



Digital Technology & Business Department Newsletter

Happy New Year

Welcome to the new term! The Christmas break has flown by and we are now starting our new term in 2024. This term is always a busy one as we continue to build on the progress from the last one. We hope you enjoyed seeing some examples of student work in our last newsletter.

What we are learning

Year 7	We will be creating our financial model for our Music Festival. Our students will be creating a complex spreadsheet that calculates their potential costs and revenue and will ultimately tell them how much their tickets need to be into to break-even.
Year 8	We are entering the world of digital animation using Blender. Students will be creating suitable 3D images and then using these to create simple animations. We are looking forward to seeing their creations.
Year 9	We have started looking at what Augmented Reality is. Now the students will be getting to grips with creating an Augmented Reality prototype using their Treasure Map from the previous topic.
Year 10 Business	Our progress continues with Ali's Ice Cream. The first piece of coursework has now been submitted to the exam board and so our attention turns to the second piece which focuses on marketing our ice creams.
Year 10 Dig Tech	With the first piece of coursework now sent to the exam board, we now need to look at gathering the necessary skills in preparation for the second piece. The students are entering the exciting world of Augmented Reality.
Year 11 Business	We have sent the second piece of coursework to the exam board. We are continuing to look at Market Research this half term (TA2 in the Specification).
Year 11 Dig Tech	We are continuing to look at Cyber-Security this half term (TA4 in the Specification) before moving onto Digital Communications (TA5 in the Specification).

Upcoming Dates

This term we have Yr 7 Parent's Evening which is on the **25th January**. We have Yr 9 Parent's Evening which is on the **8th February**. We hope to see as many of you as possible to discuss how your child is doing. We will get the results of the Business & Digital Technology coursework on the **14th March**.



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In the News

AI (Artificial Intelligence) has continued to dominate the news again. Keyboards are going to be getting a new key on all Microsoft computers. The new key will allow users to launch one of Microsoft's AI programs. To read more please go to <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-67881373> .

Also in the news is the how companies track users online. Google have announced that it is looking at how these "cookies" can be disabled.

To read more:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-67882315> (Google Chrome starts blocking data tracking cookies)

<https://www.kaspersky.com/resource-center/definitions/cookies> (What is a cookie?)

Careers Focus

One possible career that involves Digital Technology is within the video gaming industry. Video game jobs are an increasingly popular career choice. The variety of jobs in the video game industry span from marketing to computer design and jobs are constantly being created to keep up with emerging technologies. This is one of the reasons we have added Augmented Reality to our curriculum.

To find out more have a look at <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/computer-games-developer>

Lesson 6

For our Yr 10 and Yr 11 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 deadline for Yr 11 students, then attending these sessions will help improve their grade, especially if your child has missed any lessons.

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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