



Newsletter

25th October 2024 | Issue 86



Ministry
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Dear Families,

We have reached the end of the longest half term of the academic year and it seems to have raced by. The term ended positively with a Peer Review carried out on Monday which involved colleagues from King Richard School. The review provided opportunity to reflect upon the school improvement that continues year on year, whilst reaffirming the priorities that will inform further improvement this year.



Elsewhere this week we hosted a Key Stage 3 Halloween Disco - there were some excellent costumes which we can all look forward to appearing at our doors to trick or treat come October 31st. On Thursday at the Episkopi Officers Mess we saw the launch of the SBA Leading Ladies Initiative. This community project helps to network female students in Year 11, 12 and 13 with female leaders who can provide first hand experience, advice and guidance surrounding their career aspirations, self belief and ability to sell themselves to get ahead. I look forward to seeing how this initiative continues to develop.

As half term is now upon us, I hope that many of you have opportunity to take some leave and enjoy time as a family. We look forward to welcoming your child(ren) back to school on Tuesday 5th November at 0800hrs.

Upcoming School Events

Week Commencing 28th October

All Week

Half Term

School Closed to students and staff

Week Commencing 4th Nov.

Week 1

All Week

Autumn Exam Series (GCSE Resit)

Monday 4th November

School Inset Day (school closed to students)

Tuesday 5th November

School Photographs

Wednesday 6th November

School Photographs

Thursday 7th November

Head Teachers Surgery : 0900—1000 hrs @ Akrotiri Hive

Week Commencing 11th Nov.

Week 2

All Week

Autumn Exam Series (GCSE Resit)

Monday 11th November

Whole School Remembrance @ 1100hrs

Year 8 HPV Vaccinations (all day)

Tuesday 12th November

Year 8 HPV Vaccinations (all day)

Thursday 13th November

SJS Coffee Morning 0900—1000 hrs

Bookings required via SJS.enquiries@modschools.org

Friday 15th November

Sports Day @ Happy Valley (all day)



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This week at St John's School



On Thursday we hosted our annual Key Stage 3 Halloween Disco. There were some excellent costumes and great fun had by all those in attendance.



Elsewhere on Thursday many of our girls in Year 10 through to Year 13 attended the SBA Leading Ladies Launch. This community initiative spearheaded by Maj Naveen Rahman is designed to provide our young ladies with the opportunity to network with women from across the SBA in order to inform our young ladies with regards to their next and most exciting phase of life. Find out more by visiting [About Us – SBA Leading Ladies](#)



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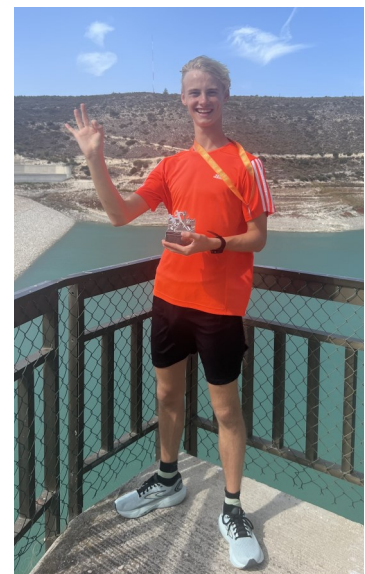
This week at St John's School



Last Friday we had opportunity to celebrate our student of the month with a Head Teacher Commendation.

Identified for her demonstration of our school values of **Integrity, Commitment and Respect** we enjoyed the opportunity to surprise this student with her commendation and celebrate her start to the new academic year.

Congratulations to this student who was placed second in the 1500m race at Kouris Dam whilst competing in the High School Category. The race was run with his average pace of 3.17/km.





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St John's School Uniform Consultation

As previously shared through our newsletter, we are spending time this year exploring whether there is a need to make changes to our school uniform. This period of consultation is being done using guidance provided by the Department for Education. Using this guidance any change to the school uniform will not be fully implemented until September 2026 at the earliest allowing students to wear existing items of uniform until then.

Over the last seven weeks we have already begun consulting with students around the existing and future school uniform. This consultation has been undertaken through a series of student focus groups. In addition to consulting with students, we are keen to collate the views of parents and other stakeholders. Should you wish to share your views you are cordially invited to do so by accessing this short three question survey, which can be found [here](#)

The three questions are:

1. What aspects of our current school uniform do you like?
2. What aspects of our current school uniform do you think should change?
3. Should a change be made to our uniform, what item would you change and what would you propose?

