliot Butler scored to seal the victory, with just five minutes left to play.

Manager Gareth Butler certainly get the best out of the boys, and they are playing some impressive football.

But they are not finished yet! They are still in the National competition:

- To be played on 8th May at  
Manchester City Academy Stadium



**Our Year 7 girls football team** were amazing in the Quarter Final of the County Cup when they played De Lisle from Loughborough. Despite dominating the first half they went into the break 1-0 down.

The girls stepped up in the second half and with 8 minutes to go Eve beat the keeper and they were back in the game.

Their continued pressure paid off and following a goal mouth scramble Caitlin scored the winner just 4 minutes before full time.

The thoroughly deserved win earns us a home tie in the semi final, to be played after Easter, against either John Ferneley College or Countesthorpe Leysland College.

# Taking full advantage of every learning opportunity



## Paris in the Spring

You cannot go to Paris without visiting the Eiffel Tower, Notre-Dame Cathedral, the Sacré-Cœur and the Louvre—so our students did them all.

They followed that with snails for dinner before making pancakes and singing and dancing the night away!



## Duke of Edinburgh Award, showing resilience through our experiences and challenges



Our Duke of Edinburgh, in conjunction with the Sea Cadets, have been busily preparing for their expedition later in the year.

They recently worked on their outdoor cooking skills, to determine what will and what will not be good to cook on expedition and this followed a fantastic weekend at their 'Competent Crew Rowing Course'- at which they all achieved their qualification.



## Rewards Assembly

On the morning of 12th April we held our rewards assembly for the second half of the Spring term. This special assembly recognises those students who have achieved the most reward points, through effort and attitude in lessons, during this half -term.

The top five reward achievers for each team, in each year, are invited to the assembly - so 100 students in total.

It was pleasing to see some students at this assembly who haven't previously made it into the 'top five'.



Team Estley		Team Sutton		Team Thomas		Team Thorp	
Grace Johnson	£5	George Drummond	£5	Olivia Carter	£5	Ben Simpson	£5
Lewis Elson	£3	Macey Maxwell	£3	Callum Massey	£3	Lachlan Hollis	£3
Ben Morley	£2.50	Rhys Herbert	£2.50	Alex Keeling	£2.50	Bradley Hammond	£2.50

A draw was made for each team (each student is drawn against the other 24 in their team) and our lucky winners are named above.

# GCSE Exam Timetable (1)

DAY	DATE	MONTH	TIME	SYLLABUS	BOARD	AWARD CODE	COMPONENT	PAPER	APPROX DURATION
MON	13	MAY	AM	COMPUTER SCIENCE	OCR	J276	COMPUTER SYSTEMS	J276/1	1HR 30
MON	13	MAY	PM	S/C RELIGIOUS STUDIES B	EDEXCEL	3RB0	AREA OF STUDY 1	3RB0 1A-G	50 MINS
TUES	14	MAY	AM	FRENCH LISTENING	AQA	8658	LISTENING	8658/L F or H	35M (F) 45M (H)
TUES	14	MAY	AM	FRENCH READING	AQA	8658	READING	8658/R F or H	45M (F) 1HR (H)
TUES	14	MAY	PM	BIOLOGY PAPER 1	AQA	8461	PAPER 1	8461/1 F or H	1HR 45
TUES	14	MAY	PM	COMBINED SCIENCE TRILOGY: BIOLOGY PAPER 1	AQA	8464	PAPER 1	8464/B/1 F or H	1 HR 15
WED	15	MAY	AM	PHYSICAL EDUCATION	OCR	J587	PHYSICAL FACTORS	J587/1	1 HR
WED	15	MAY	PM	ENGLISH LITERATURE COMPONENT 1	WJEC	C700QS	COMPONENT 1	C720U10-1	2 HRS
THURS	16	MAY	AM	CHEMISTRY PAPER 1	AQA	8462	PAPER 1	8462/1 F or H	1HR 45
THURS	16	MAY	AM	COMBINED SCIENCE TRILOGY: CHEMISTRY PAPER 1	AQA	8464	PAPER 1	8464/C/1 F or H	1 HR 15
THUR	16	MAY	PM	COMPUTER SCIENCE	OCR	J276	COMPUTATIONAL THINKING	J276/2	1HR 30
FRI	17	MAY	AM	FRENCH WRITING	AQA	8658	WRITING	8658/W F or H	1HR (F) 1HR 15 (H)
FRI	17	MAY	PM	PHYSICAL EDUCATION	OCR	J587	SOCIO-CULTURAL	J587/2	1 HR
FRI	17	MAY	PM	DRAMA COMPONENT 3	EDEXCEL	1DR0	COMPONENT 3	1DR0 03	1 HR 30

