

PARENT BULLETIN

Week Ending: Friday 4th December 2020

Note from the Headteacher, Ms A Sharma:

I would like to extend our best wishes to those of you who celebrated Gurburab Baba Nanak Dev Ji's Jayanti and St. Andrew's Day. Please note that school will finish for students on Thursday 17th December at lunchtime and there will be no hot lunches served on that day. Those students who receive free school meals will be given a packed lunch to take away at 12:30 on that day.

Please ensure that your child brings their facial covering with them each day and wears it on public transport and in all areas of the school except the classroom. Any student who forgets their face covering and is provided with one by the school will have 50p deducted from their ParentPay account. Have a great weekend.



Year 11 Mock Interview Day:

On Wednesday all Year 11 students took part in their 'Mock Interview Day'. Every student came prepared and focused to impress potential employers with their answers. The students came to school in smart business clothes, so that the experience was as real as possible. They were prepared for this activity during their PSHE time. This was a great opportunity for careers advice and they found it really useful. This has been a busy week for them as they have also

been having their 'Walking Talking Mocks'.



Year 13 / Year 11 Geography:

A huge thank you to our Year 13 Geographers who planned and conducted an engaging lesson for the Year 11 Geography students on 'Coastal Management'. Students found it really interesting and engaged well.

Year 11 and Year 13 Focus

Groups:

These are now up and running for pupils in order for them to have extra support to catch up to complement learning in the lessons. Please continue to encourage your child to attend the scheduled focus groups. The attendance so far has been very good, so do encourage your child to keep up their efforts.

Saturday Year 13 and Year 11 revision classes:

The school has organised special smaller group support for many Year 13 and Year 11 pupils during weekends this half term. These sessions will

run **from Saturday**

21st November to Saturday

12th December 2020. If your

child has been selected to attend by their teacher, please do support by ensuring they attend on time. Letters have been posted and handed out with a bespoke schedule on containing details of timings. Please do refer to these with your child weekly.

Year 9 awards:

Congratulations to Ines 9S and Roshni 9E for achieving over 200 Achievement Logs this term in Year 9. We are so proud they have set their sights so high and made every effort to achieve that goal. Both are leading examples of the excellence in Year 9. Working hard and proving what can be achieved in such a short time.

School Counsellor:

The school counsellor, Ms Noel is now on site and is open for counselling. This will begin from Monday 7th December - Thursday 17th December 2020.

Student drop-in sessions -

11:40am - 12:20 pm

Wednesdays; 12:30pm - 1:20

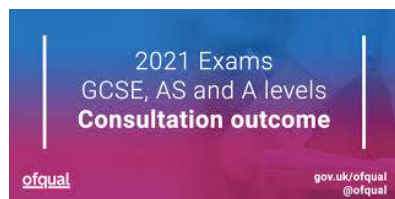
pm Fridays; **Parent-student**

consultations: Tuesdays and

Thursdays from 3:10 -

3:40pm. Please book your

appointment by emailing



GCSE, AS and A Level Exams

Summer 2021:

The Department of Education and Education Secretary yesterday announced some changes to the Summer 2021 GCSE, AS and A Level exams. The announcement, in summary was that, in recognition of the challenges faced by students this year, grades will be more generous, students will be given advance notice of some topic areas, and steps will be taken to ensure every student receives a grade, even if they miss a paper due to self-isolation or illness. The new measures include:

- more generous grading than usual, in line with national outcomes from 2020, so students this year are not disadvantaged;
- students receiving advance notice of some topic areas covered in GCSE, AS and A levels to focus revision;
- exam aids - like formula sheets - provided in some exams giving students more confidence and reducing the amount of information they need to memorise;
- additional exams to give students a second chance to sit a paper if the main exams or assessments are missed due to illness or self-isolation; and
- a new expert group to look at differential learning and monitor the variation in the

impact of the pandemic on students across the country.

However, it is important to note that, whilst adjustments in terms of exam scripts may be made, in totality, the demands of the exam programmes remain exactly the same and therefore the revision, preparation and work rate must remain the same. The standard will remain consistent with previous years but from the announcement yesterday it is clear that there will be additional consideration given to the methods of 'advance' support that can be given to students across the country in order to try and create a more level playing field. As we receive more information from Ofqual and the Awarding Bodies in the New Year we will pass this onto you and your children.

Parking safely:

Please can any parents /carers collecting their child at the end of the day, refrain from parking close to the school gates as it causes congestion and at times, becomes unsafe. Also, please refrain from parking on the double yellow lines.

Reporting Absences:

If your child will be absent from school, please let us know either by phoning the school number or sending an email. If you know that the absence will be for more than one day, please let us know the expected length of absence when you contact us. If the absence is only known on a day to day basis, please contact us at the start of each day of absence. Please call the attendance officer on 020 8867 9077 and you will be able to leave a voicemail message to let

us know that your child will be absent from school.

Alternatively, you can send an email to Studentabsence@villiers.ealing.sch.uk. Please include your child's name, their year group and, if possible, their tutor group. **Please ensure this is done by 8am each day**

Name:

Form: