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13th November 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to inform you about the upcoming Year 8 Science assessments, which will begin during the week commencing **Monday 7th December 2026**.

As your child is currently in our **Aspire Science set**, these assessments are particularly important. The results will be used to determine whether students remain in the Aspire set or move into a mixed-ability Science class. We therefore strongly encourage all students to prepare thoroughly and demonstrate their full potential.

Assessment Information

Students will complete one **60-minute Science assessment**, consisting of:

- **Biology:** 20 minutes
- **Chemistry:** 20 minutes
- **Physics:** 20 minutes

The assessment will cover the following topics:

- **7.08:** Life Cycles
- **8.01:** Heating and Cooling
- **8.02:** Earth and Atmosphere
- **8.03:** Forces and Motion
- **8.04:** Plants and Their Processes (Lessons 1–8)

Please note that **any content taught during Year 7 may also be assessed**, so students should revisit their prior learning as part of their revision.

A detailed examination timetable will be emailed home shortly.

How Can Students Prepare?

We recommend that students use three key revision strategies:

1. **Knowledge Organisers and Blank Page Retrieval:** Students should use the Knowledge Organisers available on the school website to revise key scientific

knowledge. Blank page retrieval is an effective technique that involves writing down everything they can remember about a topic before checking their knowledge and correcting any gaps.

2. **Core Knowledge Questions:** Students should regularly test themselves using the core knowledge question sets. These questions focus on the essential scientific knowledge students need to recall accurately and confidently.
3. **Noticed:** Students can access Noticed to revisit and consolidate learning from specific lessons they have found challenging throughout the year. This is particularly useful for addressing gaps in understanding before the assessment.

Detailed instructions on how to use all three revision methods, along with the core knowledge question sets, can be accessed here.

Supporting Your Child

We would greatly appreciate your support in encouraging your child to begin revising early and to complete regular, focused revision sessions in the weeks leading up to the assessments. Testing your child using the core knowledge questions is a particularly effective way of supporting their preparation at home.

We have high expectations of our Aspire students and want every student to have the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge, understanding and progress. With effective preparation, we are confident that students can approach these assessments feeling well prepared.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Markham
Head of Science
Stockport Academy