



11 February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As we reach a very much needed half term break, I am writing to thank you for all your support with remote learning. It is important that time is now taken to relax and take time away from a screen.

I have received communication from several parents asking whether their child needs to catch up missed work over the half term break. I therefore thought it would be good to share our response to this. All the work that students have been completing forms part of the work that would have been taught in the classroom. We have therefore been encouraging students to follow their timetables and attempt all the work that has been set, submitting work after 50 minutes. If your child has a lot of work they have not completed and it is possible to spend some time at half term completing and submitting this work, this will support your child to make greater progress. However, all children, regardless of the amount of work they have completed, need some break from school work and no child should be working all through half term.

If you are unsure about whether your child has work that has not been submitted, you can check this on Satchel One. You will only be able to do this on a desktop version of Satchel and not on the app on your mobile phone. If you look at your child's version of Satchel, you will see that they have the facility to tick off work they have completed. The version you need to look at is called 'grade book' and this is shown as an option in the list on the left-hand side of the screen.

We are conscious that when we are in school, at the end of every module, teachers carry out a variety of activities that help them to identify if there is any element of the knowledge or skills that have been taught that has not been fully understood. At the end of a module of work it is also the opportunity to push those students who can take their learning further to do so. To achieve this, in the week after half term, lessons will continue in the same way, but in most subjects, it will certainly feel to students that they are being asked to retrieve knowledge and practise the skills from this half term and extend their learning, which will further support their examination subjects.

This may include preparing revision materials such as flashcards, working on past examination questions to improve their technique, or reviewing previous topic areas. As mentioned previously, students must keep submitting their work to the highest possible standard, submitting it on time, responding to any feedback given by their teachers, and attending all live lessons. This will ensure the firm foundation of knowledge they have acquired continues to be built upon into the next term.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if support or help is needed with any aspect of your child's learning.

Yours sincerely

Mark Taylor

ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER

DIRECTOR OF LEARNING, ATTAINMENT AND PROGRESS FOR YEARS 10 & 11

MATaylor@plymstockschool.org.uk

