



From Head of Middle School Scholars: Andrew Jamison

20 May 2022

Dear 5<sup>th</sup> Year Student,

### **STEP – 5<sup>th</sup> Year Summer Term Extension Project**

I am writing to let you know about an exciting, independent, academic opportunity for you to be involved in which will run until the end of your academic year.

After you've completed your public examinations, we know that many of you will welcome the opportunity to continue to keep your minds active, embark on some independent research on a chosen topic while also building good foundations for entering the Lower Sixth. Participating in such a project will look great on your applications to top universities, and there will be generous prizes for all good entries. The best projects will be published on the school website, and the very best will have the chance to present their projects at a future presentation evening.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Jamison  
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### **The Task**

We're inviting you to respond to ONE of the following titles, by undertaking some independent research on it, which attempts to be multidisciplinary i.e. incorporates the approaches of and research in more than one subject. The titles are:

- Harmony
- Energy
- Money

### **Examples**

Here are some examples of projects, but they are just for illustration and we'd strongly suggest you choose your own and interpret your chosen theme as creatively as you can:

- Harmony: (Music/ Literature/ Art/ Science/ Classics/Architecture) - Think about the different interpretations of the word and how it could relate to harmony in music, rhyme in poetry and how that creates a kind of harmony, or harmony of colours that artists might use in their work. Harmony in

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science might relate to an aspect of biology and how cells form larger bodies, or how parts of the human body relate to each other. In architecture, what is meant by 'harmony of design'?

- Energy: (Science/Economics/Sport/Art) - This title could relate to how we generate energy from fossil fuels, the cost of energy now, financially and environmentally, or you could explore the future of energy. The title could also be linked to sport, or to an artist or writer and how the theme of energy might be conveyed within their work e.g. Jackson Pollock's paintings are said to convey energy.
- Money: (Economics/History/ Politics/Business/Sociology/Ancient History) - What is the future of money? What is the history of money? Will cryptocurrency prevail? Is cash dying out? What did ancient societies use as their currencies?

### **End Product**

We'd strongly encourage you to be as creative as possible and your response could be in any form; please see

some suggestions below:

1. a recorded presentation
2. piece of writing
3. a more creative approach such as a piece of creative writing, a computer programme, a piece of music or even making a model or a board game

### **Supervision**

We'd encourage you to share ideas with your peers and after this point, you should feel free to get in touch with myself, Mr Richard Taylor or Dr Burnand, if you'd like to. Dr Gardner is also available for consultation.

### **Submission and Deadline**

- You will be able to submit your final project (in whatever format that may be) on Google Classroom (code: ghjko24).
- The deadline for registering your interest is Friday 1 July; simply send a brief email to Mr Jamison at [andrew.jamison@abingdon.org.uk](mailto:andrew.jamison@abingdon.org.uk) stating that you'd like to do a project.
- The deadline for completed projects will be Monday 22 August.
- We aim to announce news of prizes at the very start of next term.