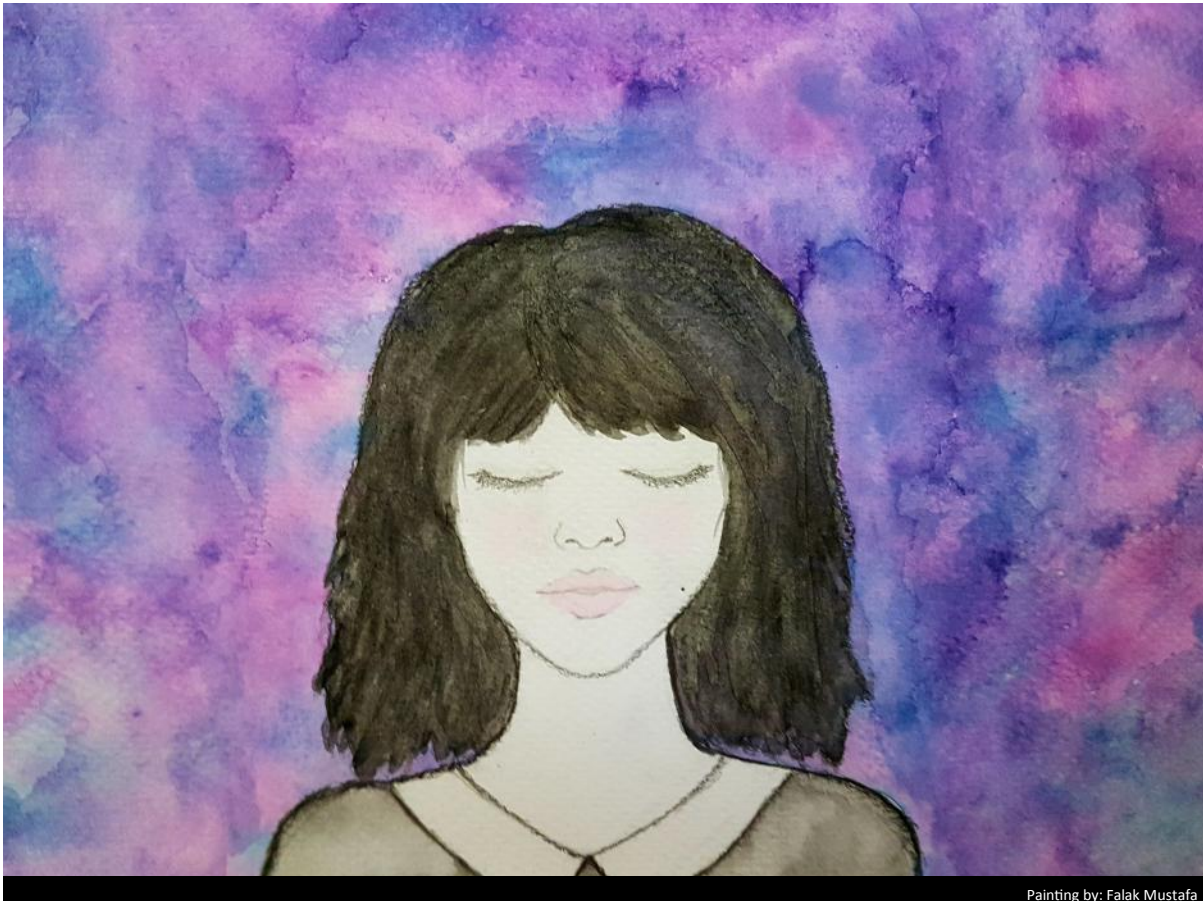


6th Sense

WRITTEN BY STUDENTS, FOR STUDENTS



Painting by: Falak Mustafa

Welcome!

Editor's Note

I am very honoured to present to you the **first student-run newspaper**, brought to you by an incredible team of people. Here, we hope you find all the information and advice you need to be able to make the best decisions in this year but also to enjoy it and make the most out of it. Everything in this newspaper has been created by students in year 13, right from the biggest articles down to the tiny details of the art pieces. As students who have just completed year 12 ourselves, we picked up on a lot of information that we wish we knew at the start of the year, and compiled it all into one paper for you guys.

