

St Aidan's & St John Fisher Associated Sixth Form

St Aidan's Student Weekly Notices Week (B) commencing 8 April 2019

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Careers Information

Interested in Medicine, Dentistry, Biomedical Science, Nutrition, Psychology or Sports Science?

A representative from the Faculty of Medical Sciences at the University of Newcastle will be in school at lunchtime on **Monday 8 April** to talk about all these courses and opportunities within them. The talk will be in the Careers Department and start promptly 12.45pm.

Year 12 Parents/Carers Post 18 Options Evening on Wednesday 1 May - save the date

All parents/Carers of Year 12 students are invited to a presentation on Post 18 Options on Wednesday 1 May at 7.00 in Constance Green Hall. This will be an opportunity to find about higher education, UCAS, student finance and apprenticeship opportunities. More details to follow.

University of Newcastle - Free Year 12 residential summer school - closing date Monday 8 April

At the University of Newcastle's Bitesize residential event between 16 to 19 July, students will experience a week of taster lectures, personal development sessions and social events and stay in halls of residence. There is no cost and eligibility criteria will only be taken into place if courses are oversubscribed. For more details, please see <https://www.ncl.ac.uk/schools/events/residential/bitesize-uni/#overview>

Employment Vacancies

The Careers Department have been notified of the following job vacancy:

- FSS (estate agents) - Part-time weekday assistant starting in summer 2019 - 6.5 hours per week.

Please contact the Careers Department if you would like further information about this opportunity.

Exam Information

Year 13 Students with Exam Clashes – Summer 2019

All students who have an A Level exam clash this summer were given a letter detailing arrangements to resolve the clash with your exam timetables and school reports before the half term holiday. If you have not already done so, please could you ensure that you either e-mail Mrs Humphrey, Exams Officer, on w.humphrey@staidans.co.uk to acknowledge receipt of your letter or return the tear off slip at the bottom of the letter. If you have lost your letter, please come to the Sixth Form Office at St Aidan's for a replacement copy as soon as possible.

Year 13 Students – STEP Maths Entries – June 2019

Registration for STEP Maths exams has now opened and any students who need to sit a STEP Maths paper this summer should collect an application form from Mrs Humphrey, Exams Officer, in the Sixth Form Office at St Aidan's. The cost is £52 per paper and it would be appreciated if application forms can be returned with the appropriate fee as soon as possible but at the very latest by Friday 12 April when school closes for the Easter holidays.

The dates of these exams are as follows:-

STEP 1 – 10 June at 9.00 am – 3 hour paper
STEP 2 – 17 June at 9.00 am – 3 hour paper
STEP 3 – 21 June at 9.00 am – 3 hour paper

Reminder to Year 12 & 13 students

Please note that the Sixth Form Examination handbook is available on the School website under <https://www.staidans.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Sixth-Form-Examination-Handbook-2018-19-with-appendices-from-JCQ.pdf>

General Information

Calling all Spotlight alumni.

To celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Spotlight, this year's production is going to be a bit different. Taking place in the Royal Hall on Tuesday 2 July, we are keen to include a few numbers involving past Spotlight performers from years 10 to 13 (and beyond). We will aim to keep the number of rehearsals to a minimum (2 or 3) and these are likely to take place in late June, once the majority of exams have finished. To register your interest and to receive further information about rehearsals, please sign up in the dance studio by 12 April.

The Writing Week

Writing Week takes place during the first week of July for Year 12 students. There are three places available for this trip. It is suitable for anyone who is interested in writing and the arts. If you want further information, please see Mr Pickford in En2 at St Aidan's.

Debating Club

This week Debating Club will be held **on Tuesday from 12.30 in Hu1**. All welcome.

Sixth Form Communion Monday 8 April

Please come along to the Sixth Form Communion service and register at 8.45 in the Chapel. Attendance is voluntary

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SA and SJF Associated Sixth Form Cricket

The Sixth Form have 2 cricket matches each year against the MCC at Harrogate Cricket club and Woodhouse Grove away. These are both very important fixtures and are great opportunities for students to play in. The matches are in the first week after the Easter Holidays (Monday and Wednesday). If you are interested in playing then please see Mr Strover in the PE Department at St Aidan's. There is a net session on Thursday 11 April from 3.45-5pm at St Aidan's. All are welcome.

Motorbikes and Scooters

Please do not park motorbikes or scooters on the access route to the back of Constance Green Hall.

Revision advice

Over the next few weeks we will be including revision tips on the Weekly Notices. This advice is the result of research about effective learning methods: we hope that you find it useful and that it will help you to be more effective in your revision than reading through your notes or highlighting, which are popular but less successful approaches.

This week: Questioning and Elaboration

So now you have learned a lot of material, what should you do with it? Two of the most effective things you can do is to ask questions of what you have learned and then try to find connections between new ideas and concepts.

So for example, let's say you learned a lot of material about World War II. Instead of asking when did this happen, ask yourself why did this happen? Or how did this happen? You can do this on your own or in pairs or even in a study group. The more information you have about a topic, the richer the conversation will be.



Another example. Let's say you have learned some quotes from Macbeth such as the dagger scene:
Is this a dagger which I see before me?
The handle toward my hand?
Once you have learned quotes like these, you might then move to asking yourself the following questions:

1. **Why does Shakespeare use this imagery here?**
2. **What does this reveal about Macbeth at this part of the play?**
3. **How does this connect with what we know with Macbeth at other stages in the play?**

By elaborating on what you have already learned, you will be able to establish new links and ideas and create a far richer mental model of the topic you are studying and will be far better prepared for answering more open exam questions.

As Professor Dan Willingham reminds us, '*Understanding is remembering in disguise*'

Questioning and elaboration: Asking how and why things work helps you connect new information with old information

Thank you