Should you wish to share your views by email or wish to discuss your views in person please contact the Head Teacher at Colin.Guyton@modschoools.org

Computer Science: The Bebras Challenge is back!

The Bebras Challenge introduces computational thinking to students worldwide.

This exciting challenge takes place in schools, under the supervision of teachers, over a two-week period every November. Last year, over 3 million students from more than 80 countries participated!

In the UK, the challenge is open to all young people aged 6 to 19. Each participant has 45 minutes to tackle a series of interactive tasks, designed to encourage logical thinking and problem-solving skills appropriate for their age group. The challenge is conducted online, and will take place in the first computer science lessons of the upcoming half term.

The tasks are designed to allow every student the opportunity to showcase their potential, whether they excel in maths or computing, or not.

The UK Bebras Challenge is organised by the Raspberry Pi Foundation and delivered in partnership with the University of Oxford.

Last year - in our first year of participating as a school - we had 7 students ranking in the top 10% of UK schools competing (330,000 students).

In Year 7 & 8, 58% of our students scored above the national average and in year 9, 46% scored higher than the national average.

This year we aim to be even more competitive and parents and carers can help by encouraging their children to practice as much as possible via the UK Bebras website at www.bebbras.uk



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German Key Stage 3 Lessons

After half-term, Mr Glead will be offering students the chance to learn German every Wednesday between 1400 and 1500hrs.

This opportunity is open to students in Year 7, 8 and 9.

This opportunity will be available every week apart from the 20th of November, due to a clash with a Year 9 Parent Afternoon.

Come and see if German is the language for you.



My Child At School App



We have been mandated to use the My Child At School App to facilitate future communication with parents and carers. This App is to replace our previous use of EPrise. Parents and carers will have hopefully logged in successfully. If you have not, please contact Mrs Twyford who will gladly assist you in logging on. Mrs Twyford's email is Hayley.Twyford@modschoools.org.

After half term we will be required to move all communications with home away from email and through the My Child At School App and we are therefore keen for all parents and carers have had opportunity to download and register their use of the app.

Bromcom Student Portal

In support of the My Child At School App there is also a student version that will provide students with the opportunity to view their timetable and homework set amongst other functions. We have begun an initial roll-out with students in Years 11, 12 and 13 and students should have received a link to download and access the App.

Should students have difficulties accessing the Student Portal App they are encouraged to see Mrs Twyford in the office next to Mr Guyton's.

Upon evaluating the initial roll-out we will look to provide students in all other years with access to the Bromcom Student App during the next half term.





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Sex and Relationships Education Programme in Years 10 – 13

At St John's School we believe that promoting the health and wellbeing of our pupils is an important part of their overall education. We do this through our Personal, Social, Health and Emotional (PSHE) curriculum. PSHE covers many topics including all kinds of relationships, physical/emotional health and the skills needed to live in the wider world. The aim of our PSHE curriculum is to help pupils make safe and informed decisions during their school years and beyond.

Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) is the statutory element of our PSHE curriculum and all schools in England are required to teach this. Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) is an important part of the PSHE course. We will be teaching lessons about SRE in the Autumn term which will include topics such as relationships and communication skills; contraceptives; prevention of STIs; prevention of sexual abuse and consent. During the course, pupils will be able to ask questions, which will be answered factually and in an age appropriate manner. Each pupil's privacy will be respected, and no one will be asked to reveal personal information.

PSHE is a statutory subject and although parents can withdraw their child from the sex education element, we want to assure parents that our curriculum is taught in an age-appropriate manner and provides pupils with the time to ask questions in a safe environment and ultimately receive factual information, rather than hearing content second hand or via online platforms. In the 21st century pupils are exposed to so many of the incorrect messages about their bodies, relationships and expectations. The prevalence of sexual images in social and other media make it important that all young people have a place to discuss pressures, check facts, dispel myths and ultimately feel safe.

PSHE is a carefully planned curriculum and is there to ensure our pupils can navigate the world around them safely. An un-informed child is often a child left vulnerable and we want to empower our pupils here at St John's School.

