

ST CUTHBERT'S ROMAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



PARENTAL NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 1 | Autumn 2023



Headteacher's Update

Welcome to the first edition of our 2023-24 school newsletter. I hope you will find the information included in here both useful and interesting. We want to give all of our partners and stakeholders a good insight into what life is like at St Cuthbert's.

This has been a busy half term as always. At the start of the year, we were delighted to welcome over 200 new students to St Cuthbert's as our new Year 7s begin their journey with us. They have settled in extremely well and parents and carers have had an opportunity to visit us and speak to form tutors as part of the settling in process.

At the end of September we had our annual Open Evening. This was extremely well attended and we had fantastic feedback from our visitors. This was especially the case with regards to our student helpers on the evening who did the school proud and were a credit to themselves and their parents. A huge thank you from me to all of you who helped.



Students who were the recipients of our Headteacher Award this half term. From left to right: Amelia Bak, Angel Magaya, Venus Nunes, Mr Shields, Clinton Chibor and Benedicte Kapiamba.

Headteacher's Update

At the start of October we had a special assembly for our current Year 11's. In the assembly we issued them their end of Year 10 assessment grades as we would issue actual GCSE results at the end of Year 11. We have followed this up with details and plans for how we now need to put in place strategies to ensure the results are better next summer and give the students the grades they need to successfully move on to the next part of their education.

To support in this process, we have already implemented a huge range of interventions and support for our Year 11 during and after school. We also provided an opportunity for all parents and carers of students in Year 11 to attend an evening aimed at helping parents to understand what they can do to help their children during their GCSE preparations. The students themselves had a conference on what they need to do this year to be exam ready by May. All of this was extremely well received by students and parents.

As we move forward to next half term, we will be having a focus on our Advent charities and preparations for Christmas. This is an important time for the school and the wider community and there will be lots of events and work taking place to ensure our students and our wider community have a good Christmas.

A significant event takes place on November 1st, although it will happen quietly and in many ways nothing will change. We will formally become part of the St Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Academy Trust. By joining with the Trust we are building relationships and working in collaboration with partner schools and all of this will benefit our whole community over time.

Please enjoy reading about life at St Cuthbert's and I will look to update you about next half term just before Christmas. Have a wonderful half term and enjoy the extra time with your loved ones.



St. Cuthbert's
Roman Catholic High School

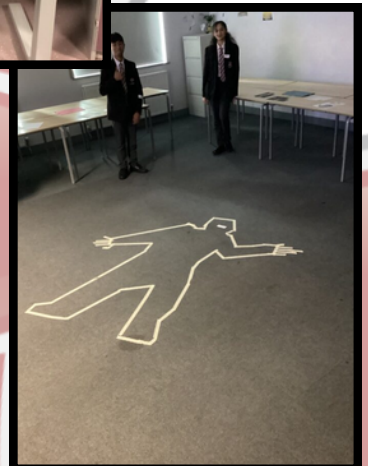
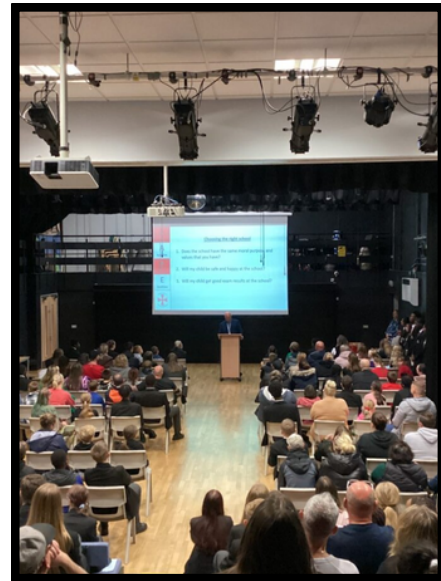
Open Evening

We welcomed over 500 visitors to our Open Evening where prospective students and their parents and carers were chaperoned by our fantastic student team.

All of our visitors were invited to listen to addresses from our Headteacher and our Head Prefect team.

Students involved in the school production of 'Oliver' performed 'Food Glorious Food'. It was the first time many of these students have performed in front of an audience. We are very proud of them. Rehearsals for the school show continue and we are looking forward to performing for primary schools, friends and parents and carers in December.