From the whole Newspaper Team, we wish you good luck in the first term.

Falak Mustafa



The Sixth Form Team

Welcome to Clapton Girls' Academy Sixth Form! Our office door is always open so please don't hesitate to see us if you have any questions.

Simply a letter...

Hey guys,

Congratulations on becoming part of the CGA Sixth Form community! I really hope you enjoy the upcoming experiences but just in case you're wary of some things, I've written you all a letter to help guide you through this year.

Going through Clapton Secondary school, I was used to a certain routine - back-to-back lessons every day with the same people in the same classrooms with the same teachers. And uniform. But sixth form changed all of that. Suddenly, I had free periods and I could wear my own clothes and I could meet new people, whether they were external or not. It was different and if you're like me, change can be a very disorientating thing, it's like being a fish out of water. It definitely took me and a lot of other people some time to get to grips with this big jump, so don't worry if the first couple of weeks are difficult for you. All I can say is embrace the change and don't hold back.

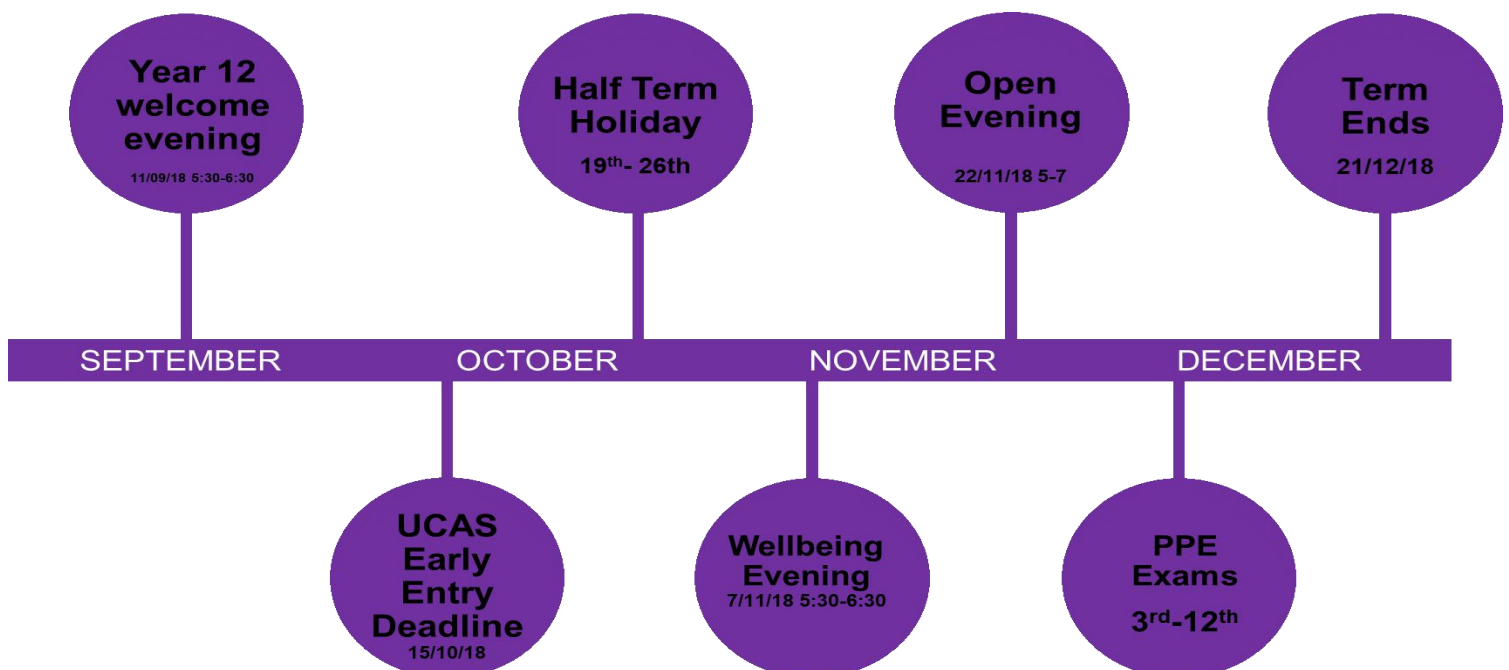
Another thing I learnt was that starting a new year gives you a chance to meet new people and make new friends. I would say that participating in lessons is a great way of showing people what kind of a person you are because you're really showcasing your passion and knowledge for the subject. And remember that you guys don't have a strict dress code anymore, so there's bound to be things that you admire about people that would be worth complimenting, right? Complimenting people (I know this sounds so *cringe*) is actually the most obvious way of communicating and making new friends.

One of the biggest challenges for me this year was studying and keeping on top of my grades. The main part of what helped me was the support of my teachers. The teachers here at Clapton are some of the most understanding, kind-hearted people you will meet, and they will help you with whatever you find difficult, whether it be academic or personal. By having the support of my teachers and having them not give up on me when I was having a hard time kept me going. One of the best things about CGA Sixth form is that everyone sticks together and supports each other. If you are struggling with anything don't be scared to ask for help because the Sixth form is full of people who will support and help you, so you don't have to be alone.

I hope this has somehow been helpful and I wish you all the best of luck for Year 12. Enjoy the year, and remember: above all make sure you enjoy the year, because this is a whole new journey and it's going to go so quickly that before you know it you're already sitting the last reward assembly of the year.

Lots of Love,

Bza and Zaynab xx



Honest Subject Reviews

Are you confident with your subject choices? Not sure what it pairs with? READ BELOW

Art

Expect a year full of **experimentation and exploration**. Teachers will push your limits in order for you to successfully refine your work until you've **mastered a certain skill**. This is a subject that is fun - students produce amazing pieces of work that they thought they were never capable of. There is always a chance to learn new things and how to use different mediums. Art as a subject works well with others that encourage creativity such as English - where you are pushed to develop nuanced analysis - and product design.

Chemistry

At first it may seem very tough but as you progress through the year you really gain a solid understanding. Although it depends on what you want to do after college, the **subjects that pair well with Chemistry are Maths and Biology**. Pick subjects which universities require for the Degree. For example, if you want to go into Medicine, there's more of a chance for you to get an offer if you pick a strong subject/s alongside Chemistry and Biology (which is required for medicine) like Maths.

English

The first thing you should anticipate is essays. Always remember that adhering the teachers' feedback on these essays is KEY. You will also have to do lots of production analysis - although this will mostly be during lessons. **Lessons are very interactive** and discussion based - so if you choose this subject be sure to have an **open mind for other opinions** and it will also provide you with a chance to express your beliefs, which would help boost confidence in your own writing. Throughout the course you will be expected to do **lots of wider reading**. English is also a **very applicable subject** and can be paired with a wide variety of other choices such as sociology (also essay based) and more particularly History as you must think contextually about when texts were written and how it affected the writers. Surprisingly, psychology also highly links with English as we can use the theories to explain the author's choices.

Further Maths

Expect maths you never thought existed! Further Maths is completely different to GCSE maths so **expect a significant jump**. At first the amount of content is overwhelming, but with practice it gets easier and also **strengthens your ability in A level Maths** which is essentially the foundation for Further Maths. This is a subject that will attract employers and universities as well as **opening up a range of opportunities** if you want to go into finance, technology, computer science, banking and much more. It is an intense subject and your **knowledge in algebra should be strong** as students will be working with more unknowns than numbers. Students should also expect **a lot of independent learning, homework and past papers as well as regular tests**.

Health and Social Care

It's important to be organised and manage your time effectively, especially in order to meet the due dates. It's a great course as you have the opportunity to study **content that includes psychology and sociology aspects** in just one course. If you pick this particular course, be dedicated and committed to learning these units as well as studying for the exams to do your best in achieving the top grades. As health and social care covers a multiple subjects, it can help **guide you into different career paths** such as nursing, mid-wifery and even a career as a speech and language therapist.

Biology

Expect a large jump from GCSE Biology and more content. There will be longer exam questions and you will need to do **constant practice** with these. However since there **are lots of practical elements** you will find it very interesting. You may feel like you're not doing great in the beginning but don't worry- this is anticipated by the teachers so do not be disheartened. **Biology pairs well with subjects such as Psychology & Chemistry** - if you are looking to go into psychology at degree - biology is highly recommended as a lot of content in Psychology is science related.

Economics

With Economics, you will be studying a lot of content and you will be expected to do **wider reading** to broaden knowledge for top marks. The subject however is indeed interesting as everything is applicable to real life, relating to the wider world. There will also be **minimal maths** (things like percentages etc). If you're interested in going into **banking and finance** then you'll like this subject - studying economics **opens every door in the finance sector**- and at degree level it is the 2nd or 3rd most money making degree. Future careers this subject could lead to includes accounting, business management. Subjects that go well with economics include business, IFS, and Geography.

Some teachers move at a very fast pace, so you need to go to them after lesson if you don't understand something. **Ask them for a printout of the slideshows at the beginning of the term** or at the start of each new chapter and keep them in your folder so you can

French

Expect a lot of **essay writing in French**. You will also be **analysing a book and a film**, being expected to write essays about them (likened to English literature but in French). Make sure to **watch many French films, shows** or even YouTube videos - they really help and are entertaining. The course really helps you to become a good French speaker, you will be speak the language more confidently. This subject (perhaps paired with English Literature) could lead to careers as a Broadcast Journalist and teaching English as a foreign language teacher.

Geography

Geography is a demanding subject but it is a very interesting and enjoyable subject - from learning many detailed case studies to going on **exciting field trips**. Be aware that **wider reading as well as consistent exam practice** will be necessary. The subject is relevant to the world around us and **helps us understand major global issues**. It goes well with the science subjects, especially biology as well as Economics from which you will gain transferable skills.

History

Like English **there will be essays**, although there won't be as many. Without having to be told you **should do wider reading** - your **textbook isn't enough**. History is **very interesting and dramatic** (particularly the Tudors' topics) and can be very enjoyable learning and understanding the history of the society, religion and politics. This subject pairs well with Sociology and English.

Honest Subject Reviews

IFS:

The subject is a certificate for year 12 and a diploma in year 13 - the diploma is equivalent to an entire A level. IFS is useful and builds up your **financial knowledge** which is needed in adulthood. It is also interesting as it includes lots of real life scenarios and case studies in it. Whether you would like to continue the financial route or not the subject would still be **beneficial in regards to real life situations**. The **exams are done in sections**, which **reduces the pressure and stress of memorising all the information for one exam**. This subject can lead to careers such as a financial advisor, investor and portfolio manager.

Philosophy & Ethics:

It's **like learning two subjects**. Expect **more questions than answers** and to change opinion as you learn more. It's a great subject because it makes you think about seemingly simple ideas in greater detail, and it makes you see the world differently to how you did. It is a particularly good subject to choose if you are interested in going to law. You need to **be willing to debate**, not just your own opinions, but what others would think also, and justify it. Ethics crosses over a lot with Sociology so maybe that should be considered as another subject for you. Ancient philosophy and religion are key things you will learn about.

Product Design:

It's similar to GCSE product design - you will have **mini projects that you work on** and learn content in between. It's **not content heavy** as most of the first year will be spent making things and getting involved in other projects and workshops. It also gives you a break from the more essay based subjects but is a lot more time consuming. **Most of the content would have been learnt in Year 11** so you will likely have fun and enjoy your lessons. It's quite an independent subject and it would be useful to choose maths alongside this as it will allow you a better perspective in projects and in exams. Art would also go well this subject.

Sociology:

Expect a **lot of essays**, writing is important in sociology, you can lose marks because of the way you write. There's a **lot of content and revision before and after lessons** is important but it's a good course if you want to understand more about the way institutions in society work, for example, the education system. The subject is **very enjoyable** - an eye opener if you will - gives you transferable knowledge that can also be used in subjects such as English.

Maths:

This subject is a huge jump from GCSE to A level so students should be aware of this. The most important thing is to start practising from day one - as long as you are **on top of your Exercises** and consult the teacher on any problems you encounter you will be fine. Expect some hard concepts however this subject is **easy to revise** - complete all the exercises in the book that's given to you and do plenty of exam questions. Subjects that go well with maths include Physics, Psychology and Chemistry.

Don't leave revision just for when you have tests, go over your notes at the end of every week or so. It's so much easier when you are revising for end of term or year tests because otherwise it just piles up.