You may find that your child starts asking questions about the topic at home, or you might want to take the opportunity to talk to your child about issues before the work is covered in school. If you have any queries about the content of the programme or resources used, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Papaioannou at Samanatha.Papaioannou@modschoools.org. All materials used are available for you to browse through should you so wish.



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Mock Examinations

As we look ahead to the next half term, the Mock Examination period will soon be upon us for students in Years 11 and 13. The Mock Exams will start on Tuesday 26th November 2024. The purpose of the Mock Exams is to provide students, parents and the school with an accurate insight into what each student knows and what exam content or skills need to be sharpened ahead of the final exams in the summer of 2025. In the unlikely event that there maybe disruption to the Summer Exam Series, the Mock Exam grades may play a greater significance in their importance.

Students received their Mock Examination timetables on Thursday and were provided with a brief on how they should prepare for these upcoming exams. The information received on Thursday complimented the Parent Information Evening that took place on Monday, aimed at how parents can support their child in their revision and preparation for the upcoming Mock Exams.

The Generic GCE and BTEC Mock Examination Timetable

(all examinations)

 EXAMINATIONS TIMETABLE GCE/BTEC MOCK EXAMS 2024-2025				
DATE	SUBJECT	START TIME	DURATION	LOCATION
Monday 02 December 2024	English Literature (Paper 1)	08:30 am	2 hours 15 mins	Conference room
	Geography (Paper 1)	08:30 am	1 hour 30 mins	Conference room
	Computer Science (Paper 1)	08:30 am	1 hour 30 mins	Conference room
	Mathematics (Paper 1)	11:30 am	2 hours	Conference room
	Sociology (Paper 1)	11:30 am	2 hours	Conference room
Tuesday 03 December 2024	Psychology (Paper 1)	08:30 am	2 hours	Conference room
	Physics (Paper 1)	08:30 am	2 hours	Conference room
	Biology (Paper 1)	11:00 am	2 hours	Conference room
	History (Paper 1 - Russia)	11:00 am	2 hour 30 mins	Conference room
Wednesday 04 December 2024	English Literature (Paper 2)	08:30 am	1 hour 15 mins	Conference room
	Geography (Paper 2)	08:30 am	1 hour 30 mins	Conference room
	Computer Science (Paper 2)	08:30 am	1 hour 30 mins	Conference room
	Mathematics (Paper 2)	11:30 am	2 hours	Conference room
	Sociology (Paper 2)	11:30 am	1 hour	Conference room
Thursday 05 December 2024	Psychology (Paper 2)	08:30 am	2 hours	Conference room
	Physics (Paper 2)	08:30 am	2 hours	Conference room
	Biology (Paper 2)	11:00 am	2 hours	Conference room
	History (Paper 2 - Stuarts & Civil War)	11:00 am	1 hour 30 mins	Conference room
Friday 06 December 2024	Design & Technology: Product Design (Paper 1)	08:30 am	2 hours 30 mins	Conference room
	MFL (German) Listening, Reading and Translation	08:30 am	2 hours	Conference room
	Physics (Paper 3)	11:45 am	1 hour	Conference room
Monday 09 December 2024	MFL (German) Writing	08:30 am	2 hours 40 mins	Conference room
	Sports BTEC	08:30 am	2 hours 30 mins	Conference room
Tuesday 10 December 2024	Art and Design	08:30 am	All Day	Art Department
Wednesday 11 December 2024	Art and Design	08:30 am	All Day	Art Department



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Mock Examinations

The Generic GCSE Mock Examination Timetable

(all examinations)

