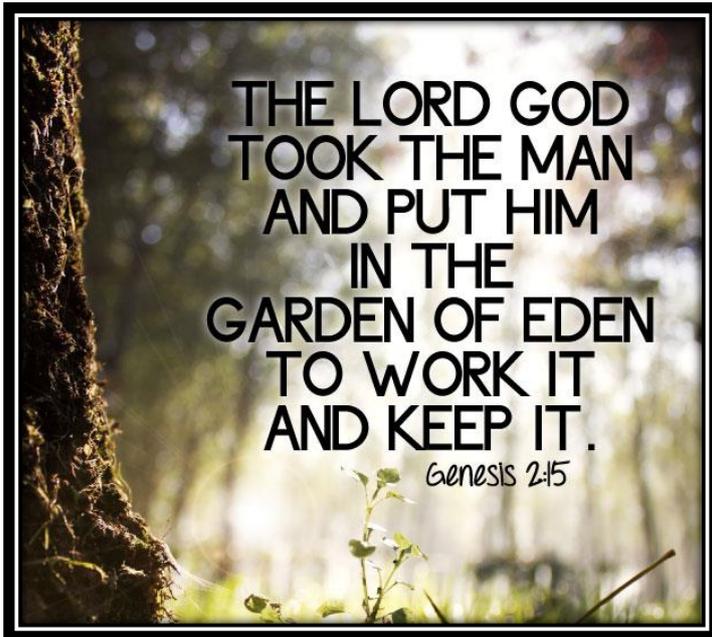


Theme of the week 'Stewardship'



efforts of their teachers as they seek to ensure they have done everything possible to give our students the opportunity to reach their full potential in these important terminal examinations. The rest of the school has shown maturity and respect in adhering to our rules for our 'quiet zones' around school to support Year 11. It will not be long before they too take their end of year examinations – please read on in this newsletter for a reminder of dates. Forthcoming weeks will see our new cohort visit the school for induction events and we will be running some 'taster sessions' for Year 5 students in advance of our open events in the autumn. We would be grateful for your support in spreading the word about these taster sessions to all who may be interested. It is very exciting to be contemplating recruiting a year group who will be starting their time with us in our new permanent site!

Mrs Price



Dear Parents/Carers,

This week has seen the formal start of the GCSE exam season, with French speaking exams held last week and Art exams held this week. I have been impressed with the focus and determination of our Year 11 students and with the relentless

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Forthcoming Events

30th April	• STEM Workshop
1st/2nd/3rd May	• GCSE Spanish Oral Exams
7th May	• Bank Holiday
9th/10th May	• GCSE D&T

Parents' Seminar for Supporting Students with Exam Stress and Anxiety

We ran a seminar for Year 11 parents last week on supporting students with exam stress and anxiety. Resources from the seminar, including the power point presentation, have been posted onto the '[News](#)' section of our website. Parents and students may also find the following links helpful:

- [Managing Stress - Brainsmart – BBC:](#)
- [How to make stress your friend | Kelly McGonigal:](#)
- [7 Tips To Beat Exam Anxiety:](#)
- [Revision Tips – Beating Exam Stress:](#)

Exam Dates

Please note the following exam weeks for Years 7-10:

- Week commencing 21st May – Year 8 exams.
- Week commencing 4th June – Year 9 exams.
- Week commencing 18th June – Year 10 exams.
- Week commencing 25th June – Year 7 exams.

Exams for these year groups will largely take place in these weeks – some exams may take place in the week before or the week after. Exams for years 7, 8 and 9 will take place during lessons in classrooms. Year 10 will be off timetable for the week of their exams. Some of their exams will take place in the Portslade Baptist Church (where they will sit their GCSEs) and some will take place in school. Teachers will give students guidance on what they need to revise and revision materials will be made available on Show My Homework and our VLE. The Year 10 exam timetable will be published in forthcoming newsletters and on our website.

Year 11 – 11th May

The exam period for Year 11 has already begun but the heavy timetable of examinations starts on 14th May. On Friday 11th May Year 11 students should come into school as normal at 8:30am in full school uniform. They will be involved in lessons and revision sessions until break time. After break time they will have a Leavers' Communion Service which will be an opportunity for us to worship together for a final time and to pray for them

as they begin their exams. After lunch we will be having a Leavers' Assembly which will demarcate the close of one chapter and the start of the next with their exams. Students may bring in a plain white shirt for signing at the close of the assembly. Please note that students will not be allowed to sign the shirts they are wearing – they should bring in a spare shirt for this purpose if they wish to participate in this. They may also wish to bring in a notebook to enable their friends to write messages for them. Year 11 students will be dismissed at 2:30pm on this date.

Warmer Weather

As we welcome the warmer weather students are reminded that water balloons are not permitted at all in school and will be confiscated if found. Students are not permitted to throw water at each other at all; all students have been warned of the consequences if they choose to not adhere to this important rule. Students should have a refillable water bottle for use in school and should take care to wear sun cream if the weather necessitates this. Students should continue to bring their blazers to school and to wear them. On very hot days Mrs Price may tell students that they do not need to wear their blazers but they should not pre-empt any such decision.

SEND News

As of the 11th June Mr Walker, our Assistant Headteacher, will be taking over in the role of SENCo as Ms Dale moves to a new school in West Sussex. Ms Dale and Mr Walker are working closely together to ensure there is a smooth transition, however if you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch on the usual [email address](#). In the meantime, there will be two SEND parent events, for parents/carers of students with slow processing concerns, and parents/carers of students in Year 9 preparing for GCSEs, on the 22nd May and 5th June respectively. Please keep an eye on your inbox for more details and an invitation.

GCSE Product Design Exam

Having finished their coursework, Year 11 Product Design students are readying themselves for the practical part of their exam, which lasts 6 hours and is spread over two days (9th and 10th May). They also have a review period on a third day! Students are given set criteria and must work to this to produce a design piece over this time. If students can replicate the skills they have shown in lessons and their coursework, they are all well set for success in this part of the exam. We wish them well. To support students with their preparation for the exam Mr Bagnall will have the Design Technology department open for a Period 7 session on Tuesday 8th May. We are all looking forward to seeing the designs that the students create for this challenge.

Year 11 History Saturdays

Mrs Cager will be running some Year 11 revision sessions this Saturday 28th May and next Saturday 5th May for all Year 11 historians. Students should be in school for 9:20am on both dates, ready to start their session at 9:30am. Sessions will finish at 11:30am on both dates. Student do not need to wear uniform for these sessions but should be in suitable attire. We strongly recommend that students attend both of these sessions.

Year 9 Options

The year 9 Key Stage 4 options procedure is now nearly complete. Year 9 students have impressed with the mature and sensible way they have approached this process. The vast majority of students have shown great care in considering their choices during the one-to-one interviews completed recently. In the next couple of weeks we will be in a position to confirm Key Stage 4 choices to students. If any year 9 student or parent has a final concern could they please contact Mr Bridges in the next week.

Year 10 Speaking & Listening Endorsement

As part of the English Language GCSE, all students are required to undertake the Speaking and Listening component. Although this no longer contributes to the

overall GCSE grade, students cannot pass the English Language GCSE if they do not complete it. The component is assessed with a Pass, Merit or Distinction, which is recorded as a separate mark on each candidate's results slip.

In order to be successful in this assessment students will need to 'undertake a prepared spoken presentation on a specific topic in a formal setting, listen and respond to questions and feedback, and demonstrate that they can use spoken English effectively'. The presentation can be on a topic of the student's choice, must last between 4-6 minutes and will be delivered in front of a small group of peers who will have the opportunity to ask questions at the end. Teachers will provide guidance and support as to appropriate topics, especially for those students who are hoping to achieve the Distinction criteria.

All students in Year 10 will complete this assessment during the Enrichment Day on **Thursday 12th July**. Although there will be some lesson time made available for planning and drafting, following the summer exams, students will be expected to complete the bulk of their preparation as part of their own independent learning.

Catering Options

At Harrison Catering in King's School we pride ourselves on all the fresh, locally sourced, homemade nutritious food we produce.

My team have all completed their NVQ in food preparation and cooking qualification and have years of experience in a school kitchen environment.

Harrison Catering follows the School Food Trust guidelines for students. We offer a wide variety of food at different times of the day i.e. traybakes can only be purchased at lunch, chips have to be part of a meal and we do not sell confectionary, crisps or high sugary drinks. We also offer low salt, low sugar and low fat foods, ensuring the students eat the right foods for their health and mental well being.

King's School

The picture below shows what a typical lunch service looks like. Meat and vegetarian main meals are offered first, with fresh vegetables. The pots contain jacket potato with beans & cheese, lasagne, sausage pasta bake, chilli & rice or plain pasta. At the end is homemade soup and then pizza and hot dessert. A very varied choice.

Although we do offer items like pizza, there are also salads and fruit portions that can be purchased alongside the pizza to balance their diet. We ask that you check your son/daughter's dining account to see what they are purchasing and discuss with them to check they are maintaining a balanced diet.



topics' of parenting today's teenagers. Although hosted in a church, all are welcome with or without a faith background. Questions can be directed to familylife@stpetersbrighton.org. Dates and topics are as follows:

Monday 21st May – Talking about sex and pornography with our teens: [Rachel Gardner](#) – founder of Romance Academy and best-selling author

Monday 4th June – Protecting our teens' mental and emotional health: Steve Marshall-Taylor, Deputy Headmaster, Brighton College

Monday 11th June – Navigating the online world: Charlotte Robertson, co-founder [Digital Awareness UK](#)

Exam Zones

To date, students have been very respectful of 'exam zones' in school. The majority of our Year 11s will be sitting their exams in Portslade Baptist Church but a few will be sitting exams in school and we will set up 'quiet zones' around these. Students are asked to move quietly around and through these areas as directed by staff.

Parenting Workshop

St Peter's Church, Brighton, are running a series of parenting workshops which are designed for all parents and carers of children (aged 10-18) to engage with the 'hot

