

Year 11 Newsletter



Term 2
December 2023



Happy Christmas

Welcome to the first addition of our **Year 11 newsletter**. Year 11 have had an incredible start to their final year at the Warriner and they have made me so very proud. I have had many members of staff praising them as a cohort - lessons have consistently shown examples of students diligently working, sharing articulate answers, and engaging well with the challenge that is Year 11. I am fortunate enough to teach many of them GCSE History and they are always an utter delight – reflective, determined and wanting to achieve the best outcome that they can.

I am also extremely proud of just how many students applied to be a Year 11 Prefect, the highest number in Warriner history – not that I am bragging! They have been representing our school so well and have been excellent in supporting our youngest students, something that they will be building on in the coming months. I'm very excited to be launching our 'Little Room' initiative, which is where our Prefects will be acting as mentors for Year 7 students who need additional support and guidance.

We had our whole-cohort picture last Thursday and it was the first time I felt like it was the beginning of the end of our time together at the Warriner – they were exceptionally behaved, and I look forward to seeing it up in the Hall. This is of course just one of many Year 11 experiences, that make the year so special.

I appreciate however that the expectations of Year 11 are high and for some students, this can be a very big adjustment – homework increase, independent study, applying to Post-16 places... Please do reach out to tutors if you have concerns, we will work together to reassure and find a supportive solution. Year 11 is undoubtedly a hard one, but they continue to show incredible resilience. I'm excited to carry on supporting them as we move into the final part of their secondary school experience.

I would like to wish you and your family a lovely Christmas break.

Miss Maggs – Head of Year 11

Key Dates

Please see below a list of important dates for your diary. Please take note that the final Year 11 Subject Consultation Evening is in January next year.

31st January 2024 Subject Consultation Evening 2

19th Feb – 8th Mar 2024 Year 11 Mocks

26th March 2024 Data Point 2 published

9th April 2024 Public Exams begin (note: practical subjects do have formal GCSE assessments prior to this)

21st June 2024 Year 11 Stand Down

26th June 2024 Year 11 Prom

Tutor Contacts

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The Big Reveal

On Monday 18th December, Year 11 will collect their Mock Results. This is meant to feel as close to the 'real thing' as possible – **students will come into school in non-school uniform this day** - and will receive their results in an envelope, just like when they will on the 22nd August. These grades will be based on their performance during the Autumn Mocks. This will be a celebratory affair, but also with supportive advice from our Careers and Sixth Form team during our afternoon assembly.

We will encourage students to evaluate their Mock Results and analyse the implications these results would have on their Post 16 and career opportunities. They will be encouraged to reflect on their experience and strategies they will use in the Spring Term to further improve these grades.

Post-16 FAQ:

We are working behind the scenes to support your child for education after GCSEs (known as Post-16) and this is being delivered through tutor time, sessions with outside providers and 121 careers interviews. We realise however that this can be a bit of a minefield, so here are the answers to some common questions!

When should my child be applying to Post-16 courses?

Anytime from now! We generally advise that students need to have multiple places applied to by early February, however we strongly suggest before this stage. It is very common for many post-16 providers to have internal deadlines, so it is important to ensure that you are familiar with these to avoid disappointment.

What Post-16 providers are local to me?

There are many! We have a Sixth Form here at the Warriner, but other common Post-16 providers include Stratford-upon-Avon College, Activate Learning (Banbury, Bicester or Oxford campus), Morton Morrell and Hartpury College – to name a few!

What types of Post-16 pathways are there?

The most common are A-Levels (the traditional academic route), BTECs, T-Levels and Apprenticeships are more practically based. Please see this website for more specific advice -

<https://www.talkingfutures.org.uk/pathways-at-16/>

Who can I contact for a reference?

Tutors have already completed references. Please email Ms Barton if you would like a copy – her email is l.barton@warriner.oxon.sch.uk – she will be able to facilitate this for you.

Who can I contact if I have any more questions?

Mr Rafferty is our Careers Lead in school. Please email him at m.rafferty@warriner.oxon.sch.uk if you would like some additional advice around supporting your child with the Post-16 process.

