



Year 11 Careers Newsletter: Friday 12th December 2025

Happy Friday, Year 11

How was your Monday? Did your results surprise you in a positive way? I hope so. Now the next stage of personalising your revision starts. Conversations with your subject teachers will have been had at the PTCE this week. Use the advice given and prioritise what needs further focus. I am aware that not all of us share the concept that putting together a revision timetable is an incredibly useful tool. As a Y11 student, I used to think that it wasn't something I would benefit from. However, when I was encouraged to put a timetable together, with the view to 'just give it a go,' the benefits outweighed my previous negative ideas. I struggled with one particular subject and so had all good intentions of revising for it more than any other. Unsurprisingly, I kept moving my good intention to the next day and then when the next day came, I moved it to the next day. The Spanish saying: "Mañana," "Tomorrow, tomorrow", never actually comes. Therefore, a revision timetable where I needed to think carefully about what I needed to prioritise, required me to tick off what I had revised as I went along, gave me a really visual prompt to ensure I was doing what I needed. So, just give it a go, because 'mañana' never comes!

This week started with some incredible career news. As I am sure you are aware, one of our Y11 students was accepted to study A-Levels at one of the most prestigious schools in the country – Shrewsbury School. Former students, Charles Darwin and Michael Palin, were boarders at this Shropshire school. Interviews, entrance exams, references and a formal dinner were part of the application process, all while preparing for GCSE exams. Look out for the whole school Christmas newsletter for a full account.

On the subject of post-16 pathway applications, colleges and training providers like to have the end of this term as a date for them to have been received. From the career appointments and the many 'corridor conversations' and lunchtime drop-in sessions, many of you have met this deadline. Well done! However, if you have yet to apply, make it a priority. You may be undecided as to where and what you want to study, so the advice is to make your applications anyway. At least then you are in the 'college system.' When it comes to attending your college interview, you can then discuss your course choices. Nothing is set in stone at this point. The main thing is to apply. Open events resume after Christmas. I am very surprised and concerned that a significant number of Y11 have not attended any Open events. If you apply and do not actually go to see what the college is like, this is like buying a car without seeing it first. Exactly – you wouldn't do it. You could end up with Del Boy's yellow van! Need I say more?

Finally, I do hope that the Careers Convention offered you the opportunity to clarify any questions you may have of the courses you have, or intend to, apply. Staffordshire University and post-18 apprenticeship providers also attended. This offered you the opportunity to look ahead to where you want your post-16 choices to take you. As a rural school, it isn't easy to get employers to travel to such events. Also, employers are so busy at this time of year and if they are a sole trader, this also makes it more of a challenge to encourage them to participate. Therefore, I apologise if the career pathway of choice for you wasn't represented, I am sure you will understand why.

Year 11, enjoy your weekend.

Mrs Griffiths-Jones