EXAMINATIONS TIMETABLE GCSE MOCK EXAMS 2024-2025				
DATE	SUBJECT	START TIME	DURATION	LOCATION
Tuesday 26 November 2024	French (Speaking)	08:30 am	All Day (Please see subject teacher)	CMS (Cyprus Music Service)
Wednesday 27 November 2024	French (Speaking)	08:30 am	All Day (Please see subject teacher)	CMS (Cyprus Music Service)
Thursday 28 November 2024	German (Speaking)	08:30 am	All Day (Please see subject teacher)	CMS (Cyprus Music Service)
Monday 02 December 2024	Combined Science (Biology - Paper 1)	08:30 am	1 hour 15 mins	Exam room
	Triple Science (Biology - Paper 1)	08:30 am	1 hour 45 mins	Exam room
	Mathematics (Paper 1)	11:45 am	1 hour 30 mins	Exam room
Tuesday 03 December 2024	Combined Science (Chemistry - Paper 1)	08:30 am	1 hour 15 mins	Exam room
	Triple Science (Chemistry - Paper 1)	08:30 am	1 hour 45 mins	Exam room
	Mathematics (Paper 2)	11:45 am	1 hour 30 mins	Exam room
Wednesday 04 December 2024	Combined Science (Physics - Paper 1)	08:30 am	1 hour 15 mins	Exam room
	Triple Science (Physics - Paper 1)	08:30 am	1 hour 45 mins	Exam room
	Mathematics (Paper 3)	11:45 am	1 hour 30 mins	Exam room
Thursday 05 December 2024	Statistics (Paper 1)	08:30 am	1 hour 30 mins	Exam room
	English Literature (Paper 1)	11:45 am	1 hour 45 mins	Exam room
Friday 06 December 2024	Statistics (Paper 2)	08:30 am	1 hour 30 mins	Exam room
	English Literature (Paper 2)	11:00 am	2 hours 15 mins	Exam room
Monday 09 December 2024	Design & Technology	08:30 am	2 hours	Exam room
	History (Paper 1 - Germany)	08:30 am	1 hour 20 mins	Exam room
	Religious Studies (Paper 1)	08:30 am	1 hour 10 mins	Exam room
	Physical Education (Paper 1)	11:45 am	1 hour 45 mins	Exam room
	Computer Science (Paper 1)	11:45 am	1 hour 30 mins	Exam room
	Business (Paper 1)	11:45 am	1 hour 45 mins	Exam room
Tuesday 10 December 2024	History (Paper 2 - Cold War)	08:30 am	55 mins	Exam room
	Music	11:45 am	1 hour 45 mins	Music room
	Religious Studies (Paper 2)	11:45 am	2 hours	Exam room
	Film Studies (Paper 1 - Component 1)	11:45 am	1 hour 30 mins	Exam room
	Food Preparation and Nutrition	11:45 am	1 hour 45 mins	Exam room
Wednesday 11 December 2024	Geography (Paper 1)	08:30 am	1 hour 30 mins	Exam room
	Business (Paper 2)	11:45 am	1 hour 45 mins	Exam room
Thursday 12 December 2024	Physical Education (Paper 2)	08:30 am	1 hour 45 mins	Exam room
	Computer Science (Paper 2)	08:30 am	2 hours	Exam room
	Geography (Paper 2)	11:45 am	1 hour 30 mins	Exam room
Friday 13 December 2024	MFL (French/German) Reading	08:30 am	45 mins (F) / 1 hour (H)	Exam room/Common Room/Conf. Room
	MFL (French/German) Listening	09:35 am	35 mins (F) / 45 mins (H)	Exam room/Common Room/Conf. Room
	MFL (French/German) Writing	11:45 am	1 hour 15 (F) / 1 hour 20 mins (H)	Exam room
Monday 16 December 2024	Art and Design	08:30 am	All Day	Art Department
Tuesday 17 December 2024	Art and Design	08:30 am	All Day	Art Department



www.facebook.com/stjohnsschoolcyprus

Let's be friends!

Be sure to add us as a friend of Facebook to keep up to date with what is happening at St John's School



