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Dear Parent/Guardian

We wrote to you earlier in the year to let you know that we are introducing some more formal exams for students in years 7, 8 and 9 starting from January 2015.

From **Monday 1st June to Tuesday 9th June 2015**, there will be End of Year exams in English, Maths, Science, Languages, History and Geography.

As with the January exams, and depending on the year group and subject, these exams will be between 45 and 90 minutes long (sometimes in two separate papers) and on this occasion the exams will take place in the Sportshall with the whole year sitting the exam at the same time. As per the January exams, we will send you a report with the percentage marks gained by your child in these exams, along with the percentage needed to be achieved in order to be in the top ten percent of the year group. In Year 9, as explained in the letter sent before the Parents' evening, the Science exams will be the principal data used in selecting the top 60 scientists to study the Triple Science GCSE course. The majority of students will study the Double Science GCSE course.

The purpose of these exams is twofold. Firstly, it is to facilitate accurate assessment of student progress and attainment in order to inform parents, students and teachers. Secondly, it is to help prepare students for exams further up the school.

It is important to note that, whilst we expect students to take the exams seriously and want them to spend some time revising (one of the key benefits will be that they allow students to practise the skill of revision), we do not want them to cause any unnecessary stress for students or families. The exams are for our own internal purposes only and have no bearing on future performance in public examinations.

The exam timetable is attached.

As with the exams earlier in the year, details about the content and format of these exams will be issued by class teachers and will also be available on the school website, along with revision materials this week. If you have any further questions about this, or any other related issue, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mrs F Lewis
Assistant Headteacher

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