

CROFTON NEWS

JAN 2020

ISSUE 3



A Message from Mrs Lanham > > >

We are really proud at the way Year 11 students approached their mock exams last term. The vast majority showed diligence, focus and maturity in tackling all of their GCSE papers. Teachers have since given feedback to the students on how they can improve and have provided them with additional resources, which will hopefully ensure that they continue to make progress in the summer exams.

Mrs Dix, Assistant Head of Year, has worked extremely hard in developing revision resources and revision links for students; these can be found on the following link:
<https://www.croftonschool.co.uk/year11>

At this stage in Year 11, we expect students to be spending between 1 to 2 hours a night on independent studies. This may include doing homework, using the resources in the link above, exam practice or producing additional revision materials.

It is also important that students are looking after themselves. The 'Wellbeing' tab on our website offers numerous examples of healthy eating, good sleeping habits and exercising. Students have also had an opportunity to discuss progress with their tutors and have produced an individual action plan.

We look forward to continue working with you over the next few months.

*Mrs C Lanham Head of Year 11 and
Mrs G Badesha, Deputy Headteacher.*

DIARY DATES

Wednesday 15 January 2020
Year 8Y Parents' Evening

Monday 20 January 2020
Active Learner Week

Monday 27 - 30 January 2020
Year 8 Exams

Wednesday 29 January 2020
Year 11X Parents' Evening



Safeguarding Tips for Parents > > >

I hope you all had a lovely break. It may be that some of our students received new electronic devices for Christmas; below are some useful websites to help you manage their use.

Family Agreement

Some students spend as much time online and playing games as they possibly can, but this isn't practical, there has to be a balance between family and socialisation. Here is a link to a Family Agreement template from Childnet:

<https://www.childnet.com/resources/family-agreement>

Parental Controls

There are so many connected devices on the market now, each with their own unique way of setting up parental controls and restrictions. Equally the functionality of these devices can be daunting with chat, game downloads, in-app purchases, third party apps on the devices (such as social media, Netflix) etc.

I always advise parents two things. Firstly look up the device on YouTube using a simple 'how to' query, e.g. 'how to restrict in-app purchases on PlayStation 4'. Secondly, the wonderful people at Internet Matters have a one-stop shop for setting up devices which can be found here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/>

Advice by age

As well as devices, parents also need advice according to the age of their children. Again, Internet Matters has this covered for children 0-5, 6-10, 11-13 and 14+ years:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/>

Gaming

Gaming is likely to be high on the agenda for many students. CEOP have a nice, simple guide for parents:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming/>

Internet Matters also has a gaming hub which is really useful for parents; it was updated a couple of months ago and has invaluable information:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/online-gaming-advice/>

YouTube

If you haven't seen the YouTube app or site for children (<13) it's worth a look, as it is geared towards the younger viewer:

App: <https://youtube.com/kids/>

Web: <https://www.youtubekids.com/>

Social Media

Back to Internet Matters for this one; they have a really useful hub for parents which explains the risks and the benefits, along with some resources that parents can use:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/social-media-advice-hub/>

All of the advice above comes from an expert in the field of social media *Alan Mackenzie*.

I hope you find the above information useful.

Miss A Knight

Designated Safeguard Lead

Student News > > >

Reducing Plastic Waste at Crofton

In September 2019, our group took part in a global strike protesting climate change. After being recognised by the school for this, we began to work with the teachers to reduce the huge amounts of plastic waste in school. We have made a lot of progress and hope to make further changes in the future.

Climate change is an issue which affects everyone and is only getting worse, which is why something must be done about it as soon as possible. Plastic waste has proven to be one of many causes of pollution, both in the air and sea due to the copious amounts of greenhouse gases that are emitted when it is recycled or produced and that which isn't recycled is left in landfill sites or dumped in the sea to "decompose" over hundreds of years. For this reason, we need to find eco-friendly alternatives to plastic.

We have made several changes at Crofton. In the canteen, we have begun serving food in cardboard containers which can be recycled, and some items of food are sold in compost-able pots. A fruit juice dispenser has also been ordered, which will encourage students to bring their own reusable bottles to school and many more trees have been planted around the school. We also plan to purchase new bins to separate food waste from recyclable waste and hope to introduce a reusable Crofton water bottle which will be available to students when they join the school.

We look forward to having an eco-friendly school and hope that by making these changes, we inspire other schools to do the same.

Lia C, Emily E, Olivia C, Adam T and Dylan B

