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Dear Parents/Guardians

A Level Chemistry

Students will be receiving their exam results this week. These results along with the in year assessments provide us with evidence on which to base predicted grades for UCAS, apprenticeships or job references. We will not decide upon these predicted grades until the autumn term, work undertaken during the rest of this term and start of Yr13 will also guide us with these decisions.

The linear A Level is assessed by way of three papers at the end of Yr13 and our experience of teaching linear courses suggests that those students who start Yr13 with a thorough understanding of the work undertaken in Yr12 are more likely to achieve well in the terminal A Level examinations. The work covered in Yr13 builds upon the Yr12 studies so having a solid grasp of the Yr12 work provides a foundation on which further knowledge and understanding can be built upon. Some students would be wise to strengthen this foundation.

Where additional focus is required the list below gives a range of activities and resources which will be useful:

- If students did not undertake the past AS papers in preparation for their Yr12 exams then these papers could be undertaken and marked. These can be found here: <https://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/as-and-a-level/chemistry-a-h032-h432-from-2015/assessment/#as-level>
- The textbook is excellent - this should be the key resource used - go over the work undertaken this year, make notes where understanding needs to be improved using the textbook. Undertake and mark the summary questions and end of chapter questions.

The end of chapter questions markschemes are here:

<https://global.oup.com/education/content/secondary/series/ocr-a-level-sciences/alevel-sciences-for-OCR-student-book-answers/?region=uk>

- The workbook published by Pearson. 'Revise OCR AS/A Level Chemistry Revision Workbook' ISBN 9781447984320 is a good resource which students have found very helpful in previous years. These books are aimed at enabling students to consolidate the majority of their studies, rather than providing the stretch and challenge material that is required for those hoping to achieve an A* result.
- For students needing to improve their abilities with Chemistry calculations then this book is terrific having worked examples with further practice questions: Calculations in AS / A Level Chemistry by Jim Clarke

- The 'Independent study guides' and the SWGS F321 and F322 past papers could be used to practice exam technique – These can all be found on the website: <http://www.bws-school.org.uk/Curriculum-Exams/Science/Files/Y12Files/>
- BoomerChemistry online tutorials. A tutorial programme with videos, quizzes, notes and exam style questions with answers – The first year course comes at a cost of £29 each. A Review in 'Education in Chemistry' and from students who have used this resources have been positive. <http://www.boomerchemistry.com/>

Over the summer we will be asking all students to consolidate their understanding of Yr12 organic Chemistry by completing the 'Preparing for Yr13 Organic' study guide which can be found in the Yr13 file area: <http://www.bws-school.org.uk/Curriculum-Exams/Science/Files/Y13Files/>. They should also prepare for the Yr13 Transition Metal topic by reading pages 54-58 of the textbook and going through the relevant section of the 'Electron configuration and Periodicity' Independent Study found here: <http://www.bws-school.org.uk/Curriculum-Exams/Science/Files/Y12Files/>

Yours sincerely



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