## GCSE Exam Timetable (2)

DAY	DATE	MONTH	TIME	SYLLABUS	BOARD	AWARD CODE	COMPONENT	PAPER	APPROX DURATION
MON	20	MAY	AM	S/C RELIGIOUS STUDIES B	EDEXCEL	3RB0	AREA OF STUDY 2	3RB0 2A-G	50 MINS
TUES	21	MAY	AM	MATHS PAPER 1 (FOUNDATION)	OCR	J560	PAPER 1 (F)	J560/1	1 HR 30
TUES	21	MAY	AM	MATHS PAPER 4 (HIGHER)	OCR	J560	PAPER 4 (H)	J560/4	1 HR 30
TUES	21	MAY	PM	GEOGRAPHY B COMPONENT 1	WJEC	C112QS	COMPONENT 1	C112U10-1	1 HR 45
WED	22	MAY	AM	SPANISH LISTENING	AQA	8698	LISTENING	8698/L F or H	35M (F) 45M (H)
WED	22	MAY	AM	SPANISH READING	AQA	8698	READING	8698/R F or H	45M (F) 1HR (H)
WED	22	MAY	PM	PHYSICS PAPER 1	AQA	8463	PAPER 1	8463/1 F or h	1 HR 45
WED	22	MAY	PM	COMBINED SCIENCE TRILOGY: PHYSICS PAPER 1	AQA	8464	PAPER 1	8464/P/1 F or H	1 HR 15
THUR	23	MAY	AM	ENGLISH LITERATURE COMPONENT 2	WJEC	C700QS	COMPONENT 2	C720U20-1	2 HR 30
FRI	24	MAY	AM	BUSINESS: INVESTIGATING SMALL BUSINESS	EDEXCEL	1BS0	PAPER 1	1BS0 01	1 HR 30
FRI	24	MAY	PM	DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY	AQA	8552	PAPER 1	8552/W	2 HRS
MON	3	JUNE	AM	HISTORY COMPONENT 2	OCR	J411	HISTORY AROUND US	J411/21	1 HR
TUES	4	JUNE	AM	ENGLISH LANGUAGE COMPONENT 1	WJEC	C720QS	COMPONENT 1	C700U10-1	1 HR 45
TUES	4	JUNE	PM	MUSIC PAPER 3	EDEXCEL	1MU0	APPRAISING	1MU0/03	1HR 45
TUES	4	JUNE	PM	BUSINESS: BUILDING A BUSINESS	EDEXCEL	1BS0	PAPER 2	1BS0/2	1 HR 30
WED	5	JUNE	AM	SPANISH WRITING	AQA	8698	WRITING	8698/W F or H	1 HR (F) 1 HR 15 (H)
WED	5	JUNE	PM	GEOGRAPHY B COMPONENT 2	WJEC	C112QS	COMPONENT 2	C112U20-1	1 HR 30
THUR	6	JUNE	AM	MATHS PAPER 2 (FOUNDATION)	OCR	J560	PAPER 2 (F)	J560/2	1 HR 30
THUR	6	JUNE	AM	MATHS PAPER 5 (HIGHER)	OCR	J560	PAPER 5 (H)	J560/5	1 HR 30
THUR	6	JUNE	PM	HISTORY COMPONENT 1	OCR	J411	BRITISH HISTORY	J411/11-19	1 HR 45
FRI	7	JUNE	AM	ENGLISH LANGUAGE COMPONENT 2	WJEC	C720QS	COMPONENT 2	C700U20-1	2 HRS
FRI	7	JUNE	PM	BIOLOGY PAPER 2	AQA	8461	PAPER 2	8461/2 F or H	1HR 45
FRI	7	JUNE	PM	COMBINED SCIENCE TRILOGY: BIOLOGY PAPER 2	AQA	8464	PAPER 2	8464/B/2 F or H	1 HR 15

