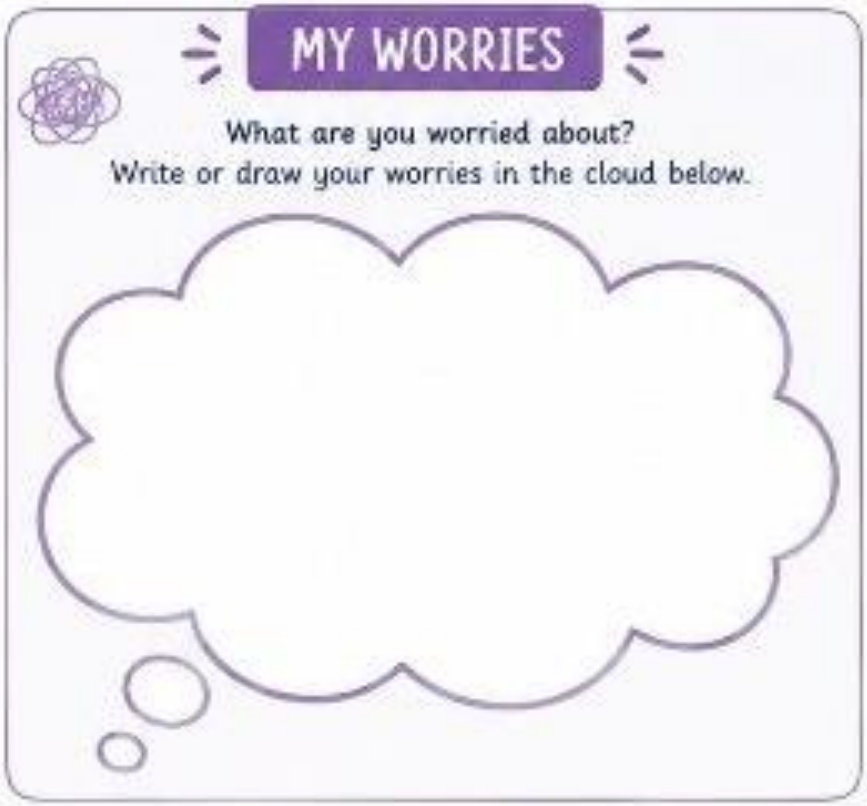
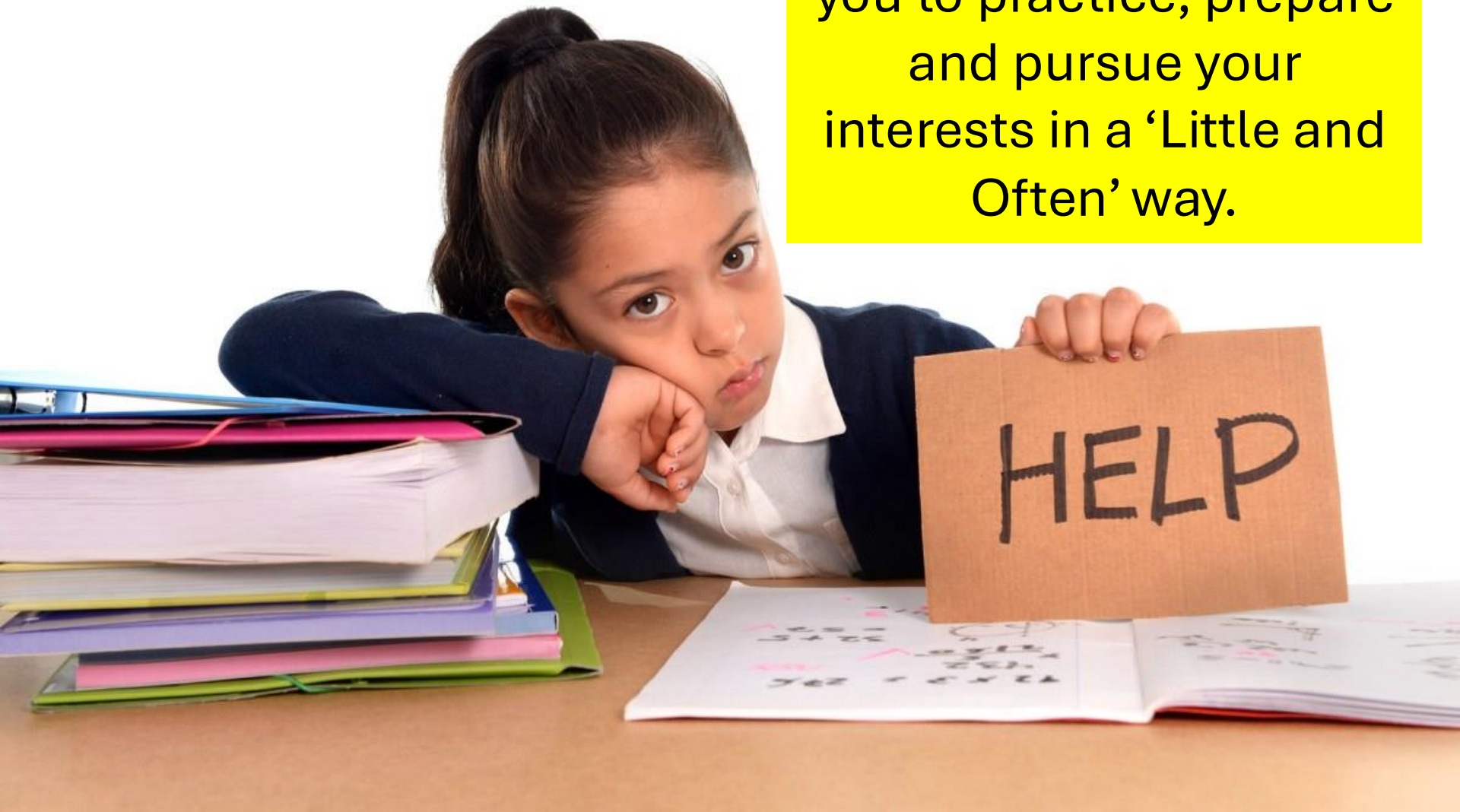
How many of you had some worries about starting secondary school this year?