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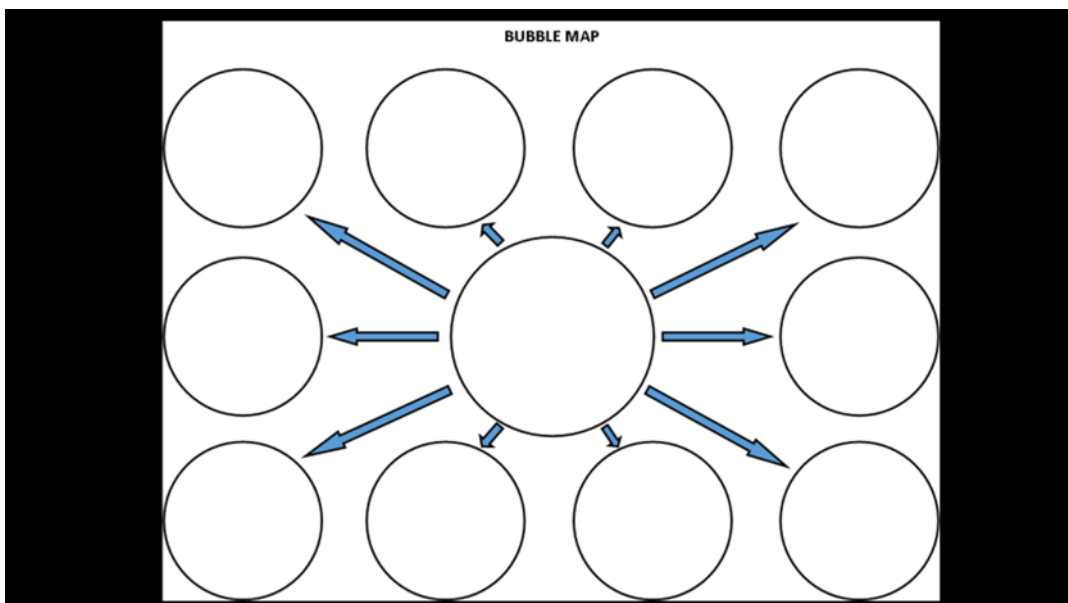
Home Learning

On Monday 21st November parents and students in Year 11 were invited in to school to explore ways of not only surviving the imminent mock examinations but thriving and achieving the best grade possible. We began by highlighting the importance of creating a realistic revision schedule. Students should try to break down revision in to small chunks and build in a number of brain rest breaks.

WEEKLY REVISION PLANNER								
TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	TIME	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
8:30AM - 4PM	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	SCHOOL	9AM - 10AM	BREAKFAST/ SHOWER	BREAKFAST/ SHOWER
4PM - 5PM	HOMEWORK	TV/ GAMING/ SOCIAL MEDIA	HOMEWORK	TV/ GAMING/ SOCIAL MEDIA	HOMEWORK	10AM - 11AM	REVISION - ENGLISH	REVISION - SCIENCE
5PM - 6PM	DINNER	DINNER	DINNER	DINNER	DINNER	11AM - 1PM	SEEING FRIENDS/ LUNCH	SPORT/ LUNCH
6PM - 7PM	REVISION - GEOGRAPHY	HOMEWORK	REVISION - HISTORY	REVISION - FRENCH	REVISION - SCIENCE	1PM - 3PM	REVISION - MATHS	REVISION - FLASH CARDS
7PM - 8PM	REVISION - MATHS	REVISION - ENGLISH	FREE TIME	HOMEWORK	FREE TIME	3PM - 5PM	OUT WITH FAMILY	SPORT/ TV/ GAMING
8PM - 9PM	FREE TIME/ SHOWER	FREE TIME/ SHOWER	FREE TIME/ SHOWER	FREE TIME/ SHOWER	FREE TIME/ SHOWER	6PM - 8PM	DINNER/ FREE TIME	DINNER/ FREE TIME

We then explored four ways to revise topics, breaking the subject down in to manageable sections. All of these ideas are taken from our metacognition strategy which will be shared with all students in due course.

Firstly, the bubble map can be used to gather as many thoughts and ideas as possible about a single topic. The main idea goes in the centre bubble and then facts, information, thoughts and ideas are added to separate bubbles around the main idea. This is a great way to test memory and recall knowledge.





