

10 January 2011

Dear Parents

It is with great pleasure that I can announce that all Psychology pupils, both A Level and IB, will attend a Half Day Introductory Seminar on Neuroscience delivered by Dr Guy Sutton of MBI Consultancy. The seminar will be held on Monday 14 February 2011, with the morning session running from 9.00 a.m. to 12.40 p.m. and the afternoon session from 1.00 to 4.40 p.m. The seminar is compulsory and pupil's names have been assigned to either a morning or afternoon session to minimise disruption to their other subjects. The sessions will be run in the Bristow-Clavell Science Centre Lecture Theatre but there will be break out session in the ICT Room 3017. Pupils should register at the beginning of the session in the Lecture Theatre.

As you can see from the attached programme, day should be truly excellent. The lectures have been designed specifically for us at PGS in accordance with our requests for material which covers aspects of both the IB and A level specifications with one of the highlights being a dissection of a sheep's brain. Pupils do have the option to withdraw from the dissection if they prefer not to be a part of this (please complete the form below). A summary of the procedure and a risk assessment is attached for your information. No pupil will be involved in the actual dissecting of the brain but pupils will be able to handle sections of the brain whilst wearing gloves. I have also attached the programme for your interest. I have seen Guy speak before and he is an inspirational and fascinating presenter.

Please complete the attached slip if you prefer not to observe the part of the brain dissection.

With kind regards,

Miss A Wood



Please return to Miss A Wood **Re: A Level and IB Psychology Lecture**

Name of Pupil \_\_\_\_\_ Year/Tutor/House \_\_\_\_\_

I do not wish to observe the sheep's brain dissection and will complete a worksheet on neuroanatomy during this session.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian)

## **Half-Day Programme (3 hours and 40 minutes)**

### **Introduction & Aims (10 minutes)**

**Session 1 - From Neuron To Brain:** *Methods of studying the brain: from lesions to brain scanning with video clips. Focus on PET, fMRI and new technologies. The role of genes in brain development and function. (1 hour)*

**Session 2 - Drugs & The Brain:** *How nerve cells communicate: neurotransmission and brain function. How hormones influence behaviour. How drugs work in the brain: alcohol, cocaine and SSRIs. The neurobiology of substance abuse. (20 minutes)*

*Break (15 minutes)*

**Session 3 - BrainWeb 1: I.T. Session in Room 3017:** *3-D Brain Anatomy. Lick Your Rats. What Sex Is Your Brain. Visual Illusions.(35 minutes)*

**Session 4 - The Working & The Damaged Brain:** *Anatomy and function. Language and the brain: Broca's and Wernicke's aphasias with case examples. Frontal lobe brain damage. The neuropathology of amnesia and Alzheimer's disease.(30 minutes)*

**Session 5 - Comparative Neuroanatomy:** *Brain anatomy across species. How much brain can we lose? Accompanied by sheep brain dissection.(40 minutes)*

### **Conclusions & Questions (5 minutes)**