



**CENTRAL
FOUNDATION**
BOYS' SCHOOL
FOUNDED 1865

Wednesday, 08 May 2013

RE: End of Year 8 Assessment

Dear Parent /Carer

After the June Half-term your son will take a number of exams and assessments to assess his end of year, Key Stage level. To help him plan, the school have prepared a timetable; please see below:

Subject	Location	Assessment period	Assessment type
Art	Class	Mon 3 rd June – Fri 14 th June	Practical Exam
Citizenship	Class	Mon 3 rd June – Fri 14 th June	Exam
Drama	Class	Mon 3 rd June – Fri 14 th June	Practical
English	Hall	Thurs 6 th June, periods 5 and 6	Exam
French/Spanish	Class	Mon 3 rd June – Fri 14 th June	Exam
Games	Class	Mon 3 rd June – Fri 14 th June	Practical
Geography	Hall	Friday 7 th June, periods 1 and 2	Exam
History	Class	Mon 3 rd June – Fri 14 th June	On-going Assessment
ICT	Class	Mon 3 rd June – Fri 14 th June	Practical Exam
Maths	Hall	Mon 10 th June, periods 1 and 2	Exam
Music	Class	Mon 20 th May to Fri 14 th June	Practical
RE	Class	Mon 3 rd June – Fri 14 th June	Exam
Science	Hall	Friday 7 th June, periods 5 and 6	Exam
Technology	Class	Mon 15 th April – Fri 14 th June	Practical

Please find attached a specific subject advice sheet on how your son can prepare for these assessments.

To help your son perform to his best can you ensure he continues to carry full equipment:

- School Bag (large enough to hold an A4 Folder)
- Transparent pencil case
- 4 pens
- 1 highlighter
- 2 pencils
- Pencil sharpened
- Eraser
- 30cm ruler
- Protractor
- Compass
- Scientific calculator (preferably with natural display)
- Minimum of 6 colouring pencils.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Costello

Assistant Headteacher

Year 8 Subject Specific Advice

Subject	Information
Art	The art exam will be the completion of a piece of art work over two lessons. When grading the Art exam we will be looking at the overall quality of the finished piece. Students will be encouraged to be original and creative in their design but with clear links between their work and that of the artist selected. Just like at GCSE, we will also take into account their selection of materials, as well as their control of those materials.
Citizenship	Assessing the ability to understand, explain issues about and make informed choices about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alcohol units • How alcohol effects the body • Social problems caused by alcohol • Dealing with different scenarios about alcohol There is a guide to KS3 Citizenship level descriptors on the VLE .
Drama	Practical assessments vary and will look at criteria like audience awareness, characterisation, vocal delivery, use of gesture. Written Assessments will show students' understanding of the topic, development of characters, own stories, scripts, and diary entries. There is a guide to KS3 Drama level descriptors on the VLE .
English	Reading and Writing skills will be assessed. The Reading exam will require students to show understanding of texts in a variety of ways, including; reading for meaning, retrieval of information from texts; interpreting and inferring ideas from texts; identifying and commenting on the structure of texts; explaining and commenting on writers' uses of language; identifying and commenting on writers' purposes and the overall effect on the reader, and; relating texts to their social, cultural and historical contexts. The Written exam will require students to show that they are able to: produce interesting and thoughtful texts; produce texts which are appropriate to the purpose; organise written texts effectively; construct paragraphs cohesively; vary sentences for effect; write with technical accuracy, including the use of punctuation; use appropriate and effective vocabulary; use correct spelling. The best way to revise for the exam is to ensure your son completes all of the homework tasks on the VLE . Additional ' <i>exam preparation</i> ' material will also be made available for your son to use for revision.
French/Spanish	An assessment in each skill will take place – listening, reading, writing and speaking. You will be assessed on the topics & grammar you have covered this year in class, so it is essential that you revise vocabulary & structures. You will be assessed against the National Curriculum Levels which can be found on the VLE along with revision material.
Games	Ability Test, Basketball, Badminton, Gymnastics and Football have been taught and assessed during the year. Your son's final level will be an average of these assessments.
Geography	Exam will cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy • Brazil Assessment of the following skills will be carried out: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defining Key terms • Identifying key features and processes • Describing and explaining processes • Showing understanding of different examples, by referring to a range of case studies • Outline the positives and negatives of human actions • Show an understanding of different attitude and values of people • Offer sustainable solutions Resources are available on the VLE .

History	History assessments are completed in class and take the form of a source based activity. Students rarely need to revise before these assessments, but they do need to ensure that they follow all instructions carefully. They should write to the best of their ability in properly constructed sentences and paragraphs. A dictionary and spare pen may prove useful.
ICT	A class assessment will be given covering spreadsheet and word processing skills.
Maths	Pupils will be given a KS3 SATs paper; this will cover various levels of mathematics in the attainment areas of Number, Algebra, Shape and space, Statistics and probability. Please access the school VLE for practice papers and other resources.
Music	Assessment will be based on keyboard practical work attempted during the assessment period. Please see VLE for specific aspects of keyboard technique and musicianship to be assessed.
RE	Students need to understand and recall knowledge and understanding about religions they have studied on the topic of worship to include the following aspects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why should we protect the environment? • What responsibility do we have to look after our planet? • What do Christians, Muslims and Buddhists say about the environment? • Is War and conflict ever right? • Muslim attitudes towards War. • Christian attitudes towards War. Students should use examples from their own beliefs and religions and are encouraged to give examples from more than one religion. There is a guide to KS3 RE level descriptors on the VLE .
Science	Pupil assessment takes place every 2 weeks in all strands, biology, chemistry and physics. These assessments test recall, comprehension, understanding, spelling, grammar and calculations in each strand. At the end of each year there is a terminal exam, covering biology, chemistry and physics.
Technology	Students have continual assessment during the Summer term, this is based on the following: Product Analysis Design ideas (creativity/annotation/complexity and drawing ability) Design analysis Workshop health and safety Completed product (skill/finish/complexity) Evaluation These assessments take place as projects, progress throughout the year and are based on the current National Curriculum. There is a guide to KS3 Technology level descriptors on the VLE .