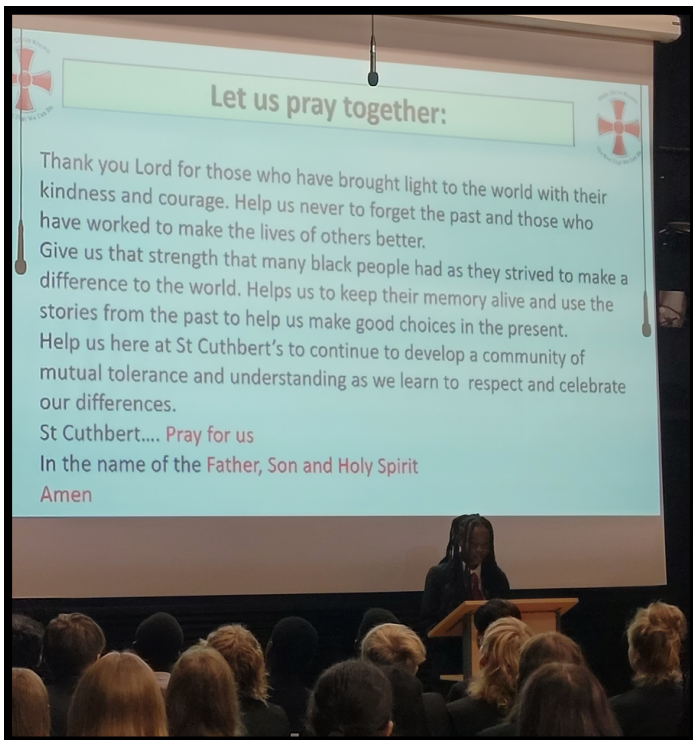
Visitors experienced an array of activities from across our subject areas. There was evidence to decipher in Science, a murder mystery in English, places around the world in Geography, culinary delights in Food and Nutrition, trampolining in the Sport's Hall and we were joined by a very special guest, Fred the Red!



Black History Month

Events

Here at St Cuthbert's, we have chosen to honour Black History Month in a variety of ways this half-term. We have been engaged with year group assemblies delivered by our fantastic students, dedicated Do Now tasks in the classroom that salute our sisters, a culinary feast in the cuisine and a national poetry competition. We have had a great time celebrating and acknowledging Black members of our community and beyond who inspire, influence and guide us.



BHM Across the Curriculum

Departments across the school have joined together in celebrating Black History Month in their own unique way! In particular, students in Art have taken influence from the artist Lorna Simpson and used watercolour to create expressive hair styles and this brilliant display board of their work.



Our brilliant students who delivered BHM assemblies this term, alongside Sister Linda.

Black History Month

Culinary Delights

On the final day of the half-term, we enjoyed a lunchtime filled with food, music and friendship.

We have been lucky to enjoy traditional dishes such as Jollof rice, fried plantain, puff-puff (fried dough) and stunning seasoned grilled chicken. There were lots of clean plates - what a way to end the week!



Careers Day

This week was our annual Year 11 Careers Day. During the day, students had the opportunity to complete their college applications, create a curriculum vitae, meet a range of post 16 college providers and have a mock interview with an adult that they didn't know.

In the afternoon, students had the opportunity to meet with a range of professionals who talked to students about their job roles and the qualifications needed to be successful in their industry.

Our Year 11 students had an excellent day and we would like to thank all of our visitors from post 16 providers, interviewers, professionals and our awesome Year 11 form tutor team who made the day possible. Well done Year 11. Let's keep being the best that we can be!



Prefect Team

This half term, one of our Head Prefects, David Egedi, shares his reflections about the start of an important year:

And like that, another half term is over, but what a way to start the school year. So many positive things have happened and I'm happy to be in a privileged position to share them with you.

Firstly, I would like to say that it is noteworthy how our Year 7s have settled in after their important move from primary school. It is commendable how they have adapted to life at St Cuthbert's! We held a successful Open Evening and enjoyed showing round students of the future along with their families.

Our first term began with a burst of energy – our teachers and support staff have been nothing short of rock stars, setting the stage for a learning experience like no other making classes engaging and informative. Year 11 students have expressed a deep sense of encouragement and support from our dedicated teachers as they guide us with the knowledge to tackle our GCSEs. It's heartening to see how our educators have gone above and beyond to provide a nurturing learning environment.

Teachers have offered extra revision sessions, targeted tuition and a listening ear for our concerns. Their unwavering commitment has boosted our confidence in the face of a pivotal year.