## GCSE Exam Timetable (3)

DAY	DATE	MONTH	TIME	SYLLABUS	BOARD	AWARD CODE	COMPONENT	PAPER	APPROX DURATION
MON	10	JUNE	AM	FOOD PREP & NUTRITION	AQA	8585	WRITTEN PAPER	8585/W	1HR 45
MON	10	JUNE	PM	HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE	OCR	J811	WRITTEN PAPER	R021	1 HR
TUES	11	JUNE	AM	MATHS PAPER 3 (FOUNDATION)	OCR	J560	PAPER 3 (F)	J560/3	1 HR 30
TUES	11	JUNE	AM	MATHS PAPER 6 (HIGHER)	OCR	J560	PAPER 6 (H)	J560/6	1 HR 30
TUES	11	JUNE	PM	HISTORY COMPONENT 3	OCR	J411	WORLD HISTORY	J411/31-39	1 HR 45
WED	12	JUNE	AM	CHEMISTRY PAPER 2	AQA	8462	PAPER 2	8462/2 F or H	1HR 45
WED	12	JUNE	AM	COMBINED SCIENCE TRILOGY: CHEMISTRY PAPER 2	AQA	8464	PAPER 2	8464/C/2 F or H	1 HR 15
THUR	13	JUNE	AM	GEOGRAPHY B COMPONENT 3	WJEC	C112QS	COMPONENT 3	C112U30-1	1 HR 30
THUR	13	JUNE	PM	DANCE APPRECIATION	AQA	8236	DANCE APPRECIATION	8236/W	1HR 30
FRI	14	JUNE	AM	PHYSICS PAPER 2	AQA	8463	PAPER 2	8463/2 F or H	1 HR 45
FRI	14	JUNE	AM	COMBINED SCIENCE TRILOGY: PHYSICS PAPER 2	AQA	8464	PAPER 2	8464/P/2 F or H	1 HR 15
FRI	14	JUNE	PM	FURTHER MATHEMATICS	AQA	8360	PAPER 1	8360/1	1 HR 30
MON	17	JUNE	PM	FURTHER MATHEMATICS	AQA	8360	PAPER 2	8360/2	2 HRS
WED	26	JUNE		Contingency day for GCSE examinations should sustained national or local disruption arise during the June.	TBC				

## BEFORE YOUR EXAMS

**REVISION:** Start your revision early and follow a sensible revision timetable to ensure that you are well prepared for your exams. Follow the advice contained in the 'Revision Guide' section later in this booklet. This should now be well underway.

**EXAM TIMETABLE:** Carefully check your personal timetable and note the dates and times of all your examinations and especially whether they are a morning or an afternoon exam. All year 11 students have been given their personal timetable prior to the Easter Holidays.

If there are any errors on your timetable, please notify the Examinations Officer, Mrs Backes, immediately. **Examinations can only be taken at the time and on the day given on the timetable. Misreading the timetable will not be accepted as a satisfactory explanation for lateness or absence.**

**START TIMES:** All morning examinations will start at **9.00am**. You won't need to go to morning registration if you have an exam as registers will be taken in the exam venue. All afternoon examinations will start at **1.30pm**, unless otherwise stated.

**VENUES:** Examinations will take place mainly in the **Gym, Drama Studio or Music Room**, however, some smaller venues will also be used.

**SEATING ARRANGEMENTS:** You will be allocated a desk for each exam. You will receive an updated individual exam timetable with details of seating arrangements closer to the exam date. You can also check the **seating plan** displayed on the Examinations notice board or outside the examination room. Under no circumstances are you allowed to change the seating arrangements without the permission of the Exams Officer.

**ABSENCE FROM EXAMINATIONS:** If you are ill on the day of an exam please contact the school on 01455 283263 as soon as you are able. A doctor's certificate must be presented to the Examinations Office within 2 days of the examination. An application to the Awarding Body can then be made for special consideration. The Awarding Body may consider giving special consideration for missed examinations due to bereavement, accident or illness, backed by a doctor's certificate.

Misreading the timetable will not be accepted as a satisfactory explanation for absence. You will be charged for failing to attend an examination.

