



MagiKats Autumn Newsletter 2017

Kingston Tuition Centre - Principal Alka Yadav

Now we are securely launched into the new school year, Christmas and, for some, looming exams are already on their way! We will be open, without interruption, until the Christmas break and then closed from **23rd December – 3rd January inclusive**. Please let us know if you will miss any other workshops so we can adjust your programme as needed.

The new term is bringing its own challenges, adjusting to changes of year or even school. Some students will be facing SATs or GCSEs in May or June 2018. Our students in years 2, 6, 8/9 and 10/11 will start working on practice materials by the end of January.

You will have seen the press coverage of all the changes that are being made to national curriculum, to tests/exams and to grading. We are monitoring all the requirements carefully and adjusting programmes to give the best possible support. We are actually better placed than schools to do this! If you have a student who will face entrance exams early in the New Year, please let us know **in writing** as soon as possible.

All students typically have times when they are under pressure for lots of different reasons. Do remember, when this happens, to give us a call and we can adjust things to help. Every student has their own needs. MagiKats programmes are built around the individual student - not vice versa!

SCHOOL IS TOUGH!

Even students of primary school age are now being challenged in a way that, quite simply, was not the case a few years ago.

Not even year 1 children are exempt from assessment and testing in years 2 and 6 has never been tougher.

Continuity, consistency and confidence building are vital! These, in addition to subject skills are high on our priority list for everyone.

Exactly what are they all doing?

Stage 4 students

Maths: Work with fractions, decimals and percentages along with the geometry of shapes will present the first challenges of the new school year. Simplifying, solving and factorising equations will follow.

English: The choice between, and correct use of personal and impersonal language is the emphasis at the start of the year. We follow up with punctuation before, appropriately, moving on to viewpoint.

Stage 3 students

Maths: We start the term with work on mean, median and mode. Next will come everything to do with circles before we shift our attention to graphs of many types.

English: The early part of the term is being spent on synonyms and their effective use. The use of language, especially in proverbs will follow then writing direct speech.

Stage 2 students

Maths: All types of arithmetic will challenge students at the start of term, before we move on to work with time, including analogue clocks. It is then on to working out areas and perimeters of different shapes.

English: Initially, we will concentrate on grammar, including comparatives and superlatives. The next focus will be writing comprehension, concentrating on non-fiction. We will then shift emphasis to spelling.

Stage 1 & Foundation students

Maths: Reading and writing numbers to 100 in both figures and words will be our early focus followed by measuring which, naturally, involves standard units with emphasis on 10s and 100s. A full addition and subtraction workout will follow.

English: Story writing always sounds easy and never is! This will be our focus at the beginning of term. Alphabetical order ready for use of a dictionary or thesaurus will follow then Reading comprehension first of fiction and then non-fiction.