



Digital Technology & Business Department Newsletter

New Term!

Welcome to the new term! We are on the count-down to the start of the Year 11 exams as well as the deadline for Year 10 Controlled Assessment. This is going to be an important term for a lot of our students, with Year 9 also making their Options choices.

What we are learning

Year 7	We will be finishing our spreadsheet model with our evaluation of how effective the model works. Following this we will start exploring how HTML is used to create a simple website. Our students will be using HTML themselves to create a simple homepage before designing a website for their music festival.
Year 8	We will be finishing our how data is stored in a database as well as creating a simple database in Microsoft Access. Following this our students will then be learning about creating animations in Blender with the aim of planning and designing an animated advert.
Year 9	We will be finishing our AR prototype and then evaluating this against our class success criteria. Following this our students will then be looking at using spreadsheets in a more complex way before designing a self-marking quiz in Microsoft Excel.
Year 10 Business	Our students will be continuing with their marketing pitch for the t-shirt that they designed. The students will be finishing their promotional material and then putting their presentations together.
Year 10 Dig Tech	Intermingled with improving their first piece of Controlled Assessment, the group will be also continuing to explore the use of Human Computer Interfaces (HCI's) in a range of scenarios.
Year 11 Business	We will be focusing on improving our second piece of Controlled Assessment before turning our attention to preparing for the Business exam with intense revision of all the topics that will be assessed in it.
Year 11 Dig Tech	We will be focusing on improving our piece of Controlled Assessment before turning our attention to preparing for the Digital Technology exam with intense revision of all the topics that will be assessed in it.

Upcoming Dates

This term we have Year 10 Progress Evening which is on the **3rd 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

Last month the game The Sims turned 25! It was the computer game that nobody expected to be so successful. Computer games in various forms have a lot of impact in ways we often don't consider. The SIMS has inspired a range of other avenues in the world of virtual reality.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cj021e0y1zqo>

The flaws of relying on AI also has been in the news with Google having to edit its own advert about Gemini (the Google AI tool). The original version of the advert showed how inaccurate information can easily be found in AI generated content and highlights the need to check any facts that are used with AI.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cx2j15r1g09o>

Careers Focus

With Year 9 about to take their Options, it is important that all students are aware of what they need when considering various careers.

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-careers> is a really useful website that gives impartial advice and guidance about a vast array of careers. Regardless of whether you are choosing your Options or considering what to study once you leave school, it is best to try and be informed to the best of your ability to help with these tricky decisions.

Lesson 6

For our Year 10 and Year 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 all Controlled Assessment in Year 10 and Year 11, 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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