

NEWSLETTER -9th December

MESSSAGE FROM MR PETER BROZNY, HEAD OF SCIENCE

The 2022 Century Tech Winter Cup - Update

Like all things in life, revising is a skill that takes practice. We don't memorize everything the first time it is presented to us. We need to put in the hours studying.

There are many ways for students to learn something. You could make mind maps and put them all over the walls of your bedroom. You could form a study group and bounce ideas off your peers. Explaining what you have learned to your parents over dinner or teaching it



to your younger siblings can be beneficial to both parties. Another technique would be to create flashcards and get everyone to test you. It requires a lot of effort to produce the flashcards but you have made a resource that can be reused for your end of year or external exams.

Younger people are transitioning to doing their revision online. We have seen this change in the Mount House School student body these past couple of weeks. Century Tech's Winter Cup involves pushing students over a four-week period to complete as much revision as they can on their online platform. Students from Y7-11 can complete questions in English, Maths and Science that are either set by their teachers or they can also choose to select the topics that they wish to study.

As they complete the initial diagnostic tests for each subject, Century Tech will then suggest what they should study next based on which questions they are having the most trouble with. Students get instant feedback and can make quick progress from the comfort of their own devices.

We have seen a dramatic change in the number of students at our school taking up this Winter Cup challenge by revising online. Students are using their devices for studying rather than just for streaming or social media. In Week 2 of the Winter Cup Challenge, we have gone from on average 1000 questions completed by our students online to 3000. Students who normally don't like revising outside of school time are choosing to study more.

In terms of nationwide ranking, we have also seen a big increase. In Week 1, Mount House school was ranked 108th in our category (to make things fair, Century Tech looks into things such as number of students in the schools and puts them in different ranking categories).

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Then in week 2 we jumped up to 69th in our category. This means we have moved from the top 75% in the country to top 50% in just one week.

Week 3 saw us drop slightly to 75th place but we have already completed 1000 more questions in week 4 then at the same point in the previous week. It looks like our students are pushing themselves to end strongly.

Over the course of the 4-week competition, Mount House School have thus far completed:

8,393 Revision Questions 80 Hours of Revision

Revising involves repetition. We need to keep revisiting the topics again and again. Let's use this competition to encourage our students to use their devices for learning and build up good habit for the year ahead.

Below is a summary of how our school has been performing of the first two weeks of the Winter Cup.

The Week Before the Winter Cup





Week 1 of the Winter Cup



Top 10 Students for Week 1

1	Nathan Oloko	255 Questions
2	Solu Ngoka	92 Questions
3	Maria Ratcliff	61 Questions
4	Calypso Malialis	57 Questions
5	Harvey Thomas	56 Questions
6	Isabelle Dugdale	46 Questions
7	Renuk Yappa	46 Questions
8	Robert Harris	45 Questions
9	Emily Westmore	34 Questions
10	Vani Patel	32 Questions



Week 2 of the Winter Cup



Top 10 Students for Week 2

1	Renuk Yappa	223 Questions
2	Tatianna Moss	198 Questions
3	Poppy Nunn	100 Questions
4	Rina Antwi-Agyei	95 Questions
5	Jasmine Price	90 Questions
6	Harvey Thomas	88 Questions
7	Temi Yussuf-Shittu	84 Questions
8	Mia Bushnell	80 Questions
9	Aaran Gudka	77 Questions
10	Amalya Antwi-Agyei	32 Questions



Week 3 of the Winter Cup



Top 10 Students for Week 3

1	Renuk Yappa	345 Questions
2	Leo Baynes	127 Questions
3	Emily Westmore	120 Questions
4	Ma Bushnell	98 Questions
5	Iman Salam	90 Questions
6	Purity Sigei	82 Questions
7	Alvin Kiriinya	80 Questions
8	Tatianna Moss	75 Questions
9	George Coteave	72 Questions
10	Robert Harris	71 Questions



We are currently in the 4th and final week of the Century Tech Winter Cup. As I am writing this article, this is our current top 10 students.

1	Mona Vaseghi	164 Questions
2	Solu Ngoka	144 Questions
3	Maria Ratcliff	140 Questions
4	Aaran Gudhka	136 Questions
5	Leo Baynes	136 Questions
6	Sabi Kabilan	134 Questions
7	Rina Antwi- Agyei	127 Questions
8	Lydia Frost- Tingling	125 Questions
9	Ava Adams	122 Questions
10	Darcie Dudding	111 Questions

Students can login to the following website.

https://www.century.tech/

May sure you press "sign in with office 365". Use your school email and the password you use to go onto the school computers.

Thank you all for supporting our students in getting the extra revision work done. It will certainly pay off in the months to come.

DECEMBER



ENGLISH

Year 7 English

Over their first term at Mount House, Year 7 have been reading, writing and learning about short stories. In the run up to Christmas they read two Christmas stories. The first, An Angel Just like Me is a picture book by Mary Hoffman and tells the story of a black boy called Tyler

who wonders why there are no angels 'just like me.' An art student friend makes Tyler a black angel that looks just like him. Students discussed the issue around racial inclusion and how angels, should reflect the diversity of cultures and ethnicities in society. They then wrote a poem describing what their angel would be like and then for homework made a model of their angel.









The second Christmas story students read was by the Welsh poet Dylan Thomas, A Child's Christmas in Wales. The story relates various incidents in young Dylan Thomas' life. In one passage Dylan and his friend wait to snowball cats. Students responded to this by writing the episode in the voice of the one of the cats. Below are some extracts from their writing.

I was so scared and cold because we were getting hit by the bullying boys. We were trying to run but it was too hard because they had a billion snowballs to throw.

Leo Baynes

Stealthy and silent I snuck along the snow-white wall. I quietly peeped out at the boys and they didn't notice, wrapped up in their thick fur coats and woolly bobble hats. They trudged through the heavy snow with their boots looking like hunters snow-ball loaded.

Jake Hargreaves

Students also described how they imagined the town in the story.

The shimmer of frozen lake reflected the ashy dusty moon, that grew bigger each night as daylight grew shorter each night at Christmas over the sleepy town.

Florentia Paschalis

The small town sat on the edge of the sea. The white salty, frozen hard snow covered the small, blue titled roofs of the town.

Siana Chowdhary

TRIP TO WINTER WONDERLAND



We had the pleasure of taking the year 11s and some of the year 12s and 13s to Winter Wonderland in Hyde Park on Tuesday. We were lucky to have a relatively good weather as we could feel a bit of the warm sun. The students were very well behaved and though they were in groups of 4 or 5, they still looked

out for those not in their group. As teachers we also got to know them better outside of school. It is at times like this, one builds lovely memories and friendships.

BAKING CLUB

This week students produced their 'Star bakes.' This consisted of various treats including biscuits, cupcakes, fruitcakes decorated with icing, sprinkles, chocolate and various other imaginative toppings. For some the focus was to create their 'Star Bake' and for others they were far more interested in eating as they went along, but for all it was a great week of baking club sessions - well done to everyone.

















CRYPTO CLUB INVESTMENT COMPETITION

Mount House came second to Northampton School for Boys in our Cryptocurrency investment competition this term. Within our own students, Newton Yegon won the first prize after making an excellent \$1000 virtual dollars profit, closely followed by Kyan Hayden who won second prize and Andonis Costas who won the third prize. We have been delighted to be working with Doshi Wallet, and we are looking forward to our competition next term. Raymond Aliga has confidently stated that next term we will win... watch this space!

TRIP TO GRESHAM COLLEGE

On Tuesday, December 6th, a group of students went to Gresham College in Holborn to listen to Professor Victoria Baines deliver a lecture on "How To Fight Fake News". This was inspired by an interview she gave on Newsnight in May 2020 about the global pandemic, a bit of which was isolated and then used by conspiracy theorists as supposed proof their misguided beliefs had credence.

"The lecture was very interesting particularly where she talked about people being hacked on the internet. Although we might see a video image of someone important like President Biden talking, these images can be fabricated in a clever way where his voice and facial expressions can be transposed to make him appear to say anything. Professor Baines gave an example of when her own words were being twisted by taking away the context. When she said on TV "during the pandemic we were working with the NHS to fight fake news", this could be adjusted to "during the pandemic we were working with the NHS" and be applied to any context".

James Collington, Year 7

SIXTH FORM OPTIONS

Having had their Experience Day and met with their Guidance Mentors at least twice now, the time has come for Year 11 students to make indicative choices of their study in Sixth Form.

Students are offered three unique pathways from which to choose and a wide range of subjects. Year 11 students were issued their forms on Thursday morning, which are designed to be simple to read and fill out. They must return these by the end of the School day on Monday.

Please be aware that these are indicative choices to allow the School to plan and that option blocks will be constructed around these choices.



SPEAKERS' CORNER

On Monday, December 5th Aoife Thompson Y11 introduced Siana Chowdhary Y7 to the school assembly. Through Speakers' Corner Siana addressed the assembly on the issue of COP 27 and the growing protests led by Extinction rebellion and Stop Oil. She spoke passionately about the growing threat to our planet through global warming and the failure of the world community to act decisively at the COP 27 in Sharm -El-Sheikh -Egypt

She explained why radical groups such as Extinction Rebellion and Stop Oil have taken protests to a new level by massively inconveniencing the general public in their desperation to force us into pressuring decision makers into taking effective action to reduce carbon emissions and in turn our carbon footprint. Siana did point to positive developments

particularly in Brazil following the successful election of Lula da Silva as the new president in October. Lula has promised to defend the rainforest. Her speech was well received receiving two rounds of applause.!!!