Physics:

Expect a **lot of maths** - it's a subject that is more numbers than words, when compared to other science subjects, so **taking Maths is advisable** and students even advise taking Further Maths too. However there **isn't a lot of content but rather more formulas** to memorise and whilst you would likely get poor grades in the start, this is very much anticipated as with practice you will do well, even if you are finding your initial grades are low, this is not out of the ordinary and progress is gradual so **do not get put off**. Physics pairs well with subjects such as Maths, Further maths and Product Design.

Psychology:

This subject likely has one of the **most content** - a lot of things to memorise **revise from the beginning** (this cannot be stressed enough). There's many like theories for one aspect but it's only for people that have a huge interest in psychology otherwise the content would be boring if there was no interest. **Expect a lot of Maths, the course is more challenging than you think, and expect a lot of biology as well**. Psychology and Biology goes well together, because they have some similar content and a lot of unis prefer a Science A Level if you want to further study this subject.

Spanish:

A fun but demanding course in terms of grammar and essays. You will need really good memory or do extra work outside of school time to do well in the subject. Teachers do a great job in guiding and helping you and there is a trip to Spain which you can look forward to. Listening to Spanish music will greatly help due to repetition. The subject can get you a job in various sectors such as teaching and translating.

I started a Kpop Club!

Hello! My name is Zeynep and I started a Kpop club earlier this year in our sixth form. I was very inspired by the large Kpop community that was present in our school- especially by watching many acts in our annual sixth form talent show to be Kpop related. This *'infires'* me and made me want to unite all the Kpop fans- and so I made it my aim to create a community by starting a club solely for the purpose of having fun and relieving stress. Once I got the 'go ahead' Kpop club officially became the first student run club ever! Over the year this club has progressed greatly and we've participated in many activities ranging from Random dance competition, Korean snack day and dance lessons run by our schools dance teacher (and of course many more)! Many members were shy at first however over time we became much more comfortable around each other and Kpop strangely 'united' us. Many new friendships were born- and my aim was fulfilled. I look forward to expanding my club this year with new members and of course even better activities such as karaoke! If you are a Kpop fan or you are open to finding out more- join the club- it's every Thursday from 3-4:30. Look forward to meeting you all ;)

Which Enrichment should I pick?



4 things to NOT do in the first month of sixth form:

1. Walk into a class that's not yours
2. Fail any test during the first month
3. Stress about wearing a new outfit every day
4. Pile up your homework



Agony Aunt



By: Aisha Vesamia

As a team of Agony Aunts, we are here to answer any questions you have as we understand how important your mental health is. Every worry and every feeling is valid— no matter how big or small— so we urge you to reach out to us as we would hate for you to go through it alone. Remember, everyone matters. YOU matter. If you don't feel comfortable contacting us at our email (we will keep everything confidential) Ms Taplin and the sixth form team are always there to listen to you.

If you have any questions about anything at all, then get in touch with us by emailing: agonyaunt2018@gmail.com

Your question along with your answer will be featured in the next issue.

Can a timetable difference impact on my friendship groups and the time I spend with my friends?

It's always easier to become friends with people in the same class as you, especially if they're in more than one. If you and your friends picked completely different subjects and you're worried that you may not have enough time to spend together— just bear in mind you still have your break and lunch times that you can make the most of. Remember, in sixth form we also get a high amount of free periods! Of course you should be using those to study but it's completely fine to dedicate a few for catching up and spending time with your mates - it can also be considered a way of relieving stress. If you're still bummed that you don't have enough time and free periods with them then do what I do— come to

school early and meet them before form time— the zone is always open after 8 so that can give you up to 40 mins of catch up time per day, plus time after school. I'm also sure that if both sides of the party put in enough effort— a timetable difference will definitely not be an obstacle. If over time you sense this happening, just remember that friendship groups tend to change during the first couple months— a lot of trial and error may be necessary until you find yourself in the right group. One of the best ways I've found to socialise was through particular clubs where I got to spend time with close friends whilst also forming new bonds. I advise you to join a club that suits both you and your friends interests so in that way you both can have fun as well as meet new people that also share the same interests as you.

Will I be comfortable with new people and in the sixth form environment?