**LATENESS:** If you know you are going to be late, phone school as soon as possible on 01455 283263 after 9.00am. If you arrive late, you may be allowed into the exam, however any lateness must be reported to the Awarding Body and it is at their discretion whether they will mark your exam paper. They will not accept excuses like 'the pupil slept in' or 'missed the bus'. You may incur costs for persistent unexplained lateness.

## DURING YOUR EXAMS

**EQUIPMENT:** Bring your own writing instruments (including a spare pen) and any other equipment required for the exam. **You must write in black ink.** Coloured pencils or inks may only be used for diagrams. Only transparent / see through pencil cases are allowed.

For some design technology exams, the use of colour pencils is expected. You must provide your own.

Do **not** use Tipp-ex or any other correcting fluid. A neat crossing out is perfectly acceptable if an error has been made. Highlighter pens should not be used in any work that you are submitting to be marked. **An 'exam readiness' kit will be available to purchase during the period leading up to your examinations. It is your responsibility to make sure you have the correct equipment for your exams.**

**Calculators** - are only allowed in certain examinations. Your subject teacher will advise you which exams the use of your calculator is permitted. Remember to:

- ◆ make sure it works properly; check that the batteries are working;
- ◆ clear anything stored in it;
- ◆ remove any parts such as cases, lids or covers which have printed instructions or formulas; do not bring into the examination room any operating instructions or prepared programs

**UNIFORM:** **All candidates are required to wear school** uniform when attending school during the exam period. Failure to do so may result in the candidate being refused entry to the examination. In this case, the candidate would be required to pay for the examination.

**DRINKS:** You are allowed to bring into the examination room a **small clear plastic bottle of water without any labels** for your own personal use during your examination. We recommend that you do this, as the brain needs to be hydrated in order to work to its' full potential. You are not allowed to bring any food into an exam.

**TOILET BREAKS:** There will be no toilet breaks allowed for any examinations of 1hour or less unless there is a medical reason.

**RULES AND REGULATIONS:** It is your responsibility to familiarise yourself with the enclosed copy of the Awarding Bodies' regulations 'Warning to Candidates'. A copy of this notice will also be displayed outside the examination venue. You must be silent at all times during an examination including when entering and leaving the examination room. Should you require any assistance, please raise your hand clearly and wait for the invigilator to attend to you. Once you have entered an examination room, you are not allowed to leave unescorted until the conclusion of the examination.

**No candidate is allowed to leave the examination room without the permission of the invigilator.**

Question papers, answer booklets, additional paper and all rough work **must not** be taken from the examination room.

## "The Exam Special for Year 11" - Mrs Clements and Mrs Backes

**NO COMMUNICATION IS ALLOWED BETWEEN CANDIDATES FROM THE MOMENT YOU ENTER THE EXAMINATION VENUE**

**MOBILE PHONES:** Under no circumstances whatsoever is a candidate allowed to have a mobile phone in their possession during an examination. The penalty for having a mobile phone in your pocket **or** having a mobile ring during an examination is severe and could result in disqualification from all your subjects.

**All mobile phones must be switched off and stored in your bag at the beginning of each examination.**

If you have a digital watch, **do not set the alarm or hour chime** to go off during, or at the end of any examination. There are clocks visible to all candidates in all exam rooms, and any alarms are both unnecessary and distracting to other candidates.

**WRIST WATCHES:** JCQ ruling now requires that all candidates remove their wrist watches and place these on the front of the exam desk in sight of the invigilator for the duration of the examination.

### **PROGRAMMABLE WATCHES/iWATCHES**

#### **RESULTS OF YOUR EXAMINATION**

##### **RESULTS DAY**

Your examination results will be available in school on: **THURSDAY 22nd AUGUST 2019**

Thursday 22nd August 2019 falls during the school summer holiday. Examination results will be handed out in a designated area and the rest of the school will be closed to pupils on this day.

Results must be collected by YOU, personally or by someone with **a note of authorisation from you**. After this day the results will only be available at the start of the Autumn term during school hours.

If you would prefer to have the results slip posted to you, please leave a stamped addressed envelope (1st class stamp) with Mrs Backes before the end of the Summer Term. **WE ARE UNABLE TO GIVE OUT EXAMINATION RESULTS OVER THE PHONE OR TO A PARENT/FRIEND UNLESS THEY PROVIDE A NOTE OF AUTHORISATION SIGNED BY YOURSELF**

**CERTIFICATES** Examination certificates normally arrive in school during October. They must be collected personally, or by someone with **a note of authorisation from you**. If you wish to have your certificate sent by post, please leave a large A4 envelope (again stamped and addressed and marked 'Cert' in the bottom left hand corner) with Mrs Backes **before** the end of the Summer Term.

