



The Gosford Times

The Weekly Newsletter of Gosford Hill School

Issue 21 – February 2016

Update on New Headteacher Appointment

Further to our previous announcement, I am pleased to confirm that Mr Nigel Sellars will be joining the school as Headteacher on 11 April 2016.

Are you a Health and Safety Professional?

We are currently looking for a Health and Safety/Educational Visits Manager to join our existing Business team and report to our Business Manager. The responsibilities will be mainly in connection with the management and administration of the academy's health and safety compliance and the students' educational visits.

We require someone for 27.5 hours a week, to be worked 8.30am to 2.20pm Monday to Friday, term time only including INSET days. This is a one year temporary contract.

If you would be interested in finding out more about this opportunity, please contact Penny Challans at the school or take a look at the Job Vacancies section on our website at <http://www.gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk/page/10/34>

Ms P Challans – Business Manager

Please note that Monday 22nd February is an Inset Day and the school will therefore be closed to students.

Year 11 Practice Exams – Monday 29th February to Friday 4th March

A timetable for the Practice Exams taking place in the Gym/Hall next term is printed overleaf, together with notes for parents and instructions for students. Individual students' timetables will be distributed to students next term via form tutors. Other assessments will take place in normal lessons.

There is no study leave; therefore, when students are not taking exams, they will be attending all timetabled lessons as normal.

Thank you for your vital support in helping to prepare our students for these examinations. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Alison Sumner
Examinations & Assessment Data Officer**

Learn * Lead * Inspire

Year 11 Practice Examinations Timetable

MONDAY 29 FEBRUARY TO FRIDAY 4 MARCH 2016

WEEK	DATE	SUBJECT	ARRIVAL TIME	START TIME	DURATION	VENUE
B	Mon 29 Feb	MATHS NON-CALCULATOR	8:45 No AM Reg	9:00	1hr 45	Gym/Hall
B	Tue 1 Mar	ENGLISH LANGUAGE	9:50	10:00	1hr	Gym/Hall
B	Tue 1 Mar	PHYSICS	1:45	2:00	1hr	Gym/Hall
B	Wed 2 Mar	MATHS CALCULATOR	8:45 No AM Reg	9:00	1hr 45	Gym/Hall
B	Wed 2 Mar	CHEMISTRY	11:20	11:30	1hr	Gym/Hall
B	Thur 3 Mar	ENGLISH LITERATURE (x 35)	12:20	12:30	45mins	Gym
B	Thur 3 Mar	BIOLOGY	1:45	2pm	1hr	Gym/Hall

NOTES FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

The above Practice Examinations will take place between Monday 29th February and Friday 4th March. These exams provide important preparation for external examinations. As such, they will be run under the same conditions as external exams.

Assessments in other subjects will take place during normal lessons.

If your son/daughter is unable to attend a practice exam, e.g. due to illness, please contact the Attendance Officer in the first instance, using the school's absence line – 01865 855378.

TIMING OF EXAMS

We have a very tight schedule to meet and **it is important that we start examinations on time**. A list of exam rooms will be displayed outside the Hall and Gym shortly, and formal seating plans will be displayed outside the Hall and Gym prior to each test. Students with an extra time allowance will always be given a short break between exams.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

- . **Full school uniform must be worn for examinations.**
- . You will be asked to leave bags in either the Hall, or Gym Changing Rooms. **Blazer pockets must be empty** – please put contents into your bags before coming into the exam room, except for equipment required for the exam.
- . **MOBILE PHONES / IPODS / MP3 PLAYERS MUST BE TURNED OFF AND LEFT IN BAGS AND NOT BROUGHT INTO THE EXAM ROOM(S).**
- . You must enter the exam room in silence and sit in your allocated place.
- . You are responsible for providing your own equipment – black pens, rulers, pencils, erasers etc. are all necessary. Please bring required items in a clear pencil case or a clear plastic bag **including a calculator** if it is allowed in the exam. Please check in advance with your subject teacher if you are unsure about any equipment needed.
- . During the exam you must not communicate with other students either by talking, making eye contact or writing messages.
- . As with all school property, marking/writing/drawing on the test desks is vandalism and will not be tolerated. A charge of £20 will be made to students found defacing desks.
- . If you finish early you must sit in silence and not communicate with other students.
- . If you have a problem or need extra paper, you must put your hand up and wait for the invigilator to come to you.
- . At the end of the exam you are not allowed to talk until you have left the room.

It is essential that all students follow the above conduct during the exams. We must be very strict about conduct in preparation for the summer examinations.

Is your child entitled to additional funding?

School meals will give your child a real appetite for learning and help them to achieve their full potential.

If your child is eligible for free school meals it means they can enjoy delicious, healthy meals without the bills and the fuss of making packed lunches. Many students at our school are already entitled to free school meals, and your child may be able to have them too.

Also, for every student registered for a free school meal, the school receives additional money from the Government to spend on extra school resources.

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on-paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

Please note that you do not normally need to provide evidence of your income, only your National Insurance Number and Date of Birth.

If you think your children may be entitled to free school meals, please contact Reception for an application form or download one from our Gosford Hill School website.

Ms P Challans – Business Manager



Young Volunteers Scheme

Have you ever wondered what it's like to work behind the scenes at a busy and exciting museum?

We're looking for people aged 14-18 to join us as young volunteers at The Story Museum. Find out by what it's like to work at a most unusual museum by becoming one of our Young Volunteers and gain new skills and experiences.

For more information and to find out how to apply visit:

www.storymuseum.org.uk/volunteer



www.storymuseum.org.uk
42 Pembroke Street, Oxford OX1 1BP



CONTACTING YOUR SCHOOL

Your views are very important to us, whether they're about your child, school activities or wider community issues. For all contact details telephone School Reception.

If you have a concern about your child contact:

- **The subject teacher** - if it concerns learning in a particular subject. Contact Reception to leave a message or alternatively, if you have internet access, you can ask for their email address.
- **The Head of Faculty** - if you wish to discuss any matter in greater detail.
- **Their Form Tutor** - if it is a more general issue about your child's well being.

Staff will endeavour to phone you back as soon as possible. All information is treated in the strictest of confidence. If you want to raise an issue or query about a more general area of school activity or a community matter contact a Parent Governor. (Telephone numbers available from School Reception)

SCHOOL RECEPTION: Telephone: 01865 374971

SCHOOL EMAIL: office.4060@gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk

SCHOOL WEBSITE: www.gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk

ABSENCE LINE: Telephone: 01865 855378 (please use this number to report absences)

or

email – gabs4889@gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk

The Parent Support Site has information on supporting your child(ren) in a number of curriculum areas.