Hands up if homework was one of the things you were worried about?

Homework at SBSJ is not designed to overload you with tasks but help you to practice, prepare and pursue your interests in a ‘Little and Often’ way.



Practice, Prepare, Pursue

Getting into the habit of 'little and often'

Independent learning 2026-2027 Year 7

Build a habit of revision early

Embed effective tools for revision

Practice maths and reading regularly

Offer Opportunity to shine

"the point about homework is to offer learning opportunities and generate a culture of high expectations" Sherrington

Year 7 2026-2027

Part 1: PRACTICE

How often? Regular

Who? Maths and English.

What? Sparx- Maths
Accelerated Reader- English

Part 2: PREPARE

How often? Ongoing 'little and often'

Who? All other subjects

What? short 5-15 minutes of revision

Part 3: PURSUE

How Often? Only once in the year

Who? Your choice of subject

What? A project of your choice

Independent learning at SBSJ

What will I be expected to do at home?

How often?

How will I be supported?

You will be provided with a booklet including:

1. Clear instructions
2. Knowledge organisers for your subject assessments in Term 1
3. Helpful how to revise strategies & videos
4. Planning pages

*Subject teachers will monitor and homework will be included in reports

Subjects offer 3 extra projects or performance related homework.

You have the year to complete and submit to exhibition for Ignite Awards linked to the diploma. You will be given help

Support and monitoring – Homework will be reported on, Library drop-in, teacher monitoring, settling in evening, peer mentoring from older students

Contents

1. What does independent learning look like at SBSJ?
2. What is expected of me?
3. Little and Often: How do I prepare for assessments effectively?
4. What support is available to me?
5. Independent learning log
6. Subject information for assessments
7. Subject knowledge organisers
8. Space to complete your revision

Independent learning at SBSJ

What will be included in my Independent Learning booklet?

At SBSJ, we believe that great learning happens both inside and outside the classroom. Independent learning helps you take ownership of your education, build confidence and develop the skills you need to be successful now and in the future.

Independent learning at SBSJ is built around three key habits: **Practice, Prepare and Pursue**.

Practice means regularly completing your Maths and English homework each week. Through consistent practice, you will strengthen your core skills, improve your understanding and develop positive learning habits that support success across all subjects.

Maths: Sparx

English: Accelerated Reader

Prepare means taking part in structured revision activities throughout the year. Learning how to revise effectively helps you identify what you already know, recognise areas for improvement and feel confident when preparing for assessments.

All subjects have provided assessment summaries and knowledge organisers in this booklet.

Revision videos, tips and hints are also provided you need to make use of these 'little and often' to prepare for your tests.

Pursue means exploring something that genuinely interests you through an independent project each year. This is your opportunity to be curious, creative and ambitious while developing important skills such as research, organisation, problem-solving and independent thinking.

At the end of this booklet, you will see a range of interesting projects designed to get you thinking. You can choose one of these or come up with your own idea. We will be asking you to have chosen your Pursue Projects in October. This work will be exhibited in a show case and prizes given for houses.