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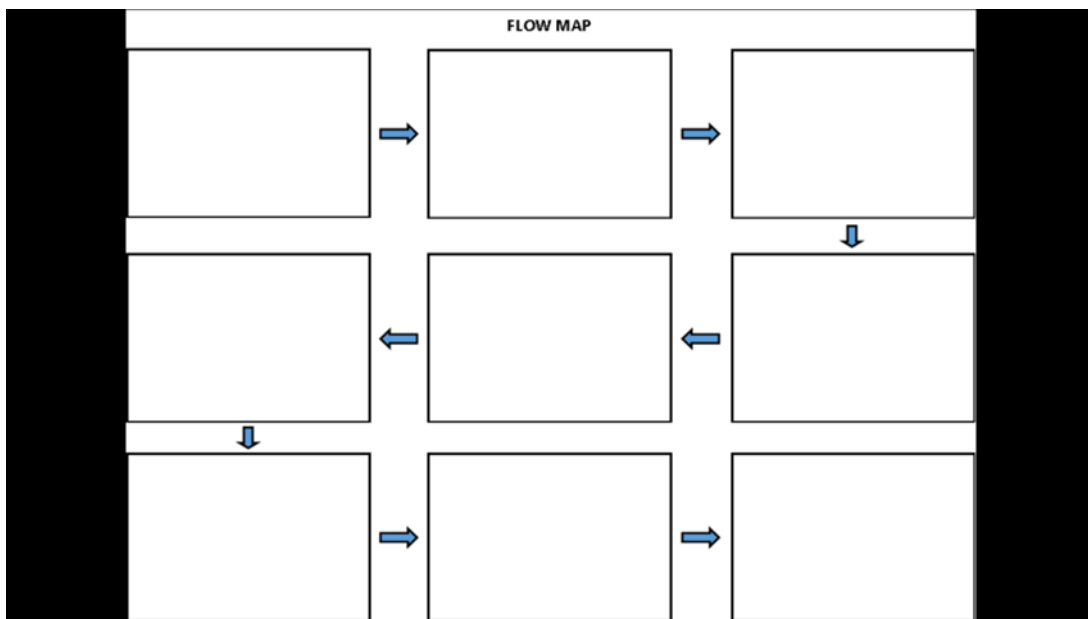
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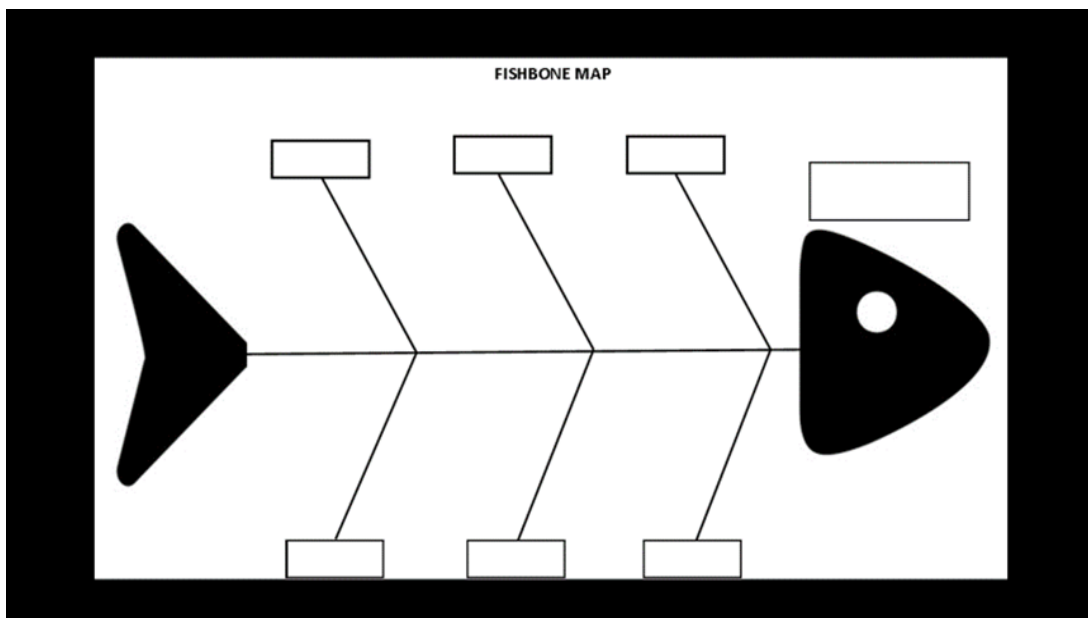
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Home Learning cont...

The flow map can help students think clearly and logically about a sequence of events. For instance, a science experiment might be written in stages with each stage in a new box. Events in History can be written chronologically. This strategy helps students to remember events and ideas in the right order.



The fishbone map can help students remember and understand the reasons and causes behind a particular problem. The problem or question is written in the box by the fish head and each bone in the fish is then used to explore one cause of the problem or issued being explored.





