



Joyce
Frankland
Academy
Newport



6th February 2026

Dear Year 7, 8 and 9 Parents and Carers

Spring Term Home Learning Project 2026

Developing independent research and learning skills is key in the early years of secondary school. These skills are essential for success at GCSE and beyond; we build them into the curriculum from the first day of Year 7 and then throughout KS3.

I am excited to be writing to you to launch our new **Spring Term Project**. We believe students completing a project at this time of year is an engaging and beneficial addition to our current curriculum plans.

During the second half of the Spring Term, for four weeks, students will be using their home learning time to produce a project on a topic of their choice.

Project tasks and guidance will be provided on the website to support the students' independent work. At the end of term, **Monday 23rd March**, your child's project will be collected in and reviewed by their tutor. Awards will be given for the best projects in each year group.

To support we have included several questions and answers which we thought would be helpful; parents and carers can also use our usual email address jfaadmin@joycefrankland.org to ask any questions about the Spring Project. Answers to questions will be given in the weekly parent JFAN Connector (newsletter).

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

What is the focus of the project my child needs to complete?

We would like all students to choose from one of the project titles below. However, we understand that many students have their own interests and experiences and the Spring Project is a great chance for them to share these with us, so students are free to choose their own title if they wish. This week students have chosen their title in form time.

- Respecting our planet Earth.
- Greek myths and legends.
- Exploring different architectural building styles.
- The history of the Olympic Games.
- Presenting a biography of five world leaders, or historical figures, and their legacy.
- The importance of charities in society today.
- The impact of social media on society.

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- Staying Healthy – a look at teenage health.
- Remembering WWII Veterans.
- Presenting a biography of three Nobel Prize winners and their legacies.
- A study of music from different cultures.
- A history of British cuisine and how this has been influenced by different cultures.
- Should we be investing money in Space Travel? A comparative argument exploring the advantages and disadvantages of space exploration.
- The Holocaust and the importance of us learning from history.

How will my child hear about this project?

The students have received a presentation from Mrs Warwick in assembly this week. After half term they will receive a presentation from their tutor and will begin to plan their project in tutor time. Please find the time to sit down with your child and discuss the project focus they would like to choose.

How can my child get some additional help?

There will be lots of additional tasks and guidance on the website to help them. However, they can also ask for help when they meet their tutor each week. Their tutor will be asking your child how their project is going. Their Head of Year will be giving tips and guidance in their weekly assembly. Please ensure they have their project with them each week, each Monday.

How can I help my child with their project?

There will be some suggested activities that parents could get involved with related to each of the topic titles. These will be on our website – Spring Project page.

What format does the project need to be in?

We expect most students will want to purchase their own project book or do their project on a computer. However, they can purchase a project book or project folder from the Academy Shop for £1. Some students may also want to make something; this is perfectly acceptable; they can be as creative as they like. They may like to make a model, spend time on a piece of artwork or perhaps compose a piece of music and submit a recording. Creativity and imagination are the starting points for great projects.

Project books and folders

We have purchased some project books and folders that can be **bought** very cheaply from the academy shop. We have shared these with students. Please can we ask that students bring a £1 into the academy after half term if they would like to purchase either of these. We will also provide each FSM child with a voucher which they can trade in for either a project book or folder.

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When is the deadline for the project?

We will be collecting projects on Monday 23rd March. Tutors will provide lots of reminders about when their projects need to be in.

How much time should my child be spending on their project?

This project is in place of the usual homework timetable for the Spring 2 term. We expect students to spend at least one hour a night on their project, a total of 20-25 hours. We advise that, as always, student continue with the daily reading.

What is the email address I can use to ask questions about the project?

jfaadmin@joycefrankland.org

As always, we would like to hear the views of the parents on this project initiative; please send your comments and suggestions to the email address above.

I look forward to seeing all the amazing student projects.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Warwick
Principal

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