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Dear Parent/Carer

I write to ask for your help in supporting Year 7 with their studies in the coming fortnight as they undertake a revision week this week and an examinations week in the week following half term. The examinations will be undertaken in the low-pressure environment of a classroom setting and will take the form of a substantive unseen timed assessment of no more than 40 minutes in length. These will be in a range of subjects including English, mathematics, science, geography, history and French.

The purpose of these assessments is to encourage good study habits within our students and get them accustomed to regularly revising and reviewing work. Evidence suggests that the more often this is done then the more learning is retained as part of long term memory. We are recommending that students spend half an hour each day revising over half term and have asked staff to provide homework commensurate with this expectation. The outcomes of these assessments will enable us to reward areas of success and diagnose any skills and areas of work that may need improvement before the end of the academic year, as well as plan for next year.

Staff members will be undertaking revision with students in class this week, exploring and practising a range of revision techniques. Students will be made aware which topics to revise, the nature and length of their assessments and how many questions there will be so that they can adequately prepare. They will also be told the exact day and period next week when their assessment will take place.

We hope that you will support us in our efforts in preparing your child for these assessments. Please note that there is a section in the 'school life' part of the school website called [Revisewise](#) that is available to help support them. It has access to well known revision sites like BBC Bitesize, as well as a small range of revision ideas to try in the 11-14 section such as mind maps, posters, flashcards and retrieval practice. There is also a parent zone section with advice on wellbeing, as well as leaflets on supporting your child with revision.

Thank you in advance for your support. We look forward to sharing the outcomes of these assessments with you as part of your child's next report at the end of June.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Linley  
Assistant Headteacher