

YEAR 11 NEWSLETTER

A community based on Love, Hope and Trust

Wellbeing Corner

Amidst the GCSE preparations, it's crucial to support each other's well-being. If you notice a friend is stressed, lend a listening ear.



Sometimes, just talking about it can lighten the load. Encourage breaks and healthy outlets like exercise. Small gestures, like sharing a laugh or offering a study snack, go a long way.



Remind your friends of their strengths and the progress they've made. Together, let's create a positive and supportive environment, fostering well-being during this challenging time.



And finally, **you're not alone**—lean on each other.



Attendance

We've noticed a concerning trend in attendance, and it's crucial to address it collectively. Regular attendance is the cornerstone of academic success, directly impacting learning outcomes, future opportunities and college applications.

Missing school hinders the understanding of key concepts, making it harder to catch up. Let's work together to ensure every student is present every day, laying a strong foundation for your academic journey and future achievements. Your commitment to regular attendance is an investment in your success.



Dear St Mark's Community

Kudos to our exceptional Year 11 students for their hard work in the current mock GCSEs! Your dedication and commitment is truly commendable. The effort you've put into preparing for these assessments is already evident, and I want to express my heartfelt congratulations. Keep up the excellent work as we complete the last week of mocks. Your resilience and determination is inspiring. Well done, here's to continued success!

Mr Stevens

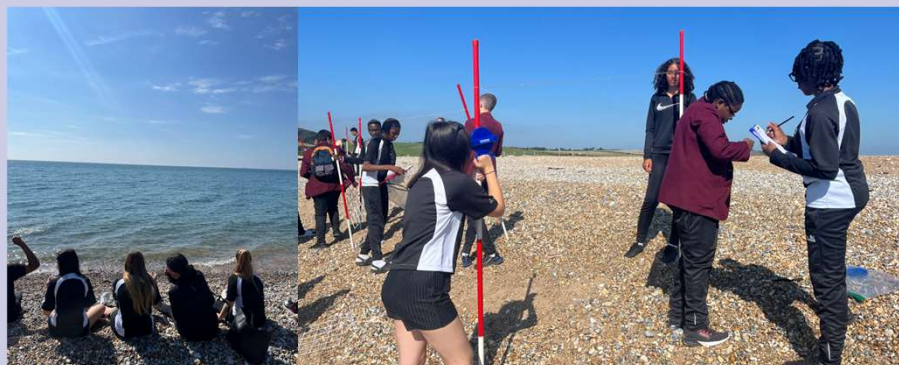
Key Dates



6 th – 17 th Nov:	Mocks GCSE written exams
20 th Nov:	Start of 5-week Enrichment Block 2
8 th Dec:	Mock results assembly
13 th Dec:	Enrichment day 1 (Queen's House)
14 th Dec:	Y11 Parents evening
20 th Dec:	End of term

Year 11 Geography Trip

Last half term Year 11 students took part in their physical Geography fieldtrip ready for their paper 3 exam. In a first for the academy, we visited the beach at Cuckmere Haven in East Sussex.



The weather was wonderful, student behaviour was exemplary and excellent fieldwork data collection was completed. Well done Year 11 Geographers!



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Year 11 Charity Drive

In their Lifeology lessons this term, students are taking part in the 'First Give' project. This is an exciting opportunity for each of the six Lifeology classes to find and support a local charity.

So far, each class has split into teams that have picked social issues affecting the local community, researched charities that address them and have even contacted their chosen charities to arrange visits to the Academy.



This half term, they will be planning and carrying out social actions around school to raise money and awareness. All this hard work will lead to one class winning £1,000 for their charity!
The Lifeology Team

English Tips and Guidance

This term in English, Year 11 will be studying their final Literature text, 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens.



We plan to read this quickly in class to gain a full understanding of the plot and character development, before going back over to teach more thorough language analysis and exam technique.

Students should re-read the sections at home prior to the next lesson and make their own annotations on key words and images crafted by Dickens.



There are also various film productions of 'A Christmas Carol' that you can watch to support your understanding, and we recommend the 2009 Disney animated version available on Disney+ (**but this should not be a substitute for reading!**). Your English lessons will build to a full Literature Paper 1 which also includes 'Romeo and Juliet'.

Year 11 Stars

A massive well done to the following students who have received the highest number of positive points in Year 11 this half term. As Mr Danquah the 11C coach has been flooding his coaching group with positive points, giving them a slight advantage it was only fair to have a 2nd top five not including 11C.

Top 5 Student

Name	Points
Nana	82
Arta	77
Cashlina	77
Mohammed	73
Samuel	72

Top 5 Students Without 11C

Name	Points
Jayden	68
Halla	68
Nathaniel	62
Lucas Gomes	60
Eli	58

Congratulations to you all. Your hard work and drive to success has not gone unnoticed.

The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you.

Our top tips for Literature revision:

1. Start learning key quotations early - make flash cards for characters and key themes in each Literature text.
2. Use active revision strategies (don't just re-read) such as making mind-maps of key themes and characters and completing quotation explosions, alongside writing thesis statements and 3 point plans for essay questions.

3. Complete spurts of timed writing practice. Eg. Writing for 20 mins after you have planned an exam question.



For more guidance on any of the tips above please speak to your English teachers or Miss Poulton ☺

