



St Augustine's Catholic College History Department

GCSE Parental Newsletter Term 3 2018-2019

Dear Parent/Guardian. Thank you for your support during the Year 11 mock exams, and with Year 10 now moving onto their second module. This Newsletter highlights an important change to the exam times, as well as where to start with revision. If you have any questions or feedback,

please email your child's History teacher. Mrs Hartsmith: hartsmiths@sta.cc (Acting Head of History); Mr Sturdee: sturdeea@sta.cc; Mr Dunmow: dunmowm@sta.cc

Year 10	Year 11
<p><u>What are we learning about?</u> In Term 3, students finished learning the first module (Germany), and are moving onto the second module of Conflict and Tension between East and West 1945-72. This is split into three parts: origins; development; transformation. It is important that Year 10 use the skills they have learnt from studying their first module, bringing the good learning habits and character traits they have established to the next module.</p>	<p><u>What are we learning about?</u> In Term 3, students finished Power and the People before we focused on revision for their mock exam. We have just started the fourth and final module of Elizabethan England c.1568-1603. This is split into four parts: Elizabeth's court and parliament; Life in Elizabethan Times; Troubles at home and abroad; Historic environment- this year it is the Globe Theatre. This module will be taught during Term 4. To enable us to cover the content, it is paramount that students use the white revision guide given to them at the start of the year as well as the Elizabeth revision guide we have given them to use to help prepare them for their exam. Students should be reading ahead so that they have some knowledge and understanding before a topic is covered in class.</p>
<p><u>What questions could you ask your child?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the key differences between the ideologies of capitalism and communism? How might this cause tension? • How is Europe influenced by the USA and USSR after the Second World War? 	<p><u>What questions could you ask your child?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What were Elizabeth's key problems when she came to the throne? How did she deal with them? • What was it like to live in Elizabethan England? • Why do historians refer to the period as a 'golden age'?
<p><u>100% club Knowledge recall tests- Year 11, Term 2</u> Germany (/80)- Luca Benge, Daisy Craddock, Haley Evans, Andrew Hunt, Aine Jarvis, Heidi Laverty, Yasmin Mahey, Tawana Nhamo, Ruth Perera, Dominic Shearn, Savio Stephen, Judetta Whyte, Caitlyn Wykes. Cohort Average mark 61 (77%) Term 1 was 58 (72%) Conflict and Tension (/97)- Luca Benge, Harrison Bright, Daisy Craddock, Haley Evans, Ruth Perera, Dominic Shearn, Judetta Whyte, Caitlyn Wykes. Cohort Average mark 69 (69%). Term 1 was 59 (59%).</p> <p><i>Well done to all Year 11 students who have improved their mark in their recall tests from the last time! Also, well done to Year 10 where we have had some promising first attempts at the Germany knowledge recall test.</i></p>	
<p><u>Character trait recognition</u> Students have been nominated by each History teacher for exemplifying the character traits which determine success over time. Those who have been chosen to represent the trait for Term 2 and 3 are: Enthusiasm: Kieran McCann</p>	<p><u>Resources available to students</u> History students have access to a wide range of resources through the department and beyond. For all the modules we study, there are articles, documentaries, YouTube videos and more online. Moreover, there are a number of resources on the Student Drive that students can access in school and at home.</p>

Perseverance: Daisy Braidley
Social Intelligence: Annabel Cooper
Curiosity: Rebekah Bamford
Gratitude: Savio Stephens
Self-control: Callum McMahon
Optimism: Jakub Wiesniewski
Congratulations to all those working hard, demonstrating the characters traits for success needed to excel in GCSE History.

As Year 11 move into in-depth revision for their GCSE, it is important that they first identify their specific needs that they need to address. In the first instance this can come from their mock exam reflection, and then frequently reviewing the stage they are at and what they need to focus on. This might be: learning key content; what each question is asking for; structuring exam responses; source/interpretation analysis. ***'The more reflective you are, the more effective you are'***.
Some of the resources include:

- Specimen papers and question banks
- 5 a day revision sheets
- Textbooks and revision guides
- How to videos for exam technique
- Knowledge recall tests
- Lesson PowerPoints and resources
- 'Guess who' key people

AQA Exam update

Friday 25 Jan 2019

We've increased the duration of our GCSE History (8145) Paper 1: Understanding the Modern World and Paper 2: Shaping the Nation exams from 1 hour 45 minutes to 2 hours to give students more reading and thinking time.

The change will affect the summer 2019 exams and all future series.

Students should spend about 1 hour on each section of Paper 1 and Paper 2. Our guidance on how much time students should write for each question type hasn't changed, nor have the requirements of any of the questions.

The updated [GCSE History specification](#) is now available. Version 1.5 of the [GCSE May/June 2019 exam timetable](#) has also been updated to reflect this change.

GCSE History exams 2019

Paper 1 (Germany; Conflict and Tension) **3rd June**, AM

Paper 2 (Power and the People; Elizabeth) **6th June**, PM

As suggested by AQA, students will still be advised to spend the same amount of time on questions, but this extra time gives them more thinking time/ time to analyse sources etc. It is possible that the extra time will mean an increase in grade boundaries, which has been communicated to Year 11 students as their mock was based on a 1hr45 paper instead of 2hrs.

Year 11 Berlin trip

On Friday 14th-Sunday 16th December, 54 Year 11 History students and 6 members of staff went to on the Berlin trip to further their understanding of two modules of their GCSE (Germany 1890-1945 and Conflict and Tension 1945-72). After an early start (2.30am), we set off to the chilly capital of Germany. We visited many sites linked to our History course, including: the Reichstag; Checkpoint Charlie; where the Berlin wall used to stand; Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp; the Wannsee Conference House; History and Art museums. We also enjoyed visiting the Alexanderplatz Christmas market and sampling German currywurst, pretzels and trdnelik, and some glow in the dark mini-golf as well. Our historians were a delight throughout, and we were really impressed by the questions they asked the tour guides, their engagement with the sites of historical significance and how they conducted themselves.

We are looking forward to Year 10 going on this trip from 20th-22nd December this year.

