



The professional development of our staff is always a key priority for us at St Catherine's College. It is important that our teachers are fully up-to-date with current thinking about how children learn and how they make good progress. We have recently had a number of staff training events that have focused on these key areas.

As part of this training, we have been reviewing our curriculum across all subject areas. We have been looking at the topics that are taught in each subject, making sure that our pupils are developing a deep body of knowledge in Key Stage 3 that will prepare them well for the demands of Key Stage 4. These updated curriculum plans will be available on our website soon. We have been making sure that everything that we teach the pupils is aspirational and challenging. There has also been a real emphasis on making sure that what is taught has been moved into the long term memory, and can therefore be retrieved at a later date.

Current research tells us that there are a number of ways that we can ensure that learning 'sticks' over time. Below are two examples that we have looked at with staff. We thought it might be useful to share these with parents too:

- **Spaced Practice:** Make sure that your child spaces out his/her revision before any sort of test. Spaced practice is the exact opposite of cramming. When you cram, you study for a long, intense period of time close to an exam. When you space your learning, you take that same amount of study time, and spread it out across a much longer period of time. Doing it this way, that same amount of study time will produce more long-lasting learning. For example, five hours spread out over two weeks is better than the same five hours right before the exam.
- **Retrieval Practice:** A while after your child has learned something by reading it in a book or hearing it in a class from a teacher, he/she needs to bring it to mind (or "retrieve" it). The word 'after' is really important; you need to wait for a period of time after the learning has taken place in order for retrieval to be effective! You could ask your child to make use of the retrieval

ideas on page 2 to see how much they can remember about a particular topic.

Sophie Thomas
Deputy Headteacher

SOUTH DOWNS DARK SKIES FESTIVAL 2019
Friday 15 February - Sunday 3 March

The South Downs National Park is hosting a Dark Skies Festival with activities and events taking place across the National Park on the above dates. There will be two weeks of cosmic fun with star parties, talks and family activities. Follow the link below for more information:

www.southdowns.gov.uk/darkskiesfestival

TOP HOUSE POINT ACHIEVERS

Year 7

Amberley Connor **355**
Chiamaka Nnamuka **336**
Isabelle Steer **332**
Ella Kendall **304**
Emily Dicker **299**

Year 8

Gurleen Kaur **370**
Ty Bewick **340**
Elizabeth Finn **339**
Toby Battershill **337**
Hannah Jeanes **330**

Year 9

Berrie Robertson **321**
Amber Matthews **294**
Sophia Pawley **284**
Joshua Caper **281**
Amber Davies **279**

Year 10

Lois Hilton **322**
Alice King **306**
Katherine Pawley **296**
Hannah Cheeseman **294**
Mia Lozinski **282**

Year 11

Millie-Louise Thomas **506**
Philippa Jewell **440**
Evie Loose **439**
Hannah Payne **402**
Jessie Oliver **396**



4 Methods of Retrieval Practice

@ImpactWales - <https://www.impact.wales/>

Before you start put away all your books & classroom materials.

QUIZZING

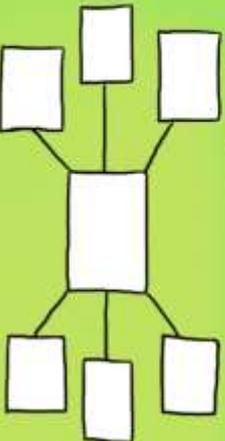
Create practice questions on a topic. Swap your questions with a partner & answer.

Question - What is a metaphor?

- A comparison using 'like, as, than'
- A comparison where one thing is another.
- A comparison with a human attribute.

BRAIN DUMP

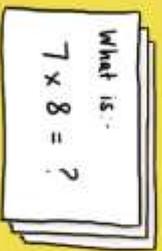
Write, draw a picture, create a mind-map on everything you know about a topic.



Give yourself a time limit. Say 3 minutes. then have a look at your books & add a few things you forgot.

