



Smithdon High School
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Re: SRo/LT

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Dear Parents

This term sees the launch of our brand new Knowledge Organiser booklets. A new booklet will be issued to your child at the beginning of each term up to the end of Year 9. As they are issued, all the booklets will be made available on our school website, which means that should you need an additional copy, you will be able to print them out.

There are two key reasons for launching these booklets:

1 – Because the booklets contain the core knowledge for all of their subjects, studying and learning this content will help them to learn and understand what is being taught in their lessons. This works on the principle of 'sticky' knowledge – the more they know and can recall, the better the new knowledge will 'stick'.

2 – The booklets, alongside regular reading and the completion of maths tasks, will provide the opportunity to develop a regular pattern of independent study, encouraging our students to develop good study habits.

Studying this core knowledge will form the main part of your child's homework. Your child is expected to spend around an hour every school day studying one to two subjects. There is a homework log included on pages 6 and 7 for your child to record the subjects they have studied each day. There is also a space for you to sign so that you can keep track of what your child is studying. This should help your child to spend time studying all of their subjects, not just their favourites. On pages 3, 4 and 5 you will find lots of ideas about how to study and how to test their recall of this knowledge. Please have a look through with your child and see which methods you can use together.

Subject teachers will be testing their students on their recall and understanding of their subject knowledge and this is how we will monitor the progress each child is making.

Alongside the booklets, your child will be expected to read regularly; they can keep track of this using the reading log in the booklet. They will also be set tasks to complete on the Hegarty maths website. Other subjects will set a limited amount of homework when it is appropriate and necessary.

Please feel free to contact me on the email address below should you have any comments or queries.

Yours sincerely

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