

14 November 2024

Dear Parents & Carers

Year 11 Newsletter

Year 11 have made a fantastic start to their final year at Darton since their return to the academy in September. I would like to take this opportunity to share with you some of the amazing activities and events that have taken place this term and let you know about our future plans.

After School Enrichment

Back in September we asked your child to attend enrichment sessions until 15:20pm each day (except for Tuesdays) students would receive extra support, knowledge and guidance from their subject teachers in each session. It is great to see so many students working hard in all subjects and a vast majority of the year group are in great habits and go straight to enrichment at 2.30pm. I am very grateful to our teaching staff for making this possible and for your support in encouraging your child to attend.



**Y11
INTERVENTION**

DELTA
Darton

Revision
www.bbc.co.uk/bjtesize
www.gcsepod.com
<https://sparxmaths.com/>

Monday After school - English
Tuesday Home Study and Revision
Wednesday After school - Maths
Thursday After school - Science
Friday After school - History, Geography, MFL

Pie Night

On Thursday 18th September we held our annual Pie Night. We achieved nearly 100% attendance! We hoped you enjoyed the pies and peas, but more importantly, we hope your child is making the most out of the revision resources they were provided with on the night. If you require any other support, please look at the [Year 11 Revision Tips - Darton Academy](#) section of our website. Or do not hesitate to contact myself or your child's subject teacher and we will be happy to help.



October trial examinations

Our first round of Year 11 trial examinations, as you know, took place in October and students sat exams in English and Maths. The results were very encouraging, and we were proud to share the results with Year 11 in our assembly on 24th October.



Trafford Centre Trip

130 Year 11 students attended our rewards trip to the Trafford Centre. Our students were a real credit to the academy and to you as parents. Students enjoyed relaxing with their friends, having their lunch out, some students went to play golf and play games in the arcade! It was a great experience and a much deserved after a long first half term.



Careers advice and guidance

All students in Year 11 have a careers interview with our Careers and Guidance team to help them decide on their Post 16 options. Since the beginning of term, we have been visited by Penistone Grammar, Shelley College, Barnsley College and Pontefract New College – all Post 16 providers have presented to your child about their courses, life at Post16 and when their open evenings are.

December trial examinations

Our second round of Year 11 trials will begin on Monday 25th November and finish on Friday 13th December. Students will be issued with an individual timetable and the overview can also be found on the academy website: [Exams Information - Darton Academy](#). We will use the results to inform ability groups for maths, English and science and to decide where to place intervention. As with previous trial examinations, it is important that students prepare properly. We encourage students to continue to attend enrichment, complete Sparx, GCSE Pod and complete any extra home learning set by their individual class teachers. Throughout the trial period, students are invited to come into school from 7.45am. We will provide students with some breakfast; they will be able to revise by working on pre-exam booster materials and they will receive personalised help and guidance from their teachers. At 08:25 all students will go into the Lecture Theatre for a pre-exam briefing.

A Christmas Carol and Fezziwig's Party

With the festive season fast approaching, we are very pleased to inform you that our Performing Arts Department, alongside some very talented students will be performing an abridged version of A Christmas Carol in the week before we break up for Christmas. This will be a perfect opportunity

...Changing lives

to help your child revise Dickens' A Christmas Carol, as this is one of the key texts studied in English Literature. We would love to see you all there – there will be more information to follow. We are also very excited to launch our Year 11 '24 Days Christmas Challenge'! The Christmas challenge will start immediately, from this week, with students encouraged to attend 12 enrichment sessions (over the next 3 weeks), to 'unlock' a set of 12 Christmas Challenge. The Christmas Challenges will be released each day on the run up to the end of the half term. On completion of the Christmas Challenges students will earn a place at 'Fezziwig's Christmas Party'. The party will take place on Friday 20th December and music, food and other treats will be provided so that Year 11 can be rewarded for their outstanding effort this term.



I hope you have enjoyed reading about what a busy half term we have had! I would like to thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at info@dartonacademy.org.uk

Mrs K. Gibson
Vice Principal