**YOUR CERTIFICATES ARE THE EVIDENCE OF YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS AND IT IS MOST IMPORTANT THAT YOU REMEMBER TO COLLECT THEM.**

## A few 'top tips' for dealing with exam stress.....

- Plan your time, make a revision timetable which includes breaks.
- Plan no longer than 45 minute sessions before you take a break
- Turn off all electronic devices - to avoid distractions
- Don't avoid the subject you are finding difficult, this will only make you feel more stressed. Think about what specifically you are worried about in that subject and talk to your teacher it - they will be able to help
- Plan a variety of activities to do during your 45 minutes, don't just read your notes
- You can revise with friends but make sure it productive, plan your time before you start
- **Plan time in with your friends**
- Declutter your study area to avoid procrastination or you will want to tidy instead of revising!
- Some students find listening to a mediation session is helpful to relax whilst others listen to music during their breaks to help relax or take a walk.
- Make sure you are eating well, plan for snacks during your revision time
- Drink plenty of water
- Make sure you are getting at least 8 hours' sleep
- Get active even if you just take a walk, it will help with your concentration

## REVISION

**Resources:** The websites for the 4 main Exam Boards are useful sources of information, guidance, past papers and mark schemes. They are as follows:

AQA [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk) Edexcel [www.edexcel.org.uk](http://www.edexcel.org.uk)  
OCR [www.ocr.org.uk](http://www.ocr.org.uk) WJEC [www.wjec.org.uk](http://www.wjec.org.uk)

Subject and exam specific support to help with learning, homework and revision:  
[www.gcsepod.com](http://www.gcsepod.com)

**Revision – Approach:** Here are some tips which may help you during your revision for exams.

Use [www.gcsepod.com](http://www.gcsepod.com) for exam specific pod casts.

- Use a revision timetable, revising certain subjects at certain times.
- Gather information and materials *before* revising
- If you feel the need for silence while revising, try to make this possible.
- Make sure you have a break from revision - try to arrange things so that you have a "day off" revising. This will mean when you re-start your revision, you will be a little fresher.
- Remember the different revision techniques that we have looked at in assemblies such as 25 minute sprints
- Avoid revising things you already know: start by mapping out your knowledge, this way you will find out where the gaps are and you can work on filling them.

Try to revise one section of notes, or one set of topics together.

**Revision - Techniques:** Try to develop your own technique for revision. Different techniques work for different people and depending on the type of subject being revised, some techniques are more suitable than others. Here are some:-

- Read and Memorise.
- Podcasts
- Summary notes - short version of main notes.
- List of keywords for each topic covered, which can act as "triggers" for other ideas.
- Some kind of diagrammatic representation of notes can be helpful.
- Revise with a friend - if possible, exchange ideas during revision - this can be very helpful to both people in understanding topics and building confidence.
- Questions and Answers - get a friend to ask you specific questions about topics and think up questions to ask your friend. This will test and help to build your own understanding.
- Make up a set of revision cards - with one main topic per card, each topic listing ideas or information for this topic. You can carry these cards with you and, if you choose, get them out and revise whilst a passenger in a car or on the bus, or when queuing somewhere.

If possible, ask your teacher or tutor to revise topics you are unsure about and try to get the tutor to help you to fully understand the topic.

## **Exam Preparation**

- Try not to treat the exam as anything other than a normal school day, other than that you are doing an exam. Try to follow your normal routine as this will help you relax.
- Try to think that at least after the exam, you can relax and won't have to do any further revision - this will help you relax before the event too.
- Get a good night's sleep - do not stay up till "all hours" revising unless you feel this is vital. A final review of topics and a review of your "strong" and "weaker" areas would be best.
- Take sufficient pens / pencil, rubber ruler etc.

Relax!

