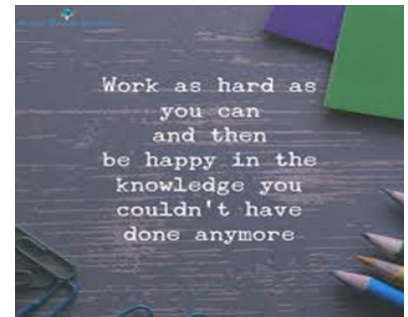


## Sixth Form Bulletin 10th February 2023

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**TERM DATES:** Please use this [link](#) to see the school term dates.

### Dr van der Spoel

We were delighted to welcome Dr van der Spoel, a chartered psychologist and director of Glia Learning Ltd. to deliver some fantastic workshops to all year 13 and selected year 12 students on Friday. He talked in depth about motivation, procrastination and overcoming exam fear. His engaging sessions helped students to think about learning in a different way by using tested brain techniques to give them practical ways to understand what motivates them to learn.

### National Apprenticeships Week

Sixth Form students have received daily postings on their Google classrooms this week with lots of information about Apprenticeships and where to look for information and guidance.

Apprenticeships at all different levels are now available to students when they leave school at 16 or 18. Please have a look at some useful resources from **Amazing Apprenticeships** to help



familiarise yourself with the range of apprenticeships on offer to students

<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/influencers/support-for-parents-and-guardians>.

### National Apprenticeships Week Talk/UCAS

Years 12 and 13 also attended a talk on Thursday about apprenticeships, with a particular focus on how both their academic study, and any super curricular participation, work experience and student leadership can all support future applications.

Students can apply for as many apprenticeships as they like, on top of university applications. It's more like applying to a job – positions can start at any time of year and application deadlines differ between employers. [Head to Career Finder](#) to find vacancies – next to each will be the closing date.

### **Cyber Security**

The UK had the largest percentage of cyber-crime victims per million internet users in 2022; the US had the second-highest ratio. Nations with (relatively) wealthy populations who spent a lot of time online are, therefore, lucrative hunting grounds for cyber criminals.

In 2001, an average of six people an hour had an online account compromised. Now, the average is 97 every hour. The pandemic undeniably added to this level of risk, as work and education went remote and cyber criminals sensed an opportunity.

The irony is that many of these incursions are facilitated by devices designed to make our lives easier. Smart home appliances, wearable tech, streaming services ... virtually any internet-enabled device is a potential entry point for a competent cyber-criminal.

The guide [here](#) has many useful tips to help keep you safe online.

## **YEAR 12 NOTICES**

### **Early Entry university applications**

We were fortunate to welcome admissions tutors from Peterhouse College, Cambridge University on Friday to speak to students considering an Oxbridge application to find out more about the process and the opportunity to ask questions in person.

### **Work Experience**

A google form will be sent to parents, which should be completed once students have details of the work experience placement they have arranged for the last week of the summer term. **17th- 21st July 2023**. Once this form has been received, the school will contact each employer for further details, to ensure that appropriate guidance including health and safety arrangements are in place. Any student without a work experience placement for this week will be required to attend school, where online work experience activities will be provided for them to complete with teacher supervision in the study room.

## **YEAR 13 NOTICES**

### **Year 13 Assessments 20th February - 7th March 2023**

Students should ensure that any revision work set by teachers is completed and that any gaps/weaknesses that have been identified are prioritised. Revision topics have been shared with students and they are also available on the school website.

### **Revision Timetables**

An updated electronic revision timetable has been posted on Google Classroom for all students to use and to start planning revision for forthcoming assessments and summer exams. The timetables have also been populated with all summer exams. We encourage students to tailor their exam timetable by deleting any exams that do not apply to them. Students should include any tutoring sessions relevant to them and tally their revision hours per paper as it will help them to prioritise their focus areas / topics.

### **Managing Exam Anxiety - a course for parents**

<https://www.communicate-ed.org.uk/courses/managing-exam-anxiety-a-course-for-parents>

This course is aimed at parents who have children preparing for exams.

During this 'Managing Exam Anxiety' course, the course leader:

- Explains the roots of Anxiety
- Helps with distinguishing severe anxiety from healthy nervousness
- Describes signs and symptoms of Anxiety
- Offers tips to help create the right environment
- Describes calming techniques
- Gives suggestions for managing anxious thoughts and physical symptoms

### **UCAS information**

#### **Accepting and Declining Offers on UCAS**

Students will start seeing offers coming through now on UCAS if they have sent their applications. Students should receive replies about offers by **18 May 2023** and all decisions need to be made by **8 June 2023**.

**Students do NOT need to make a firm or insurance choice until the deadline of 8th June** meaning they have time to consider their options.

There are three different replies students will make on receiving all offers:

- **Firm acceptance** – this is your first choice.
- **Insurance acceptance** – the back-up choice to a conditional firm acceptance.
- **Decline** – you'll need to decline any other offers you get.

More information can be found on the links below.

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/after-you-apply/types-offer/replying-your-ucas-undergraduate-offers>

#### **Students receiving no offers**

This is a rarity, however some students may find themselves in a position where they do not receive any offers. If this is the case, we as a sixth form team are here to support the students in their next steps. You can read further information on this here.

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/after-you-apply/types-offer/extra-choices>

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/results-confirmation-and-clearing/what-clearing/what-clearing-plus>

#### **Student Finance**

Student Finance opens at the beginning of March and it is recommended that students apply early. More information can be found on the links below.

<https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-online-for-student-finance>

<https://www.ucas.com/finance/undergraduate-tuition-fees-and-student-loans>

#### **Key dates:**

**Thursday 29th June 2023:** Year 13 Prom