Together, these three habits will help you become a more resilient, motivated and successful learner. By practising regularly, preparing purposefully and pursuing your passions, you will develop the knowledge, skills and confidence to thrive at SBSJ and beyond.

Assessment title, dates, skills and overview

Key topics to revise

Independent learning at SBSJ

How will I know what to **prepare** for in my assessments?

Each subject has a one-page summary of each assessment for this term

Getting into the 'Habit' #littleandoften

Assessment title	*Should historians remember Edwardian Britain as a 'Belle-Epoque' (Great Age) or not?*
Date: *Half Term 1 SEPT/OCT*	***Key Skill:*** *Interpretation*
Overview	*Students will be given a paragraph of writing by a historian and will be asked to use the extract to support writing a balanced argument on the positives and negatives of Edwardian Britain. They should try to use quotes or ideas from the historian and their own knowledge in the argument. They must reach a judgment on the question, overall was the Edwardian Period a 'Great Age' or not?*

Key Topics to revise:		**How to revise History**
Class structure in Edwardian Britain and the difference in the quality of life of rich/poor you may reference the Titanic tragedy here.		**Top Tips** Mind maps Make your own quizzes Focus on learning facts and key vocabulary. Flash cards. Timelines can be helpful. SCAN ME
The Liberal Welfare reforms improving the health of the poor, consider strengths of the laws and the weaknesses.		
The changing position of women. The advancements of women and the barriers that still remained to equality (e.g. Suffragettes)		
Clever thinking: independent extra *Britain's place in the world: The British Empire and its impacts both at home and abroad.*		
Technological advancements of the period (typewriters, flight, weaponry, sewing machines, Dreadnoughts)		
Clever thinking: independent extra*...The buildup to WWI & tension in Europe. Examples of Militarism, Alliances, Imperialism and Nationalism. The assassination of the Archduke Franz Ferdinand.*		

Top Tips on how to revise

Wider Research

Websites.

Titanic : https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z8mpfg8

Liberal Welfare Reforms : https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zdhk7ty/revision/1

Lead up to WWI: https://www.ducksters.com/history/world_war_i/causes_of_ww1.php

Films, TV or videos.

The Titanic

The Suffragettes (Carey Mulligan)

War Horse

Downton Abbey Series 1

Wider resources

Knowledge Organiser: Has evidence been able to 'light up' the Dark Ages?

Bias	A one-sided opinion
Civilised	Living in an organised way that values people quality of life
Invasion	To attack and take over another country
Interpretation	A historian's opinion based on research
Settlements	Areas where people lived
Provenance	Where a source comes from- who made it and when it was made
legacy	The things you leave behind or are remembered for
Society	The way people lived

How has evidence lit up the Anglo-Saxon Dark Ages of England: Knowledge Organiser

Roman coins found at Sutton-Ho suggest trade between Europe a Britain.

A sword believed to be that of King Raedwald buried at Sutton-Hoo

The Sutton Hoo Hoard 6th-7th Century
Treasures found include the famous helmet, thought to show the Pagan God
es.
ith
he
echo
attle

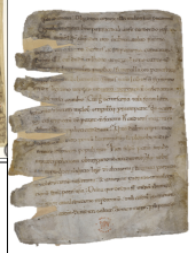
Gold shoulder clasps- in the style of Romans, could have been made as far away as modern Turkey

These small sword decorations are made of garnets from India and thin details of gold

was a wealthy Anglo-Saxon
en owned property and land
r family after she died. The
-Saxon's farmed land, had
y
and her
rtant to

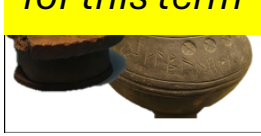
Bede's Ecclesiastical History 731 AD
Written by a monk in Northumberland it is the first attempt to write a historical account. In it he describes how the Saxons arrived and converted to Christianity.

Bede said people called the Angles, Saxons and Jutes arrived from Germany and landed on the East coast of England in 449AD



Gildas 'The Ruin of Britain' 540AD written by a British monk. He describes how the Anglo-Saxon invaders destroyed Roman Britain. He refers to the A-S as fierce 'wolves' who attacked and ruined Britain. He says the towns and glory of the Romans were left empty after the invasion

n and Urns
the coast of East Anglia.
e burnt bodies of the dead and date from around 5th century (400 AD) The Romans did not cremate their dead, but Germanic people did.



Independent learning at SBSJ

What is a knowledge organiser?

A one-page summary or relevant information to revise for each assessment for this term

In a Nutshell!