FLASHCARDS

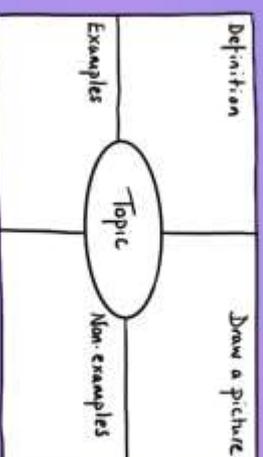
Create your own flashcards, question on one side answer on the other. Can you make links between the cards?



You need to repeat the Q&A process for flashcards you fail on more frequently & less frequently for those you answer correctly

KNOWLEDGE ORGANISERS

Complete a knowledge organiser template for key information about a topic.



You can use knowledge organisers to learn new words & make links in between subjects or ideas.

After you have retrieved as much as you can go back to your books & check what you've missed. Next time focus on that missing information

CHINESE NEW YEAR EXTRAVAGANZA

Last week, to celebrate the successful running of Mandarin at St Catherine's College and Chinese New Year 2019, we held a Chinese New Year Extravaganza. The show was a colourful display of Chinese cultural tradition and we were very lucky to have the Goldsmith's Dance Team showcasing an amazing Chinese performance. Our Year 7 MEP pupils peaked the evening with a stunning dance. It was a perfect evening for the 200 plus guests who attended!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

February

- 13 Y11 Parents' Evening, 3.30pm - 7.00pm
- 14-20 Gambia Trip
- 15 Last Day of Term 3
- 25 First Day of Term 4
- 25 Y9 & Y11 Assessment Fortnight begins

March

- 12 Y8 Parents' Evening, 3.30pm - 7.00pm
- 13 Y9 Booster Vaccinations
- 19 Y7 Parents' Evening, 3.30pm - 7.00pm

April

- 4 Y11 Photos
- 4 Y9 Parents' Evening, 3.30pm - 7.00pm
- 5 Last Day of Term 4
- 23 First Day of Term 5
- 24 Y10 Parents' Evening, 3.30pm - 7.00pm
- 29 Y8 & Y10 Assessment Fortnight begins

May

- 13 Y7 & Y9 Assessment Fortnight begins
- 20 Y8 HPV Immunisations
- 24 Last Day of Term 5

June

- 3 First Day of Term 6
- 14 Town Sports
- 17-21 Y10 Work Experience Week

July

- 1-4 Y8 Bushcraft Camp Trip
- 1 Y6 Familiarisation Day
- 2 Y6 Taster Day
- 12 Sports Day
- 23 Last Day of Term 6



EXAMINATION PROTOCOL AND INFORMATION

Please note the following for all exams, whether mock or final:

- Morning exams start at 9.00am, afternoon exams start at 2.00pm
- Pupils should meet for their exam 15 minutes prior to the published start time
- Pupils are reminded to look at the Yellow Bulletin where they will be advised of where to meet for their exam
- All equipment is provided
- Pupils should arrive in full school uniform to sit exams
- Any pupil arriving late to an exam may be refused entry

Exam Boards and Exam Timetables are on our website:
<http://www.stcatherines.college/page/?title=Exam+Timetables+%2F+Info&pid=28>

SITUATIONS VACANT

Higher Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA)

£22,515 - £24,319 pa pro rata

Up to 35 hours per week - term time only

Closing date: 12 noon, Wednesday 27 February 2019

We are looking for an outstanding qualified HLTA to contribute to a wide range of teaching and learning activities, and to assist and support the work of qualified teachers within the Maths Department. The post holder will also support our SENCO in the line management of other teaching assistants. Applicants who do not hold the HLTA qualification will not be considered for this post.

Examination Invigilators / Scribes and Readers

£8.83 per hour (NJC Grade 2)

We require a number of additional examination invigilators and scribes and readers to support pupils during their exams, ensuring that all JCQ regulatory requirements for the conduct of examinations are strictly adhered to.

A Scribe is a person who in an examination writes or word processes a pupil's dictated answers to questions. Ideally, Scribes need to be familiar with the subject area and terminology and to have neat and legible handwriting.

For further information on the above posts, please contact Mrs Sandie Windsor, Head of Personnel, 465469 / swindsor@stcatherines.college