Now, as we pause to catch our breath, we will remember the excitement, laughter, friendships, challenges and accomplishments we have enjoyed so far as we move forward. After the break, there will be more challenges to conquer, dreams to chase and memories to create and we can't wait!



Catholic Life of the School

Macmillan Coffee Morning

We held our Macmillan Coffee Morning on the 29th of September and what a great success!

Pupils and staff helped us support McMillan by donating cake or biscuits to our coffee morning and by selling these treats on the day so we could celebrate 'The St Cuthbert's way'

We still have a rolling total, but have raised over £840.00 so far! Thank you for all of your efforts in bringing in donations, it was a huge success and could not have been done without the generosity of both staff and pupils. There are too many people to thank individually, so thank you everyone!



THANK YOU!
The running total from the Macmillan coffee morning is
£840.00

How amazing to think how many cakes were sold at 50p to raise this much for Macmillan.

WELL DONE EVERYONE!!

WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING
MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT
M&S
MASCATE ORIGINAL
Pelle Centre
MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT



Catholic Life of the School

Challenges and Reflection

The Rosary Challenge has been taking place in the Chapel at lunchtime.

Pupils and staff were both encouraged to take part alongside our fabulous GIFT team.

the Rosary Challenge!

WWW.FIRSTSATURDAY.CO.UK

Joyful Mysteries	The Annunciation	The Visitation	The Nativity	The Presentation	The finding in the Temple
Luminous Mysteries	The Baptism	The wedding at Cana	Preaching of the Kingdom	The Transfiguration	The institution of the Eucharist
Sorrowful Mysteries	The agony in the garden	The scourging at the pillar	The crowning of thorns	Jesus carries the cross	The crucifixion
Glorious Mysteries	The Resurrection	The Ascension	The descent of the Spirit	The Assumption	The crowning of Mary

Optimistic October 2023

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	Write down three things you can look forward to this month.	2	Find something to be optimistic about (even if it's a difficult time).	3	Take a small step towards a goal that really matters to you.	4	Start your day with the most important thing on your to-do list.
5	Be a realistic optimist. See life as it is, but focus on what's good.	6	Remind yourself that things can change for the better.	7	Look for the good in people around you today.	8	Make some progress on a project or task you have been avoiding.
9	Share an important goal with someone you trust.	10	Take time to reflect on what you have accomplished recently.	11	Avoid blaming yourself or others. Find a helpful way forward.	12	Look out for positive news and reasons to be cheerful today.
13	Ask for help to overcome an obstacle you are facing.	14	Do something constructive to improve a difficult situation.	15	Thank yourself for achieving the things you often take for granted.	16	Put down your to-do list and do something fun or uplifting.
17	Take a small step towards a positive change you want to see in society.	18	Set hopeful but realistic goals for the days ahead.	19	Identify one of your positive qualities that will be helpful in the future.	20	Find joy in tackling a task you've put off for some time.
21	Let go of the expectations of others and focus on what matters to you.	22	Share a helpful quote, picture or video with a friend or colleague.	23	Recognise that you have a choice about what to prioritise.	24	Write down three specific things that have gone well recently.
25	You can't do everything! What are your three priorities right now?	26	Find a new perspective on a problem you face.	27	Be kind to yourself today. Remember, progress takes time.	28	Ask yourself, will this still matter a year from now?
29	Plan a fun or exciting activity to look forward to.	30	Identify three things that give you hope for the future.	31	Set a goal that brings a sense of purpose for the coming month.		

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS Happier · Kinder · Together

DIocese of SALFORD

Care for Creation Promise

A statement of hope - rooted in the belief that we can make a difference.

Guided by our Catholic faith and a desire to protect God's creation for future generations, we make this promise to care for creation and our brothers and sisters around the world:

We have heard and will respond to the cry of the earth and the cry of the people;

We recognise the need for urgent action to address the ecological crisis and the damage it is doing to our brothers and sisters;

We will set an example by making positive change and standing up to this injustice.

By signing this Promise, we commit to making better choices and to develop an action plan for change within our community.

Signed _____ Print name _____

May God guide us as we strive to live out His call to be responsible and compassionate stewards of the earth.
St Francis of Assisi, pray for us.
Stay with us Lord on our journey.