## **Before The Exam**

- **Make sure you arrive in plenty of time.**
- **Make sure you listen very carefully to instructions that are given or any announcements that are made. If anything is unclear, ask questions before you start as this may save you a great deal of time later.**
- **Make sure that you have everything necessary - question paper, answer papers, additional sheets etc. Ask the invigilator if something appears to be missing.**

## **The Exam Itself**

- Read all the paper and all the instructions carefully - check that you know exactly how many questions you have to answer and carefully note any constraints such as "Answer 1 question from each section" or "Answer 2 questions from Section A and 1 question from Section B" etc.
- "Speed Read" the paper to get an idea of what questions are in it but then...
- Read each question carefully and thoroughly and make sure you understand what it is asking. Read all parts of the question before deciding whether or not to answer it.
- Try work out how much time you will need to answer each question, but allow some time for reading / checking at the end of the time.
- Try to write neatly.
- If you are doing mathematical questions always show your working. Simply stating an answer will not get full marks. If you get a question partially correct, and have shown your working, you may be given some marks.
- Relax as much as possible and try to think clearly and keep confident.
- In a given question, concentrate of what you do know rather than what you don't know.
- Use what you know to maximum effect, but remember to ANSWER THE QUESTION.
- Do the questions you feel most confident about first (it rarely matters which order you answer questions in). This will help to build your confidence and you may find yourself remembering more things.
- Keep thinking positive and do the best you can. Just answer as much as you can.

Relax!

This term we are delighted to be working with the **LCFC** and their **Inspire Coaches** and **School Sports Officers**, as part of a bespoke school experience package at Thomas Estley. As they are developing their skills in the classroom environment, we hope in the future that we will be receiving applications from them to join our initial teacher training programme....



'Every lesson shapes a life' and by training to teach with **TELA** you will be given the opportunity to train in local schools, supporting your local community. We offer teacher training in both primary and secondary schools.

TELA are always happy to hear from you, so if you, or if someone you know, would like to find out more about teacher training but are unsure of the next steps, the qualifications needed or just want some general advice -please speak to **Jo Robotham** 01455 283263 ext. 3206  
[tela@thomasesstley.org.uk](mailto:tela@thomasesstley.org.uk)

If you would like to join us for a day in school or would like to attend one of our information events (our website [www.telaonline.co.uk](http://www.telaonline.co.uk) is regularly updated with detail of these) please contact us by email [tela@thomasesstley.org.uk](mailto:tela@thomasesstley.org.uk).

We look forward to hearing from you.



If a student feels unwell at college they must report to Reception and ask to be seen in the medical room.

If necessary the college will phone home to seek advice or to ask for the student to be collected.

Please remind your child that they must follow the procedure above and not contact you yourselves.

Thank you for your support with this.

### School Transport

If your child travels via transport provided by the County Council it is a good idea to have a contingency plan with your child, for getting to school/home in the event that they miss their bus for any reason.

It is also useful to have to hand the contact number for any query with school transport:  
**0116 3050002.**



### Absence during term-time

If your child is ill please contact the college on each day of illness and leave a message on the absence line. Where possible make medical appointments outside of college hours. We will contact you by text message if we have not been given a reason for absence - please telephone us in response to the message.



College is closed from  
16th April to 26th April  
(inclusive)

College re-opens 29th April  
College is also closed for May Day,  
Monday 6th May

### Winter Closure Procedure

**In the event of the weather causing the school to close or causing a problem with school transport we will put out an alert via:**

- ♦ The school website - [www.thomasestley.org.uk](http://www.thomasestley.org.uk)
- ♦ Radio Leicester
- ♦ Parentmail

### Mobile phones

Students are not allowed to use mobile phones in college unless they have express permission from a member of staff (for taking a picture of homework prompts, backing music for performance etc.). This is to protect students' learning and is in line with our safeguarding policy.



Mobile phones used in contravention of the mobile phone policy will be confiscated until collected from reception by a parent/carer.

For persistent abuse of the policy a student will lose the privilege of bringing a mobile to college.

### Headphones

The use of headphones is only permitted outside of the college building. Headphones visible inside college will be confiscated and, on the first occasion, will be returned at the end of the day. On any subsequent occasion they must be collected by a parent/carer.

### Holidays Taken in Term Time

Government guidelines, which came into effect on 1st September 2013, prevent Headteachers from granting any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances (a family holiday does not fall under this category).

If a student has an absence recorded as a result of an unauthorised family holiday, Leicestershire County Council will be advised of the matter and will be requested to issue a Penalty Notice, in line with their policy.