At the end of her speech Iman Salam Y11 explained that Speakers Corner provides a prize winning opportunity to any student from Y7-13 to address the whole school on any current or international issue or event that they are concerned or feel passionate about.

Any student who would like to take up this opportunity and challenge should contact Mr Allman, or Mara McNally Y13, Aoife or Iman in Y11 at any time during the school day.

All presenters are awarded a prize from the Headteacher and a prize from Speakers' Corner.

Enviromental protest

MATHS CORNER

Solution to last week's problem: The following are the only triplets of positive integers which add up to 7: 1,1,5 1,2,4 1,3,3 2,2,3 In only one of these are the three integers all different, so the required integers are 2,2,3 and their product is 8. So D is the correct letter.



This week's problem: A rectangle with area 125 cm squared has sides in the ratio 4 :5. What is the perimeter of the rectangle?

A 18 cm B 22.5 cm C 36 cm D 45 cm E 54 cm

Maths word of the week:

Pythagoras' Theorem

This theorem states that in any right-angled triangle the square of the longest side = the sum of the squares on the other two sides.

RTSY CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP



ΡE

Students have taken part in table tennis during PE lessons this week. They have been able to draw upon their learning from this half term and have applied this in matches against their peers. In games afternoons students have taken part in their final session of the term. Sports included netball, hockey, football, table tennis, trampolining and golf. Please see the plan for games afternoons next term below:

Years 7 – 10

Boys	Girls
Football	Football
or	or
Trampolining	Golf
or	or
Mixed Hockey & Basketball/Netball	Mixed Hockey & Netball/Basketball

Options will be discussed with Year 11 – 13 next week.

Athletes of the Week:

Year 7: Tatiana Moss Year 8: Sofia George Year 9: Ciara Roche Year 10: Amelie Hilton Year 11: Darcie Dudding

Cross-Country

Reminder that on Tuesday 13th December Mount House are holding their Inter-House Cross Country event in the afternoon. All students in Years 7-10 will be taking part. All Year 7-10 students will be allowed to come into school in their PE uniform so that they are ready to run. Year 11 GCSE PE students will also take part.

Students are required to meet in the following places at the end of lunch:

- Year 7: Room 15
- Year 8: Room 16
- Year 9: The Hall
- Year 10: The Hall
- Year 11 GCSE PE: The Hall

If you have any questions, please contact Mr Mather.

Match Report: Mount House School vs Latymer – 06/12/2022

We arrived at Latymer, with the team news and captaincy given to us on the bus by our coaches Mr Mather and Mr Van Leeven. The first game began, Team B (MHS) against Team A Latymer. The game was long and tiring with some excellent passing play but ended in a disappointing result for MHS. Our second game began, Team A (MHS) against Team B (Latymer). The game was exhausting and gruelling ending in a fantastic result with the goal by Eisa Salam winning Team A's first match. Shortly afterwards, Team A (MHS) played Team A (Latymer). After the opener was scored by Emir Yurtseven, the game ended unfortunately for Mount House losing 4-1. Players of the games were Tom Gray and Emir Yurtseven. But everyone played amazingly in their first indoor hockey games.

Written by Emir Yurtseven and Alice Reekie.







ISA National Swimming Championships – Isabella Dugdale

On Saturday the 3rd of December, I took part in the ISA National Swimming Finals, representing North London. I swan the 50m breaststroke and got a new Personal Best of 46.57 seconds and came in 5th place. I also competed in the Year 7 Girls freestyle relay and the breaststroke leg of the medley relay.

Huge congratulations to Isabella from the PE Department!



NETBALL MATCH – STAFF Vs SIXTH FORM

On Wednesday lunchtime Mount House staff played a netball match against our Sixth Formers! It was a very competitive match and the final score was 10-2 to staff.



CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES AT MOUNT HOUSE

Thank you to all students who wore a Christmas jumper today and brought in a £1 to raise money for the Noah's Ark Children's Hospice.

Thank you also goes to our wonderful catering staff who cooked a delicious Christmas lunch for all students and staff.





Finally a big thank you to the Friends of Mount House who organised an amazing Christmas Fair.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 13th December – Inter-house Cross Country event for students Year 7 to Year 10
Please note that all PE kits and all uniform must go home today
Wednesday 14th December – End of Term 12.15pm (Coaches leave 12.30pm)
Wednesday 4th January 2023 – Start of the Lent Term