The jump straight into a new environment with new people is tough, but everyone is in the same boat. Whether or not you have friends moving from year 11 with you, there will come a time when you will have to interact with new people. The school is great at organising a time for you to all start off introducing yourselves, like I did on the first day with "speed dating". There will also be many opportunities to spend more time with each other such as through trips and university programmes. For me personally, I have made great friends who I am now planning to go to university with! These kinds of opportunities, along with taking the same subjects as someone, is a great way to make

good friends! As for the sixth form environment, I remember on the open day feeling very awkward about walking into any classroom, especially in the sixth form building. But a couple of weeks pass and we now use the classrooms in our spare time, for work, clubs, or even lunch. As simple as it is, the more time you spend here, the more comfortable you will be. Don't let anyone or anything be a stranger to you, but also do not worry about 'making a bad impression'. As cliché as this might sound, this can be a time to reinvent yourself if you so wish. Dressing the way you want to is key to feeling comfortable in new surroundings. Since everyone is feeling the same way as you, there is no room for any judgements on clothing, and neither do you have to go out and buy/plan new outfits for everyday ;) Speaking from a shy person's point

of view, I now feel comfortable speaking to anyone in the year group given the opportunity, and I for sure feel much more at home than I did in the first weeks. This was due to all the little, as well as more daunting, things I've done throughout the year. For example, I was a student who dropped drama as soon as I could. However, I ended up taking drama for enrichment. Willingly putting myself in a situation that is foreign to me, allowed me to do something I had an actual interest in, without the judgement of "will I be good enough?" Everything takes time but you definitely will get there! My advice is to keep your chin up, and please do the things you love, even if you might be nervous or scared of someone judging you. It's entirely worth it once you can see how far you've come in a year! Be kind and keep smiling ;)

Will the work/jump be too difficult because I only just passed this subject so I'm worried I will fall behind.

Yes there is a gap between GCSEs and A levels. Naturally the workload at A Level will increase and become more intense and demanding. Honestly it is difficult. But there's no need to panic. With the right approach from the start you'll find A Levels to be smoother than you anticipated. When I first started, I thought I made the wrong decision by picking English Literature. But with practice it got so much better. So yes at the start you will definitely feel the jump from GCSEs to A levels but trust me, you'll see it gets easier with the never ending help of your teachers who are always there to support and motivate you every time you think you have hit a low.

Even though you 'only' have 3-4 subjects to study, you might feel piled with lots of work. But don't stress, you can easily handle this as you are lucky to be at a sixth form where you get free periods, where you decide how to use it. Remember you have to utilise your time effectively. It can be very tempting to spend all the free time you have socialising, or getting food, or watching Love Island (insert wink).

Many students feel as though they are failing in their subjects and falling behind compared to their friends.

I'm worried that I won't be able to find my way around the school and make it to my classes in time, what do I do if I get lost?

As an external student myself I got lost a fair few times, however teachers were really understanding, so if you do happen to get lost on your way- there's no reason to panic! Just ask people- sixth form staff, prefects (green lanyards), anyone in year 13, or even girls in year 12 who may be going to the same lessons as you- are all willing to help (this may even help you make friends quicker). If you happen to find someone that does all the same subjects as you then that's great- you won't be getting lost on your own!

Also, remember that your timetable indicates all the buildings and rooms your lessons will be taking place in. Colour code your timetable, using a different coloured highlighter for each building/subject - and to avoid embarrassment, make sure you check what class you are in for each lesson to avoid walking into the wrong lesson or classroom. Use one of your free periods to just walk around and get to know where all the buildings are, (you might even find some shortcuts!) And lastly, always remember that everyone is willing to help so don't be shy to ask. It will also get you talking and will familiarise yourself with not only the school, but teachers and other sixth formers too.

Getting "E"s and "D"s in your first test is normal. In my first few assessments my whole class including me were not getting the best grades. But now we have all moved up to getting Bs and above. You may feel as though the subject isn't for you because everyone in your class got 8/9's but you just scraped that 7. Having a lower grade than majority of your peers does not put you at a disadvantage. It doesn't mean that you won't understand the work- everyone is new to the content just like you and it's your chance to work hard.

