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Dear Parent and Carers,

Curriculum News Autumn 2024

We were very pleased that in the recent survey, over 89% of parent respondents felt that the school has high expectations and 86% say that their children are doing well at the school. However, we want to improve these figures.



The survey was very helpful in highlighting a few areas we can change to ensure parents are able to be fully involved in their child's education. **One point that really stood out was the need for greater communication around what the children are learning across their subjects, and where this fits across Key Stages 3, 4 and 5.**

Over the course of the year there will be half termly information on the curriculum that gives information about how parents can support and what our students will be learning.

One of the messages we have heard, is that students want to do well, but don't necessarily have the tools or know how to revise effectively for tests. We have a comprehensive and detailed programme across Year 11 as we move students through mocks in November and then again in February in preparation for the final exams starting in May.

This year, we have introduced a new strategy across the whole school. It is called The Science of Learning and has been implemented from Year 7 all the way through to Y11 and into Sixth form. The Science of Learning aims to facilitate students working more independently and driving their own progress. It has strong links to metacognition (getting students to reflect on how and what they are learning and what their strengths and areas of development are), but also encourages a growth mindset to develop a more open and curious approach to learning.

The students have had an assembly on 'The Power of Grit and Tenacity' and how they should embrace the challenges in school and across life. The students have also had Science of Learning themes every fortnight in Form Time whereby they focus on an element of learning in detail. So far, we have covered:

- **The one about memory and forgetting**
- **The one about spacing and interleaving**
- **The one about the Dunning-Kruger effect**
- **The one about mobile phones.**

Between Mrs Young (Assistant Headteacher – Achievement) and Mrs Simpson (Head of Year 11) and I, we also create short 3-minute soundbite videos for students and parents alike. All of these alongside a guide on how to approach revision for parents is on the Kineton School website at this link: [Science of Learning - Kineton High School](#)

As a parent, we encourage you to enable the students to have a calm and dedicated working space at home for when they have homework projects or when they need a quiet space for revision. This needs to be away from distraction including TVs, games consoles and of course mobile phones. The mobile phone is best out of sight, out of mind, otherwise the students lose attention, concentration and are unable to think about the learning in a deep and meaningful way.

Thankyou for your continued support with your child's progress at Kineton. If you have any questions around learning or how students approach assessment, please do get in touch:
larners.j@stowevalley.com

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Larner', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr John Larner
Assistant Headteacher
Curriculum and Teaching & Learning