

Our Ref: 173/15

10th December 2015

Dear Parents/Carers

Following the recent Progress Examinations, I am writing to you to let you know of the extracurricular activities on offer from the Science Department to support your son at GCSE and of the resources that they can use at home.

The table below shows the extra revision sessions offered by members of staff:

What?	When?	Where?
KS4 Chemistry Revision with Miss Mc Convery	Mondays lunch time	Room 16
KS4 and KS5 Chemistry Revision with Mr Burns	Tuesdays 3.15	Room 10
KS4 and KS5 Physics revision with Mr Cousins and Mr Conway	Tuesdays 3.15	Room 19
KS4 revision with Miss Mc Convery- Physics	Wednesday lunch time	Room 16
KS4 Separate Sciences Biology Revision with Mrs Maher (invited students)	Wednesday 3.15	Room 12

Please encourage your son to make use of the sessions on offer, and not leave their revision until the last minute. Closer to the examinations there may be more sessions on offer.

In Science pupils complete end of chapter tests as we go along, to inform them and us of their progress towards their target grade. This also is to try to encourage pupils to get into good study habits and not leave all their revision until the last minute. Your son will be sitting GCSE Additional Science (sets 3-7) or GCSE Chemistry, Physics and Biology (sets 1 & 2) in May/June. They will also complete their ISA (Controlled Assessment) at an appropriate point in the year when it fits in with the topic they are covering in class. This will count for 25% of their final grade. Pupils will be prepared in class for this.

Past papers and mark schemes for all Science subjects are available for free to download from www.aqa.org.uk, simply select Past Papers and choose the relevant subjects. For year 11 sets 3-7 please select the unit 2 papers. Year 11 sets 1-2 will need to use all three units for each science subject. Pupils should be encouraged to make use of these.

All pupils also have access to an online programme, www.kerboodle.com. They have their own log in details- if your son cannot log in he needs to let one of his science teachers know to reset

his password. On this website pupils have got access to the Science textbooks, as well as revision materials such as podcasts and quizzes.

You may be aware that two teachers from the department are currently absent. Please rest assured that we have got fully trained, qualified and experienced Science supply teachers covering these classes, until such times as Miss Draper and Mr Mc Carron return.

SCIENCE A RESITS

Pupils in sets 3-7 who have not achieved a grade C in their Science A Examination in year 10 are being offered the chance to resit this GCSE in May/June. This involves resitting all 3 Science A exam papers and an ISA. The ISA will take place in class. This is on top of their examinations and ISA for Additional Science. Pupils will be expected to do their own revision for this, but there will be revision in class close to the examinations. Obviously this is extra work on top of all the other GCSEs your son will be sitting this year, however if they achieve a Grade C it is another qualification that they will have.

Pupils who have achieved a Grade C or above may resit if they have good reason to wish to do so and it is felt by their teachers that they will improve their grade. This will be looked at on an individual basis.

If you would like your son to resit Core Science please complete the slip below and return to myself by **Thursday 17th December.**

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

Miss F. Mc Convery
Head of Science

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REPLY SLIP TO: MISS F McCONVERY, HEAD OF SCIENCE

Name: _____ Form: _____

I wish my son to resit his Science A examinations in order to give him the chance to improve his grade. I understand that this will involve 3 examinations and an ISA, in addition to the 3 examinations and ISA that he will be doing this year for his Additional Science GCSE.

Signed by Parent/Carer: _____ Date: _____