

# Blended Learning Newsletter

December 2020



Dear Pupils, Parent and Carers,

Welcome to our first blended learning newsletter. Prior to March 2020, the term blended learning was relatively unknown to many of us. Since the national lockdown, educational practices have had to evolve drastically and we, as a school, have travelled a long way in a very short time. In our newsletter you will find a snapshot of some of the outstanding efforts from both our staff and our pupils.

The term “we are all in it together” could not be more fitting in terms of the journey we have travelled and will continue on. As we look forward to brighter days with the hope of “normal” school life returning, one thing we can be certain of, the skills we have all developed and learned from each other will further enhance our learning toolkit and our learning journey as the digital age continues to evolve. I do hope you enjoy our newsletter.

Sincerely,

Mr. Douglas

Welcome



In history students can use a variety of interactive tasks to study topics in more depth and broaden their understanding.



In Religious education we are producing animated videos to go over key information for GCSE.

## *The School Chronicle*

Price: 50 pence
YOUR FAVOURITE SCHOOL NEWSPAPER
Date: 8.11.20

# **MUHAMMADS VICTORY OVER MECCA!**

Muhammad had to leave Mecca as many people  
 Didnt like what he had been saying . He decided  
 There had been no point in staying in Mecca.  
 Arabs in another town called Medina invited  
 Muhammad and his Muslims to live there.  
 Although it had been 400km away, Muhammad  
 Made his journey with his followers to Medina.  
 Muslims call this journey the Hijrah. At last  
 Muhammad could now do what God had told  
 Him. Between 624 and 628 the Muslims were  
 Involved in a seires of battles for their survival.  
 Mecca and Medina went to war because  
 Muhammad travelled to Medina (The Hijrah).  
 The Battle of the Trench was a battle that  
 Muslims overcame their opponents with very  
 Casualties. Muhammad then conquered Mecca by  
 Destroying idols of Gods in and around the  
 Ka' Ba.



This is a picture of the Ka' Ba in Mecca.

Prophet Muhammad and his followers then  
 Proceeded to destroy the staues of pagan gods  
 In and around the Ka' Ba. Muhammad destroyed  
 These idols as he only believed in one God  
 Whilst the people of Mecca had believed in  
 Many gods.

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# Maths

The photos show an example of a pupil's notes and work from Hegarty maths. Hegarty maths is an online website that we are using this year to complement our teaching in school and support pupils at home with their maths. Each homework consists of a 10-minute video and a quiz which teaches, assesses and tracks everything a pupil needs to learn about maths.

In class teaching and online support using one note and Hegarty maths makes up our blended learning approach to maths this year.

Question 1 An object has a mass of 630kg and a volume of 7m<sup>3</sup>. Find the density of the object in kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

$$\text{Density} = \frac{\text{Mass}}{\text{Volume}} = \frac{630\text{kg}}{7\text{m}^3} \quad d = \frac{630}{7} = 90\text{kg/m}^3$$

Question 2 An object has a mass of 440kg and a volume of 11m<sup>3</sup>. Find the density of the object in kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

$$\text{Density} = \frac{\text{Mass}}{\text{Volume}} = \frac{440\text{kg}}{11\text{m}^3} \quad d = \frac{440}{11} = 40\text{kg/m}^3$$

Question 3 An object has a mass of 180g and a volume of 9cm<sup>3</sup>. Find the density of the object in g/cm<sup>3</sup>.

$$\text{Density} = \frac{\text{Mass}}{\text{Volume}} = \frac{180\text{g}}{9\text{cm}^3} \quad d = \frac{180}{9} = 20\text{g/cm}^3$$

Question 4 An object has a mass of 15g and a volume of 6cm<sup>3</sup>. Find the density of the object in g/cm<sup>3</sup>.

$$\text{Density} = \frac{\text{Mass}}{\text{Volume}} = \frac{15\text{g}}{6\text{cm}^3} \quad d = \frac{15}{6} = 2.5\text{g/cm}^3$$

Formula - Density is a measure of the mass of an object per unit of volume of that object.

$$\text{Average density} = \frac{\text{Mass of an object}}{\text{Volume of that object}}$$

$$\text{Density} = \frac{\text{Mass}}{\text{Volume}}$$

Example 1 An object has a mass of 280kg and a volume of 4m<sup>3</sup>. Find the density of the object in kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

$$\text{Density} = \frac{\text{Mass}}{\text{Volume}} = \frac{280\text{kg}}{4\text{m}^3} \quad d = 70\text{kg/m}^3$$

Example 2 An object has a mass of 150g and a volume of 6cm<sup>3</sup>. Find the density of the object in g/cm<sup>3</sup>.

$$\text{Density} = \frac{\text{Mass}}{\text{Volume}} = \frac{150\text{g}}{6\text{cm}^3} \quad d = 25\text{g/cm}^3$$

## Support from Classroom Assistants

Our support staff helped many of our pupils with their learning challenges too, meaning no child was left behind during lockdown.

**EJ** E Johnson 12 Jun, 11:57

Hi all. Hope you are all keeping well. Just want to say well done to all those who are working hard. Please remember it's important for you to try your best and if you need help please ask. Take care Mrs Johnson. 😊

**PM** P McBride 15 Jun, 14:48

Hi everyone  
Hope you are all well and still working away at your Essential Skills Maths ....Keep focused and work will be easier next year for Year 12. If you need any help and support just email myself. Please take care and stay safe... Mrs McBride  
😊👍

Posts Files More

**KS** You 8 Jun, 09:20

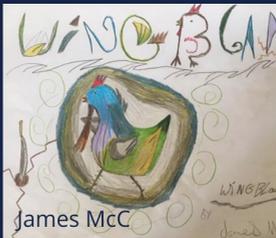
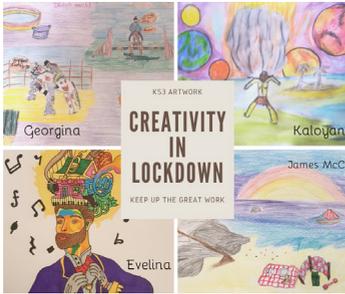
**BBC Bitesize - Application of Number**  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zvp2scw>  
This is a fantastic website with so much useful learning on it for you. There is a maths at work section with lots of topics to work through. Learn the basics has lots of topics to complete. The final section is problem-solving tools. Please complete all of this work as you will be extremely well prepared for real life situations and for your exam when you return to school.

