Blackpool Aspire Academy

Digital Technology & Business Department Newsletter

Hello!

Welcome to the new term! Whilst the days now seem shorter, our students are remaining enthusiastic about their learning. This term is a long one – 7 weeks but we hope our students maximise every lesson they have. Whilst the IT issues of last term had an impact on our planned curriculum, we did not let it stop our learning with lessons focused on more theory-based topics.

What we are learning

Year 7	We are continuing to focus on our Graphics skills and will be creating a logo for our Music Festival. Following this, we will start looking at the finances of the Music Festival by creating a spreadsheet model.
Year 8	We are continuing our look at Big Data before moving on to look at Animation where we will start using Blender for the first time. Students will create a range of 3d images and animations using this software.
Year 9	We will soon be finishing our Treasure Maps in Inkscape. We will then be starting to look at Augmented Reality and how we can make our Treasure Maps more interactive.
Year 10 Business	We will be continuing with our Market Research for our t-shirt designs before considering what our Customer Profile looks like. Following this students will be finalising their t-shirt design and calculating the finances.
Year 10 Dig Tech	We will be starting our first piece of Controlled Assessment, which is worth 30% of the final grade. Students will be planning, creating and testing a spreadsheet solution for the given scenario.
Year 11 Business	Students will be focusing on preparing for their PPE exam at the end of November with a focus on Market Research and Promotional Tools. All students have been given a revision guide to support their revision for the PPE.
Year 11 Dig Tech	Students are moving on this term to look at the role of the Human Computer Interface before revising for their PPR at the end of November. We will then be looking at issues surrounding cyber-security.

Revision

As Year 11 students in both Dig Tech and Business approach their PPE exams at the end of November, additional revision material is being added to their Google Classrooms for them to access at home. Both Year 11 Business students and Year 11 Dig Tech students have been given a revision guide. It is imperative that they revise regularly and not just the night before the exam.

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Lesson 6

For our Year 10 and Year 11 students, there is an opportunity for them to work after school on a Thursday and Friday in room A3 on their coursework. As we have an upcoming deadline for Year 10 students especially, then attending these sessions will help improve their grade, especially if your child has missed any lessons.

Upcoming Dates

This term we have Year 7 Progress Evening which is on the **14th November**. We hope to see as many of you as possible to discuss how your child is doing. Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 all have written assessments in Dig Tech towards the end of this term. These will take place in lesson and will focus on what we have been learning since September. It is important that your child is using their Golden Knowledge Organiser to be revising.

Yr 11 PPE exams will be starting on the **25th November**. It is crucial your child is busy revising for these exams.

Careers Focus

Given the increase in interest in cyber-security careers, one place to find out more is the UK Cyber Security Council at their website. Here they explain the different routes into these roles as well as information about different roles. https://www.ukcybersecuritycouncil.org.uk/careers-and-learning/cybercareer-framework/

Support

All students will have access to a range of Google Classrooms which they can log into using their Aspire accounts. Here they will find copies of the material that was used in lessons to support revision as well as other links to useful material that can be used to help with revision. In addition at Year 10 and Year 11, Lesson 6 will be available once the students have settled back in.

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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