

28<sup>th</sup> September 2011

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am writing to you at an important time with respect to your son's GCSE Mathematics course. Your son will already have received his Year 10 Unit 1 and Unit 2 Module results, weighted as 60% of his GCSE grade. The remaining 40% will be examined in Unit 3 which is scheduled for June 2012.

In November 2011, your son will be sitting the 'Linear' paper and will be awarded a full GCSE grade. A resit of this paper is also available in March 2012, however, I do urge your son to prepare fully for the November 2011 exam in order to maximise his chances of achieving his target grade.

The dates for the linear paper are as follows:

- Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2011 – afternoon exam
- Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2011 – morning exam

It is important to ensure that medical appointments and any other engagements are not arranged for this day. If your son fails to show up for this exam a medical certificate to cover his absence on that day will be required.

As you will appreciate, this term is a crucial period of study and it is important that your son is adequately prepared for his Maths lessons and also motivated to work as hard as he can.

The Maths Department has worked hard to put in place a variety of strategies to prepare your son for the November exam that I would like to highlight to you:

- [www.mymaths.co.uk](http://www.mymaths.co.uk)  
'My Maths' offers personalised learning with exercises dedicated to targeting specific topics, specific levels and tests with automated marking and feedback. Your son will have been supplied with an individual logon which enables him to access a wealth of resources. If the logon details have been mislaid, please ask your son to see his Maths teacher for a replacement as soon as possible. The generic logon can also be used:

Username: hurstmere

Password: forty

- Past Exam Papers  
These can be accessed and downloaded directly from Fronter or from the Edexcel website:  
[www.edexcel.com](http://www.edexcel.com)

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One of the best ways to prepare for a Maths exam is to practise answering exam questions. These should be attempted initially without the aid of revision books or class notes, noting any questions or topics that have caused difficulty. A mark scheme can also be downloaded for each exam paper.

- **Revision Books**

The Department has pre-purchased copies of the updated Revision Guides and Workbooks and are available at the discounted rate of £5.50.

- **After School Support/Revision Classes**

We invite students to attend weekly Support/Revision Classes, beginning on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2011 with Mr. Brazier. The sessions will be 1 hour long and students will be required to bring work that they need help with.

- **Maths Watch**

The department has bought the licence for 'Maths Watch' which is an online revision guide that will be uploaded on the school website by next week.

I warmly welcome any support and encouragement you can offer your son to ensure he has a strong start to his Year 11 GCSE Mathematics course. However, I would also want to stress that whilst we offer help and assistance, the onus is on your son to revise and work hard in their own time.

If you have any questions regarding your son's GCSE Maths course, please do not hesitate to contact me or Mr Brazier (Head of Mathematics).

Yours sincerely,



**Mrs L. Davis**  
**Assistant Headteacher**