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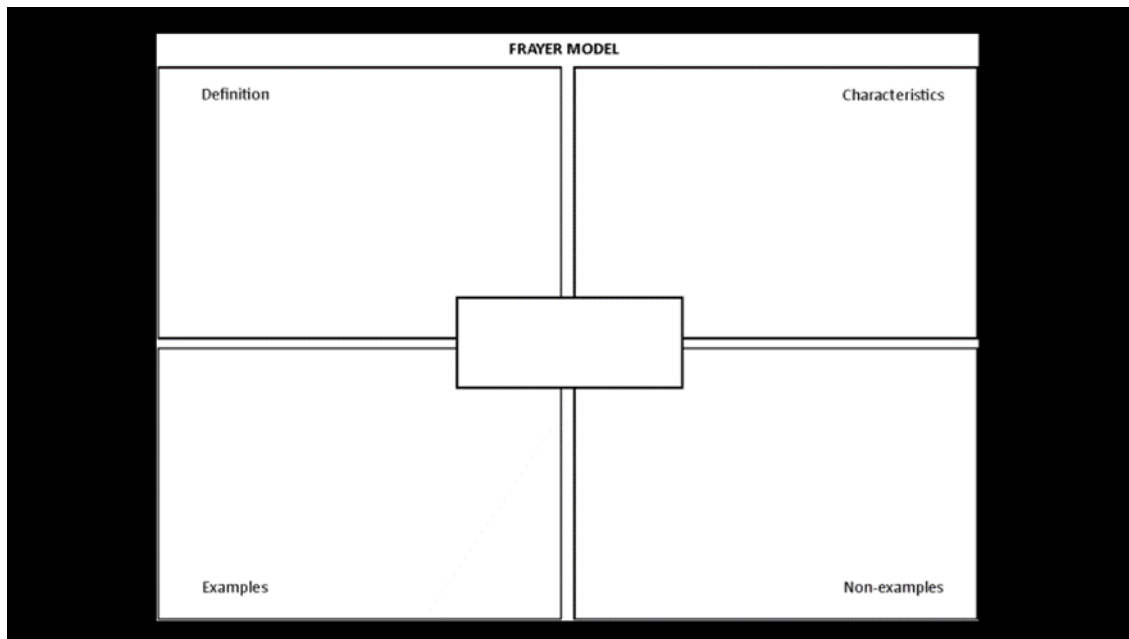
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Home Learning cont...

Finally, the Frayer Model encourages students to break an idea, theme, events, problems or even key vocabulary down in to sections that can be explored further. It not only tests student's memory recall but can highlight areas where more revision might be necessary.



In coming weeks all students will be introduced to graphic organisers and encouraged to use them when planning work. This newsletter will give you details explaining how are students are being encouraged to 'think about thinking'

Definition
Associativity means we can regroup the numbers in the calculation without changing its value.

Properties
It works with multiplication and addition.
It doesn't work with division and subtraction.
It is a mental method we can use to make calculations easier.

Examples
 $5 \times (6 \times 7) = (5 \times 6) \times 7$
 $3 \times (5 \times 2) = (3 \times 5) \times 2$

Non-examples
4 ÷ 3
division
flower
2 + 12
addition
 $5 \times (6 + 7) = 5 \times 6 + 5 \times 7$
distributivity

The Frayer Model in use this week to support a student's learning of mathematics.

Junica completed this Frayer Model as she explored 'associativity' following a lesson focusing upon arithmetic properties.



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Baking Contest

Do you enjoy Baking? If so enter the Halloween Baking contest and win a spooky prize.

Instructions:

- Find a yummy yet terrifying baking recipe you like.
- Take photos of the preparation process and the final ghoulishly brilliant outcome.
- Finally send your entry photos to traceymackellar@modschoools.org on or before November 1st.





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Bonfire 6pm

Fireworks 7pm

Live Music – DJ Humf

Hot Pork & Stuffing Rolls

Donuts & Crepes

Hotdogs

Souvla & Curry

Ice-cream

Bar



CPPC
LOGISTIC
GROUP



EPISKOPI STATION

BONFIRE NIGHT

8th November 2024

Tickets on Sale €4 prepay, €5 on the gate

Collect from: 1PWRR Welfare, CSO or HIVE

Open to the BFC community, LEC's & Passport holders

GATES OPEN

4.30-8.30 PM

Lemmings
Beach Happy
Valley Episkopi



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**GET FIT
IMPROVE SKILLS
HAVE FUN!**

Kourion Gladiators



Hockey Club



WHEN: 1600, WEDNESDAYS (30 OCT-)

WHERE: HAPPY VALLEY HOCKEY PITCH

HOW: SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFO

**ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME
BE PART OF THE TEAM - REGISTER NOW**