Members of our school community have been invited to make the Care for creation Promise which states:

Guided by our Catholic faith and a desire to protect God's creation for future generations, we make this promise to care for creation and our brothers and sisters around the world

In addition, we have been striving to be "optimistic in October" inspired by Action for Happiness.

Some of our form groups have used these ideas in their sacred spaces to remind us to be kinder to ourselves and each other. Here's our optimistic target for half-term: Set a goal that brings a purpose to the upcoming month.

Wellbeing

Skylight Circus



Students have been learning lots of new skills with skylight circus this term.

So far we have been learning how to juggle, spin plates, use the diabolo and flower sticks.

There are free sessions running over half term at skylight circus. Call 01706 650676 for more information.



Get Up and Grow!

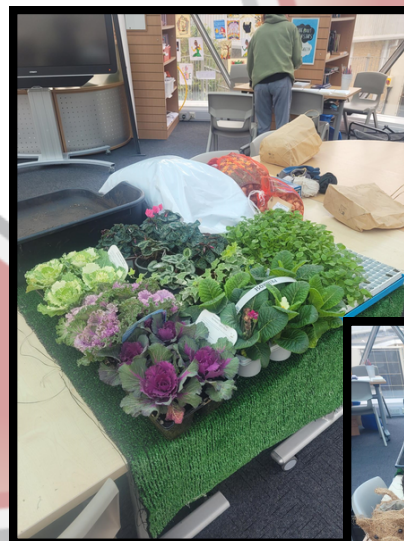
This term students have been enjoying their after school gardening club.

We have been planning and devolving our new onsite wellbeing garden and enjoyed many activities such as:

Making wildflower seed bombs, decorating rocks, making planters, painting watercolours and trying homegrown produce including chutney's and jams.

So far students have planted bulbs for spring, cabbage, cress and some lovely displays that were given to staff around school.

This allowed students to spread lots of positivity around school with their lovely creations.



Trips And Events

Year 11 Grasmere Trip

Year 11 ventured to the Lake District in September to conduct their Geography Fieldwork. We had great weather and the students really got stuck in (some quite literally). The aim was to get first-hand experience of collecting primary data for their GCSE Rivers field study.

Our annual trip to the Grasmere Co-op always goes down a treat! Several boxes of cereal, loaves of bread and one prawn cocktail were purchased.

The following day we took a boat trip across Lake Windermere to identify glacial upland areas.

We eventually docked in Waterhead and conducted a land use survey in the lovely town of Ambleside. Tesco meal deals and Greggs were consumed happily.

All students demonstrated exemplary behaviour, and we could not have been prouder. It is a trip that all the teachers will fondly remember for many years. Well done year 11!



Year 7 Settling in Evening

“Thank you to those parents and carers who attended the year 7 settling in evening, It was the perfect opportunity to discuss the wonderful first half term the students have had and to read the lovely comments from you all. Have a lovely half term, Mrs Murray.”



Trips And Events

Preparing for GCSEs

Colleges from across Greater Manchester have been visiting our Y11s to deliver assemblies as they prepare to make their choices regarding their educational future after St Cuthbert's.

We have been visited by establishments specialising in traditional academic routes and also those providers who are providing high level apprenticeships, vocational courses and brand-new T-Levels. Our Year 11s have lots of opportunities ahead!

Staff have also facilitated a Mock Results Day and a dedicated GCSE preparation day for our Year 11 students which included the following sessions:

- Super Speedy Study Skills with Positively You
- Resilience and motivation session with Positively You
- Preparing for your mocks with Miss Holt and Mrs Hunt
- Being the best that you can be – Joe Thompson (motivational speaker)



Road Haulage Experience

On Tuesday, our students were treated to an amazing careers experience with The Road Haulage Association and HTF Transport.

