

KICKSTART NEWS

KICKSTART ACADEMY

Dear Parents / Carers,

The half term break is finally with us. Although this has been a short half term the winter months make the days very long for everyone. The good news is spring is just around the corner.

Our students have done a good job returning after Christmas with a renewed focus on achieving their qualifications. Year 11 students have been working hard on their speaking and listening preparation. They will take their speaking and listening assessments within the next few weeks. Please encourage your son / daughter to try their best in these assessments.

It was lovely to see so many families attend the student progress consultations. This event allowed staff to hold conversations with parents / carers and students around the next steps to help their progress in each subject area. It is crucial that students take on board the advice given to them by staff and make the positive changes needed within their learning.

Many students have worked hard to achieve their star awards each day. This has seen 15 students 'cash out' their reward vouchers this week. We hope these students enjoy using their vouchers!!!

Can I ask that you continue to support your son / daughter by encouraging good attendance to school, wearing full school uniform and sensible footwear.

I wish you all a restful half term.

Kind Regards,

Mrs Rennie-Gibbons

Headteacher Kickstart Academy.



Top Exam Tips!

Get a good night's sleep

It's important to get enough sleep the night before your exam. It will be easier to focus if you are well rested.



Get organised

Make sure you have everything you need by organising your pencil case the night before.



Eat a meal beforehand

Remember to eat breakfast or lunch before the exam to prevent your stomach from rumbling and distracting you.



Arrive early

Give yourself plenty of time to get to the venue; you don't want to be in a rush before the exam.



Drink water

An easy way to improve your concentration is to stay hydrated, so remember to bring a bottle of water to the exam.



Stay calm

If you find yourself getting nervous, take some deep breaths and feel your body relaxing before you move on to the next question.



Read the question

Don't rush through the exam. Make sure you read each question at least twice before writing your answer.

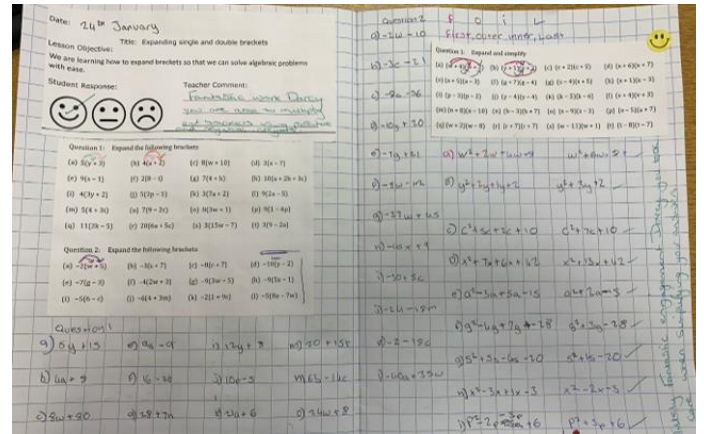


Leave time at the end

Make sure you leave time at the end of the exam to check your answers.



Maths



This term's focus in Maths is Algebra.

The word 'Algebra' can be quite scary for students and even some adults! Learning algebra helps to develop critical thinking skills. That includes problem solving, logic, patterns, and reasoning.

Algebra is used for many professions, especially those in Science and Maths. All students have worked well collecting like terms by adding and subtracting variables; they have also worked well on expanding brackets by multiplying them away.

Algebra will appear in the GCSE exam papers; year 11 students must be aware of the terminology to help them solve the tricky problems. Year 10 students; now is a good opportunity to revise!

There are approximately 14 weeks until year 11 students sit their first Maths exam, please encourage them to make the most of each learning opportunity in and out of school.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z2dthcw>

If you require extra support with your child's maths learning ; please feel free to contact.

Georgia.waite@lct.education

Maths lead.

Big well done to the following students for taking Maths homework home this term.

- ◇ DB
- ◇ CB
- ◇ KL
- ◇ LEH
- ◇ LLG
- ◇ OJ
- ◇ DLK
- ◇ LJ

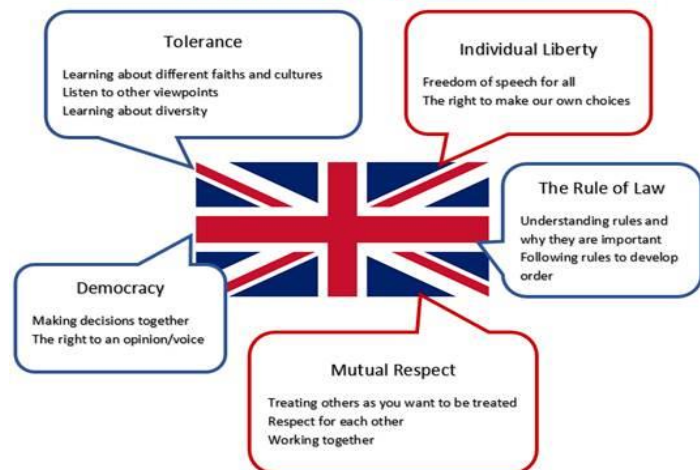


Personal Development

This term students have been exploring different ways in which they contribute to society by displaying British Values.

