



Our Overview newsletters contain the key information you'll need each term.

Briefing on curriculum content, extra-curricular opportunities, current school messages and more, parents and carers can use this outline to support students and help them succeed at school.

Learning

ENGLISH:

Non-Fiction Reading

Students will learn to compare the content, and the attitudes, of two non-fiction texts, in preparation for English Language Paper 2. They will learn strategies for approaching nineteenth century non-fiction.

MATHS:

Individual class focus for this term, in conjunction with wider revision work in relation to the Year 10 exams:

- **Mr Poolman's, Mr Smytheman's and Mr Whitley's classes:** Angles, Algebra skills
- **Mrs Payne & Miss Morgan's class:** Sequences and graphs, Congruence and similarity
- **Miss Keeble's class:** 3D shapes, revisiting and building on work from KS3

SCIENCE:

Triple Science

In **Biology**, students will study the topic of photosynthesis and then move on to look at respiration. They will focus on the importance of this reaction, both aerobic and anaerobic, for organisms as a whole and the impact exercise has on the body.

In **Chemistry**, students will study crude oil and fuels. They will look at how crude oil is separated into useful fractions and look at different hydrocarbon molecules and their properties.

In **Physics**, students will be studying atomic structure, looking at the properties and dangers associated with nuclear radiation, and the use of radioactivity in industry and medicine. They will also study the nuclear reactions of fission and fusion.

Combined Science

In Combined Science, students will study a **Biology** topic looking at respiration, both aerobic and anaerobic, and the effect of exercise on the body. They will also study a **Physics** topic focused on atomic structure, looking at the properties and dangers associated with nuclear radiation, and the use of radioactivity in industry and medicine.

Core PE:

Students will be working in competitive and semi competitive situations. Some students use the time to develop their confidence in their GCSE PE practical areas and others participate in a more recreational but purposeful way. Our 'healthy active lifestyles' motto remains at the core of everything we do.

PSHE:

In PSHE, we will explore a comprehensive *Healthy Me* programme that equips individuals with the knowledge and skills to make informed decisions about their physical and mental health. Covering a range of topics from understanding health risks to the importance of safe sexual practices and mental wellbeing, this term's PSHE topic is designed to empower pupils with strategies for preventing lifestyle-related illnesses and promoting overall health.

For a full breakdown of subject curriculum content, please visit the [Curriculum Maps](#) page on our school website.

Aspiration

MOCK EXAMINATIONS

At the end of this term, Year 10 students will take their first full set of GCSE mock exams. This is an exciting checkpoint for students to see how they are doing in their GCSE courses and contributes significantly towards teachers' GCSE predictions. Exam timetables have been given to students and electronic copies are available on [My Child at School](#). Revision resources & specific guidance from subjects can be found on the school website, on the following link: <https://www.fitzharrys.oxon.sch.uk/students/revision/>

SENECA

If you have not already done so, we encourage all parents to sign up to SENECA Learning to support your child's homework and revision; emails have been sent to those not yet signed up.

KS4 students have access to the premium package which includes some extra GCSE revision resources. KS3 students have access to a full suite of revision and homework activities for all subjects. Students in all year groups are regularly recognised for their SENECA Learning use. This [parent guide](#) has details on how to support your child with SENECA.

Opportunity

CAREERS FAIR

We are hosting a [Careers Fair](#) during the school day on Tuesday 5th March, open to all students. Parents are invited to visit from 3.30-4.30pm. A variety of employers will attend. Students will have the opportunity to speak to employers about their business and potential job roles, apprenticeships and routes into employment and training.

SHREK: THE MUSICAL

Our student performers and backstage crew have been working hard on rehearsals for [Shrek the Musical!](#) Evening performances will take place on Thursday 14th and Friday 15th March; doors 6.30pm, with curtain up at 7pm. Refreshments will be available on the night. Tickets cost £5.00 each and should be available via [ParentMail](#) from Thursday 23rd February.

KS4 BINGO & GAMES NIGHT

Our next Key Stage 4 wellbeing event is a Bingo & Games Night which will be held on Wednesday 27th March, expected start time 3.45pm (exact timings to be confirmed). Save the date! More details will follow later this term.

Integrity

EXAM PREPARATION: PENCIL CASES

As we move swiftly towards Year 10's first GCSE mock exam experience, it is essential that students are exam-ready with the correct items. Students must have a clear pencil case which includes the following equipment:

- *At least 2 black pens*
 - *Rubber*
 - *Compass*
 - *Pencil*
 - *Ruler (15cm is sufficient)*
 - *Scientific calculator*
 - *Sharpener (unless pencil is mechanical)*
 - *Protractor*
- Recommended model:*
Casio FX-83GTCW

If you need any support with this, please contact your child's tutor.

COMIC RELIEF: RED NOSE DAY

There will be a non-school uniform day on Friday 17th March in aid of Comic Relief. Suggested donation is £1 (with the option to donate more) and will be collected online via [ParentMail](#) in the usual way in due course. Tutor groups will also be encouraged to plan fundraising events they can run themselves in school on the day, to further support fundraising efforts. Please do encourage your child to share any fundraising ideas they have with their tutor.

FSA JUMBLE SALE UPDATE

A big thank you to all who supported the FSA Giant Jumble Sale last month; a whopping £2158.55 was raised!

Key Contacts

Head of Key Stage 4: **Mr M O'Neill**
KS4 Student Wellbeing Manager: **Miss R David**
Assistant Head, Personal Development: **Mr T Edwards**

Useful Links

School Website: [Careers pages](#) and [Exams Office](#)
Revision Resources [Padlet](#)
Post-16 Choices [Padlet](#)
Adviza Careers [Portal](#)

Key Dates

Monday 26th February, 1-3pm

Thursday 29th February

Tuesday 5th March

Sunday 10th March, 10am-3pm

Tuesday 12th March (school hours)

Wednesday 13th March, 2pm

Thursday 14th – Friday 15th March, 7pm

Friday 15th March

Monday 18th March

Monday 18th – Friday 29th March

Monday 25th March, 3.45pm (times TBC)

Thursday 28th March, 1.10pm finish

Friday 29th March – Friday 12th April

Monday 15th April

Year 10 Abingdon Schools' Young Adult Book Awards Quiz at Radley College (selected students only)

Year 10 Apprenticeship assembly

Careers Fair – all years – open to parents 3.30-4.30pm

Shrek: Sunday Dress Rehearsal – whole cast & crew

Shrek: All day rehearsal

Shrek: Matinee performance for primary school pupils

Shrek: Evening performances

Comic Relief: Red Nose Day – Non School Uniform Day

Year 8 – Year 11 HPV vaccination catchup (some students only)

Year 10 Mock Exams

KS4 Bingo & Games Night

End of term

EASTER HOLIDAY

Term 5 begins

News

School Website: [Home page](#)

Facebook: [@fitzharrysschool](#)

Instagram: [fitzharrys](#)

X: [@fitzharrys](#)

Queries

If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to [contact](#) the school.

Main school office email: office.4127@fitzharrys.school

Phone: **01235 520698**