The students were given a talk on Careers within the Haulage industry and were given the chance to drive a truck simulator to see what it might be like to drive a truck on the road. Students were also given a road safety talk on the visibility of drivers of HGVs and a chance to look at how a Hiab operates. The students were thrilled with the experience which Evie described as 'Awesome'



Attendance

Half Term 1

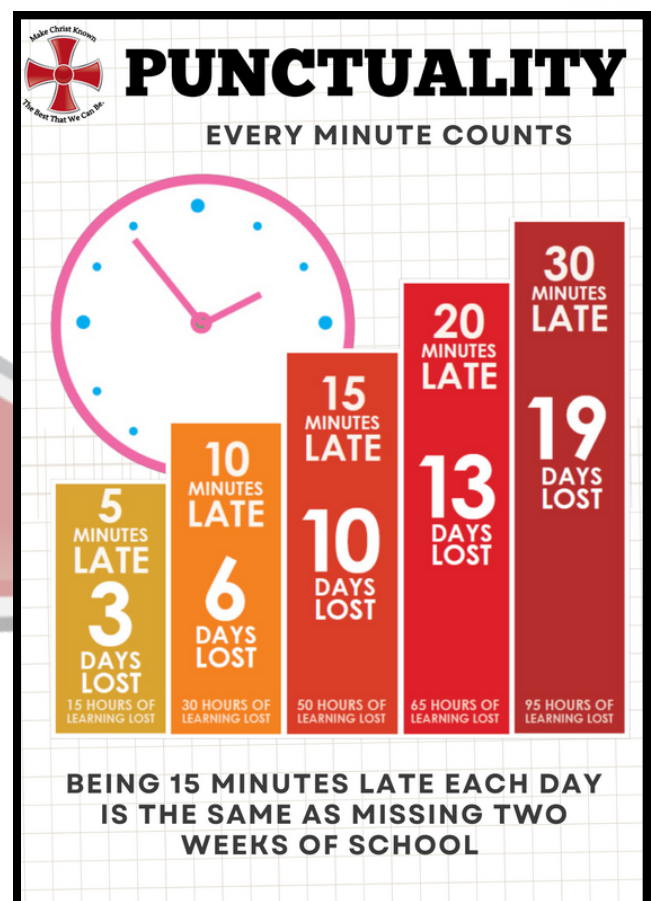
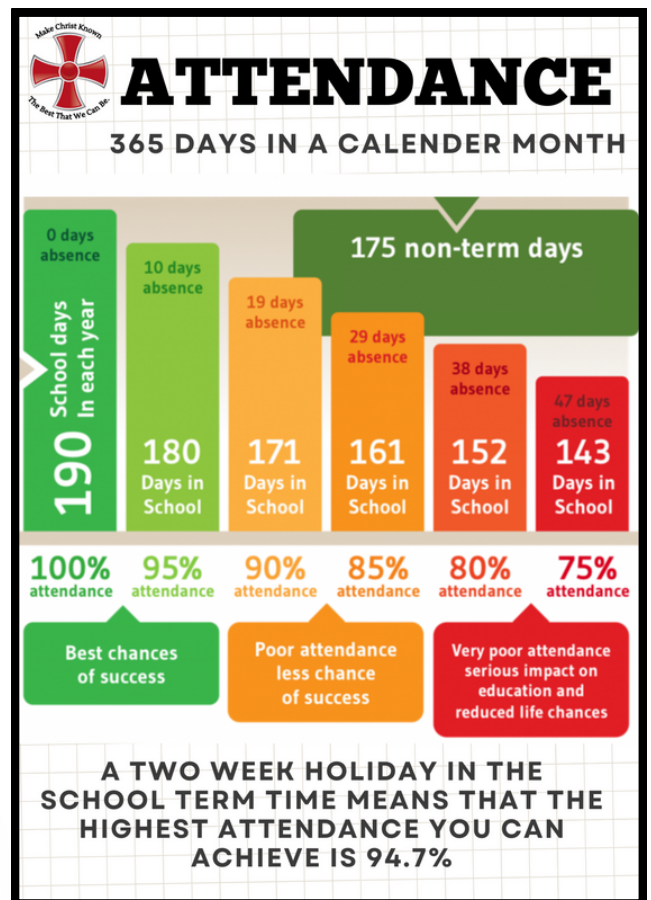
A large number of our students have made an exceptional start to the academic year and have demonstrated a commitment to attending School with an attendance above 94% and these students are punctual to School every day.

It is noticeable that an number of students have struggled to return to school this academic year and there is a significant increase in the number of students who require additional support whilst they are in school. If you need any further advice please contact school via the contact us (<https://scrchs.net/contact>) section of our website.

Although we remain committed to supporting students and their families with their attendance, it is vital that we work together to remove any barriers. Research shows the negative impact poor attendance can have on a child's well-being, progress and future outcomes and we believe that all students have a right to 'Best that they can be'.