Students have listened and interacted well in the weekly assemblies where we have covered topics on radicalisation, effects of gambling, what are healthy personal boundaries, online abuse, and consent.

BRITISH VALUES



Rewards

There has been an increase in positive star points given to those students who are respectful to staff, complete work in lessons and follow the school rules. Students have then been rewarded with a trip out to Shrewsbury Cathedral , Cannock Chase and the Ironworks centre and sculpture park where they have enjoyed the sweet treats of Crystals cakes, Hot chocolate, and McDonalds.

First weekly form reward went to KR for achieving the most stars in one week, they enjoyed a treat from Greggs.



Examinations

Year 11 are aware that next half term gets busier in terms of exams and expectations. Some will be sitting their Functional Skills exams, but all will be working towards their GCSEs in other subjects!

Last year 15 students achieved several academic qualifications which have enabled them to go on to college and/or work apprenticeships. We have high hopes for this year 11 cohort too!

Please be aware of the following guidance and information for candidates regarding examinations.

https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/IFC-NE_Assessments_2023_FINAL.pdf

https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/IFC-Written_Examinations_Sep2023_FINAL.pdf

<https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/JCQ-Social-Media-Infographic-v4.pdf>

These are important regulations that students need to be aware for sitting examinations.



ART

This half term students entered for their GCSE Art, Craft and Design have been issued with the AQA GCSE paper. They have chosen one question as a starting point for exploration and preparation ready for the exam, which is held under exam conditions, during the week of the 18th of March 2024. It is a busy time for the students, and we look forward to them producing some wonderful, independent artwork.

There is some great support material on BBC bitesize <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zjymp9q>

Year 10 have just started a new project this half term on Optical Art. We have looked at the artists Riley and Vaserey and made air dried clay hearts which students have added patterns to.



English

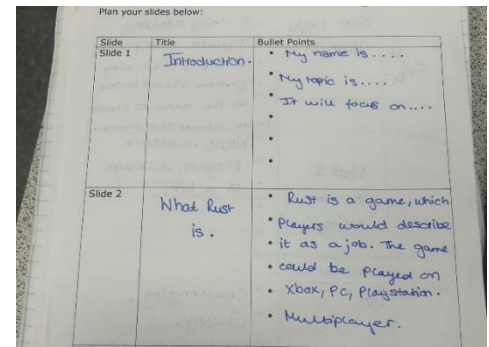
This term all our students have been working hard to prepare for their speaking and listening assessments that are due to take place from February.

Students have spent time thinking about topics of interest that they want to talk about. We have seen some excellent independent work from students making presentations to help deliver their talks. Working with staff on the computers has allowed us to develop our IT skills alongside writing as we work hard to make our talks as engaging as possible.

It's been fun to hear what our students' various passions are and learning about new things from them. Staff have been on the other end of learning this term as we've been taught everything about subjects ranging from MMA training advice to make-up tutorials.

Some students have also started increasing the amount of reading we're doing to help develop our literacy skills. Staff have worked with students to figure out articles and topics they want to read about so that we can all have access to materials that will help them improve their engagement with reading.

Well done to everyone who has worked so hard this term to get everything ready in time for the busy spring ahead! b



Above is an example of the speaking and listening preparation.

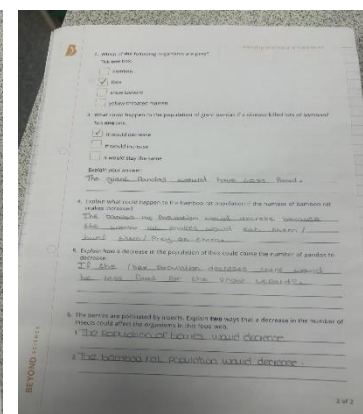
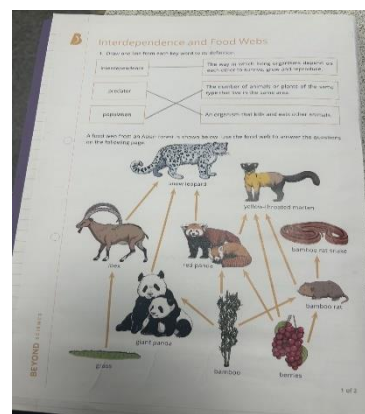
Top Tip!

Please practice your script with a friend or a relative to build your confidence.

Science

During this term the Year 10 and Year 11 students have been focusing on recognising a variety of food chains, and the reasons behind why there is a decrease in the number of insects that could affect the organisms in the food web.

It has been a pleasure this term, all students have worked incredibly hard as exam's are approaching. A huge well done for all their efforts and focus, I hope you all have a lovely half term.



Food technology

This half term our year 10 and 11 students are practicing their knowledge on food hygiene, and the aim is for them all to achieve their level 1 or 2 food hygiene certificate over the next half term.

Year 10 students have been busy practicing their knife and cutting skills in the kitchen, making and preparing their assessment dish that they present later in the year.

