

FKM/Y10Y11Geography/LH
15 June 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian

Geography update and Summer Rivers Project

Year 10 mock exam feedback

The end of Year 10 Geography mock saw most students achieving grades below those attained during the year on smaller unit assessments. This is partly because they have sat an exam paper covering a range of topics, rather than the one they have most recently studied, and partly because they are still learning the importance of revision, how to revise and how to respond to the different command words used by the exam board.

The new GCSE geography course is very challenging and the command words used in the exam are new to students and of a much higher level than we saw in the old GCSE course. Students will continue to work on their exam technique throughout Year 11 in the classroom, and we will also be offering students the opportunity to attend exam technique sessions in September and October in the run up to their November mocks, in order to support students who feel they would benefit from developing their exam technique.

In order to further support student's exam progress, we will also be **issuing an AQA workbook to all GCSE Geography students in September, at no cost to parents**. This is designed to extend their exam practice. Home learning tasks will be set from this workbook at least once a fortnight. If a student loses their workbook they will be required to purchase a new one from resources at the cost of £5. Students may also purchase a **revision guide** that goes with the workbook and covers all of the topics taught across the two year course: this is available from Longsands Resources Department, also at the cost of £5.

Summer River Landscapes Project

The new GCSE is very content-heavy and in order to cover all of the topics, students have been set a **Summer Project on River Landscapes**. They will each be given a paper copy of this activity booklet, and I have attached an electronic copy for those who prefer to work electronically. In order to complete the activities, students will need access to the internet so that they can use the online textbook (Kerboodle e-textbook). If internet is not available at home students could use their local library. Students can access the online textbook by logging into Kerboodle www.kerboodle.com/users/login (their username is their first initial and surname e.g. *asmith*; their password is the same as their username unless they have already logged in and changed it). If a student forgets their password or is having problems logging in, please email me at the address below.

It is essential that this rivers project is completed **to a high standard** and we would appreciate your support in facilitating this. Students will be reminded in their first lesson in September that the booklet needs to be completed by their first lesson in the second week back. Any student who misses this deadline will complete the work in afterschool sessions in the second and third week of term. All Year 10 students will then sit a **milestone assessment** at the end of the third week back.

This assessment will give students the opportunity to test what they have learnt over the summer and improve on the Year 10 Mock assessment grade. The assessment will cover **Coastal Landscapes** and **River Landscapes** and will include map work.

Thank you in advance for your support with this very important summer project. We wish you and your family an enjoyable summer break.

Should you have any comments or questions, please do not hesitate to email me at the address listed below.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'F McAllister', written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Mrs F McAllister
Head of Geography and Geology