And DO NOT be ashamed to ask your teachers or friends for help- even girls in Year 13 would be more than delighted to help you out in your work, or even to help you understand something you didn't get the first time. Some tips that I received from my teacher are as follows:

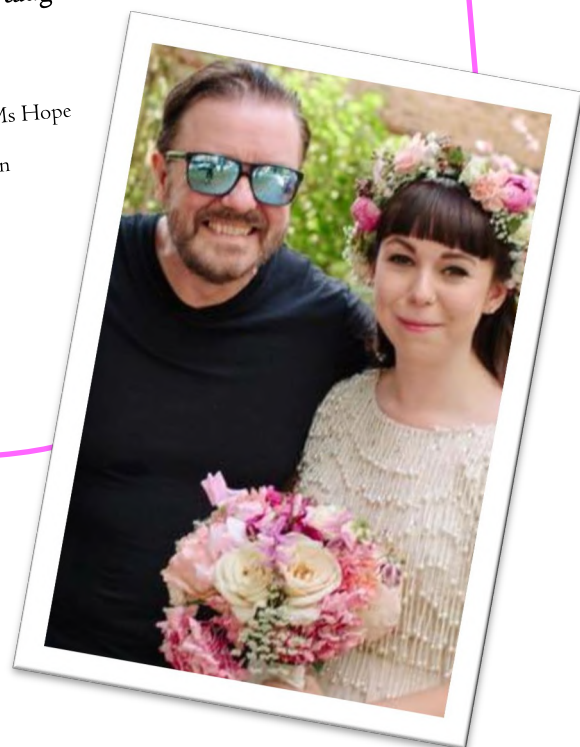
- Review your notes from the lessons you've had when you go home
- Make notes/flash cards/mind maps on topics you didn't completely understand
- Read your notes before you go to lesson

I know it sounds like too much but trust me although my teachers were chanting this left right and centre I figured it actually works and now it's second nature! You have to just break down that laziness barrier and stop procrastinating. Once you get into the routine it'll be hard to get out of it ;).

DID YOU KNOW?!

1. Ms Hope was on the first season of Love Island!
2. Ms Celisse is related to the Kray Brothers
3. Ms Taplin is a Virgo! Oh and once dropped a book worth £2000 in the bath- WTH?!
4. Ms Reed taught all of Blazin' Squad!

Right: A beautiful Ms Hope with none other than Ricky Gervais!





Back to School: Two types of people

18 THINGS YOU SHOULD DO BEFORE 18

1. LOVE YOURSELF
2. Go to a concert
3. Pretend to be 18
4. Go to Comic-Con
5. Make sure you know how to swim
6. Send a fan gift to one of your idols
7. Visit the theatre
8. Teach yourself a new skill
9. Learn how to cook an entire meal
10. Ride a bike (learn if you can't)
11. Go through the Emo/Goth phase
12. Join a youth club (when you can)
13. Learn how to pay taxes
14. Become a Cadet (when you can)
15. Learn to ice skate
16. Learn the entire alphabet of another language
17. Pull an all nighter
18. Give yourself a haircut



Meet The Team!

Falak Mustafa Zeynep Sahin Aisha Vesamia Rbeeza
 Mobeen Zaynab Patel Maryam Adia Athena
 Sunderland Tahmidah Ahmed Hafsa Ahmadmunir
 Candice Brooks Rumaysa Brooks Fatema Delair

If you want to be apart of the Newspaper, then talk to
 Falak or email us

Things to look out for:

- K+ Programme
- Pembroke (OXNET) programme
- Sutton Trust Programmes
- SOAS Scholars
- Hackney University Extension Programme

Good Luck!

From the newspaper team, we wish you all the best on this new journey and we are confident that if you follow our tips, you should be just fine! Remember life is what you make of it, so work hard and try your best- but don't forget to have fun in the meantime. Your mental wellbeing is just as important. See you guys soon *waving sticker*

How To Get Involved:

- **Newspaper** - email at 6thsense.cga@gmail.com
- **Agony Aunt** - email at agonyaunt2018@gmail.com
- **Sixth form** - see Ms Celisse (Year 13) Ms Hope (Year 12) Ms Taplin or Prefect Team
- **Student-run Clubs**— see Zeynep Sahin or Ms Taplin.