**PM** P McBride 8 Jun, 19:52

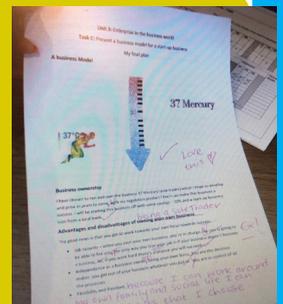
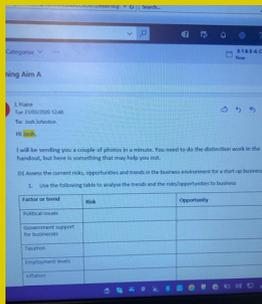
Well Year 11 we are now into June ....Miss Shanks has provided you with a fantastic website for your Essential Skills Maths...Make sure to use this website as it provides you with so much maths information... If you need my help and assistance just ask or email myself at anytime during the day or evening. Missing you all Year 11...Please stay safe...Thanks Mrs P. McBride..👍👍

← Reply

During the period of remote learning, students followed the BBC Wonder Gallery brief, where the tasks were set by a different NI artist each week. Their work was then submitted to the BBC online Gallery. They also completed a poster project to respond to the corona virus pandemic. These were displayed in their windows to show respect for and to thank our keyworkers and NHS staff. Many also had their posters featured in the local Gazette.



Some of the work produced when students are able to access work on MS Teams. These pictures show tasks emailed to the teacher over lockdown and meaningful feedback was then delivered to individual pupils.



# Home Economics

Home Economics students continued to develop their baking and artistic skills over lockdown. Students sent pictures of their amazing creations to Miss Girvan and Mrs Gallagher. They were creatively and professionally presented with a high-level degree of accuracy.



Baked by Natalie Hamill for her brother



Baked by Imogen Finney



Baked by Leah Rainey



Baked by Rebecca Livingstone



Baked by Joshua Rutherford



Baked by Natalie Hamill

AS/LSC have been using MS Teams Notebook to complete work at home. They have also had access to Hegarty maths - an online website used to complement our teaching in school and Splashmaths to support their learning at home. In class teaching and online support using One Note makes up our blended learning approach to core subjects this year.



# Science

In Science, both in class teaching and online support with the aid of One Note, makes up our blended learning approach.



Name: .....

### ATOMIC STRUCTURE

1 Use the words in the box to answer the following questions.

electron, neutron, nucleus, proton, shells

(a) The central part of an atom is called the Nucleus.

(b) The Electron has a negative charge.

(c) The Neutron has no charge.

(d) The nucleus contains the neutrons and the protons.

(e) Electrons are found in shells.

(f) The protons and the neutrons have the same mass.

2 An atom contains 32 protons and 48 neutrons.

(a) What is its atomic number? 32

(b) How many electrons does it have? 32

(c) What is the mass of the atom? 64 80

3 Complete the table to show the missing numbers of particles in the four atoms A, B, C and D.

Atom	Protons	Neutrons	Electrons	Mass
A	20	20	20	40
B	21	24	21	45
C	20	24	20	44
D	19	21	19	40

4 Complete the following paragraph about elements and compounds.

Elements are simple substances made of the same type of atoms. They cannot be broken down chemically. There are about 100 elements in total.

Most elements are metals. They are shiny in appearance and are good conductors of heat and electricity.

Compounds are made from two or more elements chemically joined.

**Word bank:** atom, two, shiny, substances, broken, 100, joined, electricity, conductors

27  
28

Well done Martha | NG

# Technology and Design

Pupils in Technology and Design have largely not been able to attend the workshop this year due to class sizes being over 10, however the Year 11 class has 10 pupils and are able to be in the workshop. The pictures below show some of our pupils in process of manufacturing the top of their stool using a mitre saw to cut the wood and sash clamps and G clamps to apply pressure in the glueing phase.



# English

The English department use a combination of MS Team and OneNote to deliver classwork and home learning. Pupils are truly flourishing and are using the blended learning approach to their advantage. IT skills are being used to demonstrate fantastic literacy prowess.

## About animal testing

Animal testing is the use of animals in experiments to test for different possible outcomes. It has proven useful in scientific research, drug development, health research and cosmetics.

The most common animals used for testing include monkeys, rabbits and mice. However, the way animals are treated is not so good. Animals can be burned, shocked, poisoned, starved, drowned or addicted to drugs.



## *Facts about Tutankhamun*

- King Tut was nicknamed the Boy King because he began his reign when he was only nine years old!
- Tutankhamun died when he was only 18, and his body was mummified, which is how the ancient Egyptians preserved their dead.



## Dates for the Diary

Monday 21st December -  
to Monday 4th January

Tuesday 5th January -

Wed 13th & Thurs 14th January -

Week beginning Mon 25th January -

Week beginning Mon 15th February -

Mon 22nd February-

1st - 9th April -

Christmas Holidays

Pupils return to school

SEN Annual Review

Year 12 Mock Exams

Half term pupil holiday

Pupils return to school

Easter holidays