After the Romans left Britian in 410AD they left Britain undefended and open to invasion from other tribes. They were most afraid of the Picts in Scotland. The Anglo-Saxons from Germany and Scandinavia were invited to Britain to help to fight the Picts. The Saxons had other ideas and took control of huge parts of the country. They brought with them their way of life and if seemed that everything that was good and light about Roman was destroyed and a 'Dark Age' of British History had begun.

What ideas made people believe it was a 'Dark Age'?

- They had no laws or rules
- No one was educated.
- People lived with few possessions
- People were unskilled
- Women had no rights
- No one travelled or traded
- There was very little written evidence
- Anglo-Saxons were not always Christians and worshipped many Gods

Use the evidence on this sheet to challenge or support the ideas above.

Top Tips on how to revise

Independent learning at SBSJ

What if I don't know how to revise?

There are videos on the website, helpful instructions

SBSJ Maths Revision Strategy – TMM (Try, Mark, Mend)

Purpose
To establish a consistent culture of "little and often" revision, helping students identify gaps, address misconceptions and prepare effectively for assessments.

TMM Revision Booklets
- Issued before every formal assessment.
- SBSJ branded using agreed colours and formatting.
- Front-page revision checklist of assessed topics.
- Representative questions for each topic.
- Each topic linked directly to SPARX Maths.

TMM Process
1. Try – Complete assessment-style questions independently.
2. Mark – Self-mark using answers uploaded to Teams.
3. Mend – Correct mistakes and identify areas requiring further revision.

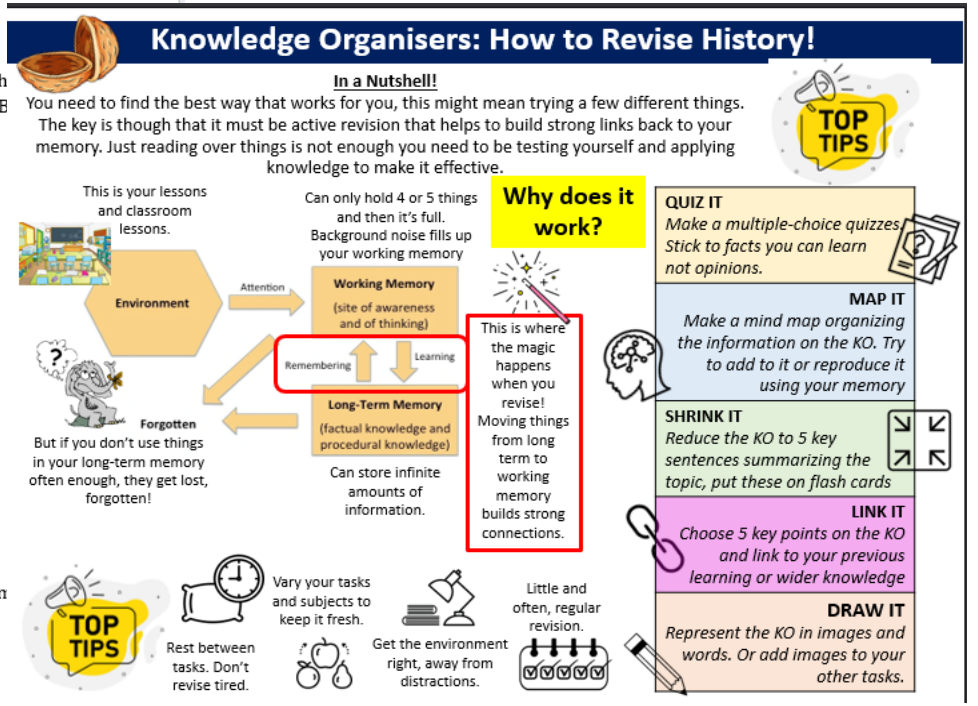
Mini Maths Book
Every student will be issued with a Mini Maths Book. This will be their personal revision workbook wh
complete additional practice, corrections and revision arising from the TMM booklet. The Mini Maths B
become the student's primary revision resource.

Answers & Resources
- Full answer booklets uploaded to Microsoft Teams.
- Students expected to complete the Mark and Mend stages independently.

SPARX Maths
- Every topic within the TMM booklet must link to SPARX Maths.
- Students should use SPARX to strengthen areas identified through TMM.

Staff Expectations
- Produce a TMM booklet before each assessment.
- Follow the agreed SBSJ format and branding.
- Include representative questions and SPARX links.
- Upload answers to Teams.
- Promote TMM and effective use of the Mini Maths Book.

Success Measures
Improved revision habits, increased SPARX engagement, better identification of misconceptions and in
assessment outcomes.



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