We have also been celebrating the many achievements of our students in our Rewards Assemblies held this week. Here is our 100% Attendance Draw winner Melvis with his 100% badge.



Across the Curriculum

Drama

Yr 11 students attended a theatre trip to see the musical, 'Once' at the Curtain Theatre, Rochdale. They represented the school with pride and loved the performance.

Yr 10 students have been working on scripts based on the theme of 'school'; Yr 9 have been exploring life in the Brazilian favelas through performance; Yr 8 have been exploring the theme of runaways and Yr 7 have been learning performance techniques in Drama.

Miss Hughes and Mrs Maloney are very impressed with the positive attitudes students bring to our subject. Keep up the good work!



Science Superstars

Overall superstar – Bruno Cassandra year 7 with 518 questions attempted and 254 correct.

Year 7 superstar – Alfie Talbot

Year 8 superstar – Autumn Leeper

Year 9 superstar – Zuzanna Zareba

Year 10 superstar – Maddison Brookes

Year 11 superstar – Christopher Oged

Netball News

A huge well done to our netball teams who competed in the Rochdale Schools' Netball Tournament this term. They were all amazing!

This is also a list of the players of the tournament:

Year 7- Isobella Hockwart

Year 8- Monica Amisi

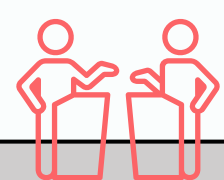
Year 9- Lois Uchenna Levi

Year 10- Britney Ernesto


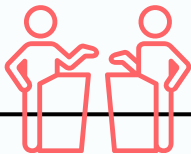


Lunchtime Enrichment

M	<p>Year 10 and 11 football (3G DAA) Year 11 GCSE PE Coursework Catch up (MMS - Sports Hall Mezzanine) School show rehearsals Year 11 Triple Science Revision (NGN - 208)</p>
T	<p>Year 10 and 11 Football (3G - DAA) Year 9 and 10 Netball (MMS/HWD - Sports Hall) Eco Team (NHD - 313) Year 11 Business Studies Revision (Week B only - STS - 409)</p>
W	<p>Year 10 and 11 Football (3G - DAA) Year 7 and 8 Girls' Netball (MMS/HWD - SH) Year 11 Computer Science Revision (Week A only - STS - 409)</p>
Th	<p>Year 10 and 11 Football (3G - DAA) KS3 Badminton (JRN - Sports Hall) School show rehearsals Gift Team (NHD - 313)</p>
F	<p>Years 10 and 11 Football (3G - DAA) Year 7 and 8 Dodgeball (HWD - Gym)</p>



After School Enrichment

<p>M</p>	<p>Year 10 and 11 Health and Social Care coursework catch-up (DEE - 319) Year 10 and 11 Boys Football matches School show rehearsals Year 11 Maths revision (classroom teachers) Year 11 Music coursework catch-up Year 11 Spanish revision (MGC - 321) Year 11 RE Revision (SCN/RBA - 315/312) Key Stage 3 Coding Club</p>
<p>T</p>	<p>Year 10 and 11 Health and Social Care coursework catch-up (DEE - 319) Kaleidoscope Club (KFR - 310) Netball Fixtures Year 7 and 9 Football practices and games (3G - DAA) Year 11 Music coursework catch-up Year 11 Psychology revision (week A only - SWS - 309) Year 11 Sociology revision (week B only - SWS - 309)</p> 
<p>W</p>	<p>Netball fixtures Study Hall - Space to revise/complete homework for Year 11 students (MDS/LMT - 210/211)</p>
<p>Th</p>	<p>All groups girls' football (JHT - 3G/Sports Hall) Netball fixtures School show rehearsals Year 10 and 11 Health and Social Care coursework catch-up (DEE - 319) Year 11 GCSE History revision (LBN - 414) Year 11 Computer Science revision (Week A only - STS - 409) Year 11 Business Studies Revision (Week B only - STS - 409) Year 11 Computer Science (Week B only - LBI - 410) Year 11 Business Studies (Week A only - LBI - 410) Year 11 Music Theory revision (406) Year 11 Geography revision (RLE/AHT - 401/413)</p> 
<p>F</p>	<p>Year 11 GCSE History revision (JME - 106) Year 11 GCSE PE Practical Moderation Year 10 Bronze DoE Meeting (last Friday of each month - JHT/HWD - 409)</p>

