Digital Technology & Business Department Newsletter

New Term!

Welcome to the new term! Thankfully the days are now definitely lighter and hopefully it will stop raining soon. We hope you enjoyed seeing some more examples of student work in our last newsletter based on what the students were learning last term.

What we are learning

Year 7	The students will be continue learning the different HTML tags so that they will be able to create a simple webpage about their music festival. The students will be combining different tags as well as using hexadecimal colour codes. https://www.w3schools.com/html/ has some additional information about some of the HTML tags we will be learning about.
Year 8	We will be continuing our learning about databases and setting up a flat-file database in Microsoft Access. The learners will be then interrogating the databases using a range of queries as well as exploring the use of the programming language SQL in a database.
Year 9	We will be continuing enhancing our spreadsheet skills before designing and creating a self-marking quiz in Microsoft Excel. Students will be using a range of complex formulas as well as using the programming language Visual Basic to create some automatic elements of the quiz.
Year 10 Business	Our students will be continuing with their marketing pitch for the ice cream that they designed. The students will be finishing their promotional material and then putting their presentations together.
Year 10 Dig Tech	Now both Controlled Assessments have been completed, the students will be starting to look at the different methods of Digital Communication that are used. This will include using the full range of Office software, some of which the students may be unfamiliar with.
Year 11 Business	With the Business exam on the 21st May, we will be focusing solely on revision of all the topics that will be assessed in it.
Year 11 Dig Tech	With the Digital Technology exam on the 22nd May, we will be focusing solely on revision of all the topics that will be assessed in it.

Upcoming Dates

This term we have Year 8 Progress Evening which is on the **25th April**. We hope to see as many of you as possible to discuss how your child is doing.

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In the News

The use of AI (Artificial Intelligence) has been in the news again recently with many of the big technology companies using AI in its business. One example is Microsoft who is opening a new a research and development centre to look at the use of AI in the future. The company has already invested over £790 million in AI and sees this as a developing area that will only grow over the next few years. (https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c3ger7j9vzpo)

The search engine Google has been experimenting using AI to summarise answers to questions that users have asked. Currently, this is not available to all users and has raised concerns about how many users will therefore click on the links which would have an impact on their profits. (https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-68730138)

Careers Focus

One well-known organisation that is often looking for new recruits is GCHQ. As is commonly known, the organisation helps protect the UK from cyber-attacks, terrorism and espionage through technology and technical creativity. The organisation offers summer placements and bursaries to individuals who are interested in a career with that area: https://www.gchq-careers.co.uk/our-careers/early-careers.html

Lesson 6

For our Year 10 students, there is an opportunity for them to work after school on a Tuesday and Friday in room A3 on their coursework. As we have an upcoming exams for Year 11 students, then there is the opportunity of revision sessions on a Wednesday or a Thursday in room A3.

Any other questions

If you have any questions about Digital Technology and/ or Business and would like to get in touch with the relevant teacher then please contact school:
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