



## MTT Newsletter August Update

**9<sup>th</sup> August**

Please see the following updates

### New Mock Test Dates (VR & Maths)

**Sept 26<sup>th</sup> / Oct 10<sup>th</sup> AM & PM sessions (Ticket will be available from Tues 11<sup>th</sup> Aug)**

Following the news that the SW Herts Consortium are moving their test dates from September to a date either before or after the October half term, we are pleased to advise we have now added additional mock test dates.

Initially we have added 2 additional dates, the 26<sup>th</sup> Sept and 10<sup>th</sup> Oct, both morning (10am) and afternoon (3.30pm)

### Spaces now available – 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>

There are now spaces available on the 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> August.

**New Mindfulness Awareness will now be included in each test. These include breathing and calming techniques to help students compose themselves if they start to feel anxious during the test.**

### New Mock Music Dates

**Sept 26<sup>th</sup> / Oct 10<sup>th</sup> 1.30pm**

Initially we have added 2 additional dates, the 26<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Oct, at 1.30pm

### Spaces now available – 22<sup>nd</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>

Unlike the academic tests, Music requires a high level of concentration and ability to focus. Attending these sessions helps children overcome their nerves, but importantly they also learn to block out distractions around them. As these are now LIVE in the hall, this offers an excellent opportunity.

### Revision & Preparation

Regarding the Revision and Preparation, at this time it is not possible to state when these will take place until the SW Herts Consortium confirm their dates.

We will endeavour to add further dates to our schedule once these dates are made public.

## Queens Sports Awareness Test – One Off Event

**17<sup>th</sup> August 10.30am – 12.30pm – Queens' School**

To help support students who have registered to take the Queens Sports Test, we are running a One-Off outdoor event at Queens School. Supported by ex Queens Sports students these sessions have proved an invaluable insight to how the actual sports test is run, our sports leaders offer tips and advice on each of the activities.

Students safety is our primary responsibility. Social distancing will be adhered to and equipment will be hygienically cleaned after each use.

## Year 5/ 6 Maths - **Not 11+**, this is back to school prep

As highlighted in the news, Year 5 children missed the whole Summer Term of maths so need support to catch up.

As teachers, we are passionate about Maths and want to help support children who are about to go into Year 6 in September by offering 4 days of Maths Catch up.

Conducted by our primary maths specialist, these classes not only cover the main areas of maths, but also give children the opportunity to get back in the classroom with other children, in a school environment, preparing them to go back to school in September.

## Please don't leave it too late

This may sound like a sales pitch, but as parents ourselves and with 6 years of experience, our advice is, please don't leave it too late to give your child the experience of sitting a mock test.

Research has shown that students can underperform by 20% when sitting their first test. This is a combination of being in a strange environment, listening to instructions, nerves, and anxiety.

This year some year 5 students have not been in school since March, and we have seen those attending summer school have **blossomed by being back in a classroom** and in a school environment.

Every year we have parents say, **"We wish we had found you sooner"**. Whilst we understand that some parents believe it is best to wait to nearer the actual test so their child can have done all the studying necessary, we have found that leaving children to just attend one Mock Test at the very last minute has often had detrimental effects.

Children can underperform which may result in their confidence being lowered. Now, more than ever, parents have an opportunity to give their children the chance to benefit from our advice.

Yes we are running a business but as our mantra says, **"When a helping hand is all you need"**, is even more important this year, we wish to reassure you that we want to support you and your child through this process.

## Mock Transfer Tests

*When a helping hand is all you need.*