I'm proud to say that each student has been focused on learning knife skills and safety in and around the kitchen, including what to do if there was ever a kitchen fire.

Year 11 students are currently picking a two-course meal, whether that be a main and dessert or a starter and a main, where they will practice making these dishes ready for their final assessment April 2024. Please encourage your son/daughter in the kitchen as this assessment is vital for them to pass.

I do hope you're enjoying sampling their food, and please if you could get them in the kitchen supporting you to cook or meal prep every little help counts.

Please remember attendance is important to pass this qualification, if you feel your son/daughter is struggling please don't hesitate to contact me.

Mrs Parry.



Sports leadership

This half term most of the students have begun planning their sessions ready to start leading the sessions over the next half term.

Football team

Our last fixture at home was against Woodfield, our visitors from Coventry. We started the game well taking the lead with a long-range effort from LLG. JH, who was in goal, saw an opportunity to level the scores going into the break.

We had our chances in the second half but went on to lose 2-1. We're getting closer to getting a winning result and if the students remain positive the results will come.

The new kit is now on order, thank you all for your kind sponsorship!

Our next two fixtures are provisionally booked for 23rd February and 15th March 2024.



Example of the new kit

Mental Health

Beam Shropshire Telford and Wrekin

The Children's Society No child should feel alone

WHO CAN USE BEAM?

Anyone under the age of 25 can get support from Beam.

Parent and carer support can be given in conjunction with a young person.

No referrals & no appointments: those wishing to access the Beam service can just come along to a drop-in session.

We are a **friendly team** made up of **Therapists, Youth Workers & Wellbeing Volunteers.**

We **listen** & know this can make all the difference.

Our aim is to give **advice, signposting and support** with any concerns relating to **feelings and emotional wellbeing.**

WE WILL Help you to understand your thoughts and feelings, give you practical support and suggestions as well as worksheets to take away if needed.

WE WON'T Diagnose, automatically make referrals or provide appointments.

It can be scary going somewhere for the first time: our drop-ins are set out to be as welcoming as possible. A team member will greet you and ask you to register before a practitioner will introduce themselves, and then take the time to listen before making suggestions.

Beam is run by **The Children's Society**, a national charity that works with the most vulnerable children and young people in Britain today. For more information about the history of our organisation, as well as details of our various projects, please visit our website: <https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk>

AskBeam@childrenssociety.org.uk

Mindfulness & Wellbeing

Your brain is like any other body part or bone, it needs to stay healthy to be resilient.

- Take a break** & do one thing at a time
- Eat Well** & keep active
- Focus** on what you are doing
- Sleep well** to be alert & rested
- Be curious** set realistic goals
- Be able** to laugh at yourself
- Do something creative**
- Asking for help**

Mental Health is important to us all. We offer impartial and confidential advice Supporting Mental Health in Schools and Colleges

service provided by **Beam** Shropshire Telford and Wrekin proud to be part of **Bee** Emotional Health and Wellbeing

BEAM DROP-INS ARE HELD:

Mondays & Tuesdays	9 Market Square, Wellington, Telford TF1 1BP	Open: 12pm Close: 7pm
Thursdays	Upstairs at Palmer's Café, Claremont Street, Shrewsbury SY1 1QG	Open: 2pm Close: 7pm
Saturdays	9 Market Square, Wellington, Telford TF1 1BP	Open: 11am Close: 4pm

BEAM IS NOW IN LUDLOW!
Ludlow Youth Centre, Ludlow SY8 1RT

FIRST AND THIRD Wednesday of each month Open: 3.30pm Close: 7pm

PLEASE NOTE: no sessions will be started during the last hour of our drop-ins. This means we cannot accept anyone into the service after 6pm on weekdays or 3pm on Saturdays.

Ask us about...

BEAM WORKSHOPS therapeutic group support relating to a range of common mental health and emotional wellbeing topics. Ask for our current workshop calendar!

GRAVITY—THE BEAM YOUTH PARTICIPATION GROUP gives young people the chance to be involved with shaping the Beam service.

AskBeam@childrenssociety.org.uk

emotional wellbeing drop-in for children and young people under 25.

Beam Shropshire Telford and Wrekin

service provided by **The Children's Society** No child should feel alone proud to be part of **Bee** Emotional Health and Wellbeing

If any students, parents/carers would like support with their mental health please contact me for information and signposting.

susanne.parry@lct.education

Mental Health Lead

Safeguarding

exploited

PREVENTING CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION THROUGH EDUCATION

I want to go to 21st March

CEOP **THINK UK KNOW**

If You are Concerned about Sexual Exploitation For help and advice or to make a report go to:

CEOP REPORT ceop.police.uk

ChildLine 0800 1111

www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Like CEOP on www.facebook.com/clickceop and follow us on [#thinkuknowuk](https://twitter.com/thinkuknowuk) #ceopexploited

Miss Gilsenan is our CSE lead. Please look out for a date for the Child Sexual Exploitation of (CSE) workshop for parents, this will be communicated on Bromcom.