

**#TeamVarndean Year 11 Newsletter 5**  
**4th April 2022**



Welcome to #TeamVarndean

Dear Year 11

Firstly, I wanted to say thank you and well done for your patience, hard work and determination with so many of your teachers absent from school at the moment. We know this can be tricky when revising and we are looking at further opportunities after Easter to support your revision. As we head into the Easter holidays, it is important to think about how you intend to use the time you have so that you have some time for relaxation and some time for revision. This is the last holiday before the exam so discuss with your tutor, academic mentor or someone at home how you should organise your time so you feel equally refreshed ready for the exam season and prepared for the exams ahead.

We continue to all be impressed with your attitudes - well done!

Mrs. Baker

**Message from the Head of Ellis School to Ellis Year 11**

As the year has progressed we have continued to be so proud of your progress, diligence, positivity and support for each other in Ellis. Ms Corken, Mr Herbert and Mr Thomas and Ellis team could not be prouder of you. The community feel that you have, as a year group, is something very special. This is even more special following the testing times of covid that you have been through. Remember those days of online form time and quizzes etc? I'm also super proud of the work that many of you have supported as Senior Students in all areas. You have achieved so much such as supporting year 7 and their transition to Varndean, assemblies, charity and also working with staff and teachers to make our school the best it can be.

I sincerely believe that the future is very bright for #EllisTeam11. Most of your college places are in place and it's so exciting to hear of the next steps for you. However, I must mention my two proudest moments so far this year. Without doubt the first is "Les Mis"! What a magical array of singing and dramatic purple talent-Ellis were a foundation of the main performances. Secondly the work that you did to contribute towards our charity events. This was such a boost for our Ellis community.

So, we hope that you are excited about the opportunities and next steps ahead for you, I know Team Ellis are. It will be great to see you at the Prom and wearing your hoodies next term. It will be a challenging summer term with your exams starting, but you are ready for this. Use the remaining time to work on your exam technique, make the most of revision sessions and plan to succeed. Its all about "Finishing Strong " Ellis11. If there is anything that you think your tutors or School base can do further to support you please let us know.

Ms Knights

**Message from the Head of Russell School**

Dear Year 11,

It still feels very surreal writing to you as Year 11s, your fifth and final year at Varndean, it really feels like only yesterday you began your journey here and what a journey it has been...

I am immensely proud of you all. Not only for the resilience you have shown but for the positive can-do attitude you consistently apply - I could not have asked for better role models for the rest of Russell School than you all are.

SO, now more than ever is the time to apply yourself fully, every day counts and every lesson matters. There is so much on offer to support you through your final stage at Varndean, please use this and if you are unsure of what to do you only have to ask.

Prom and a loooong summer is just around the corner and what better way to enjoy this than knowing you gave your GCSEs your best.

Make the proudest person of you, you.

Miss. Holder

### Message from the Head of Angelou School

Dear Year 11

It seems like yesterday when I first started at Varndean and you were little Year 8s. You made me feel so welcome and proud to be a member of the Varndean community and for that I will forever hold a piece of you in my heart.

I am so proud of the mature, resilient, kind, strong and inspirational individuals you have all become. By far the best Year 11 students I have had the privilege of working with and I will miss you dearly.

To our student leaders - what a job you have done. Not only raising the bar for student leadership at Varndean, but you have pushed Angelou and Varndean to new heights. Well done and thank you for all your commitment, hard work and vision.

You have all been a pinnacle piece in the journey Angelou School has been on and have been at the centre of driving this school base forward to where we are today. I thank you all for this.

You have been hit so hard by all the lockdowns and Covid issues, but yet, as our very own Maya once said, you 'still rise'.

I sincerely hope you all receive those grades you deserve and I wish you the most successful lives, careers and happiness.

From everyone in Team Green, good luck and come and visit us.

See you at prom.

Mr Whiteman

### Message from the Head of Turing School

Dear Year 11,

Firstly, as your Head of School I just wanted to say how you continue to impress me daily and I am extremely proud of Turing Year 11.

For most of you who joined Varndean from the start of Year 7 you may remember your 'Transition Day', the day where you started Varndean life and when you first became a part of Turing School. There is no denying that a lot has happened since then, some brilliant memories made and some challenging times

overcome - your resilience through it all is incredible. I am sure, as our Varndean butterfly says, you will leave here self assured, high achieving and have the ability to make a profound difference in the lives of others.

I wish you all the best of luck in whatever path you choose to take.

Be good and take care,

Mr Roberts

### Mathematics Department Advice for Year 11

- ★ Participate fully in class by listening to the teacher, attempt all tasks given, ask for help when needed and write down key points to support recall
- ★ Attend after school mathematics support sessions which run daily. You can go to these after going to another subject first, so they are always available to you.

#### **Continue to use a studying routine**

Active recall:

- Flashcards
- Exam style questions

#### **GCSE Maths Revision 2022 - Corbettmaths**

Spaced revision:

- Visual representations: placing notes in the room on the walls
- Using videos to help with the visualisation

#### **Maths Genie • Edexcel GCSE May June 2022 Foundation Revision Topics**

#### **Maths Genie • Edexcel GCSE May June 2022 Higher Revision Topics**

The biggest tip is to be prepared.

- ★ Review basics like times tables to ensure you're quick and efficient when completing non-calculator questions
- ★ Know basics: prime numbers, square numbers, factors and multiples
- ★ Practise using your calculator and know where all of the buttons are that you need to use, including second function buttons

### Safeguarding

Please direct any safeguarding concerns to...

**Designated Safeguarding Lead:** Sara Connolly

**Safeguarding Officer:** Kerry Tester

Using the email - [safeguarding@varndean.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@varndean.co.uk)

We encourage you to contact safeguarding, tutors or school bases to let us know if there is a concern you have or challenges you are facing that might be impacting on your emotional regulation in school.

We also have a worried button on our website where you can report concerns anonymously. These

concerns may be for another student or for reporting 'intelligence' relating to safeguarding children at Vardean School



Our 'worried' button looks like this and can be found at the [top of our homepage](#). You also have a worried button on your homepage for letting us know about concerns, but are finding it hard to talk directly to someone.

Sara Connolly  
[saraconnolly@vardean.co.uk](mailto:saraconnolly@vardean.co.uk)

### **Wellbeing and Support**

Information on several places that can offer support: <https://www.vardean.co.uk/familieswellbeing>