

Monday 10th December 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re: Knowledge Organisers

At All Saints, we are continually raising our expectations of what our students can achieve and are increasingly demanding more of them so they are able to succeed beyond their potential.

We have been thinking very carefully about our approach to homework and reflecting not only upon the feedback you have given us in this area but also researching the approaches of the most successful schools in the country. With both of these in mind, from January 2019, we will be launching a new homework system. This new system focusses on the acquisition of knowledge and cognitive recall (the ability to remember and recall information). Both of these skills are essential as students prepare for the increased demands of the new GCSE specifications.

In January, students will receive a homework pack which consists of an exercise book, a book called a knowledge organiser and a thick plastic wallet. The knowledge organiser contains on one page the essential knowledge (dates, facts, figures, key words etc.) that students will need to know for each subject they will be studying over the spring term. They will be issued with a new knowledge organiser each term.

Each knowledge organiser contains a schedule of what subjects students have to study on which nights. Students will need to complete one page of their knowledge organiser for each subject following the schedule. Each knowledge organiser explains clearly what students need to do, as well as the quality expected. Students will need to sign their self-check sheet every night to say they have completed the work and have done it to a high standard. Students will need to bring their homework pack (both the exercise book and the knowledge organiser) into school every day to show their tutor it has been done.

At our last PHSE day (26th November), I introduced this system to all students and we practised together what they have to do. There is also a new area on our website that contains: Our new homework expectations, a series of short videos explaining how to use them and a copy of each knowledge organiser so if they lose their copy, they will still be able to access it.

We are confident that the use of knowledge organisers will help students to deepen their knowledge and understanding of the subjects they study and better help them recall this information when they sit their examinations.

Your help as always, is invaluable in ensuring our students are ready to learn and able to succeed in their lessons. We would therefore ask that you familiarise yourself with their homework schedule and check each night that they have completed the requisite pages. It would also be very helpful for us for you to check that their homework packs along with any other books, equipment are packed in their bag and ready to go each day.

Thank you for your anticipated support.

Yours faithfully



Anna Mills
Deputy Headteacher