

'INDUCTION' WORK FOR PROSPECTIVE A LEVEL GEOGRAPHERS; A RESEARCH PROJECT TO PRESENT

As well as trying to make sure that you get the best A Level grade that you can, our job is to turn you out as good all round Geographers who are aware of what is going on in the world, can think about issues and can see the connections between the factors that cause them.

Our introductory assignment is designed to start you on the road to this goal.

YOUR TASK; is to choose an event /issue that is in the news, let's say fairly recently.

It needs to have a PLACE context so celebrity gossip and extraordinary feats by animals, however interesting, are not what we want.

Produce a **report** on your chosen topic that you can give to the class. The report could be in written form or as a power point but do make sure that you have material (especially illustrations) that we can all see, in the case of a written report especially, and that the powerpoint has sufficient text detail, not just a collection of pretty pictures!

Your **report** needs to;

- explain where your choice is - maps will do this.
- a clear background - often this will be historical.
- describe the physical background if it is relevant.
- include social and economic aspects
- be clearly explained so that you can show that you understand what is going on.
- contain your own, reasoned, views on the subject.
- be interesting so that we enjoy listening to and marking it.
- **We certainly do not want ANY chunks of copy and paste; it needs to be YOUR expressions and ideas.**

As a starter, you will find the BBC website an amazingly rich source of material but don't neglect to use other websites and books. SOME EXAMPLES of things that are in the news at present and that you might choose plus the way you might approach them are;

- **The Royal Navy has just been active (10th July) in The Strait of Hormuz. At any one time 20% of the world's shipping is passing through this narrow channel but it is a flashpoint. Why? What is the importance of this region economically, politically, strategically?**
- **Views on energy sources and use are changing. For example the 2011 Japanese tsunami had a big impact on the status and use of nuclear as an energy provider around the world. Why is this and how does nuclear energy stand nowadays when the emphasis is on sustainability and dealing with climate change? Think broadly and look beyond nuclear. What is the impact of all this on other energy sources?**
- **USA, President Trump, tariffs on steel, China, protectionism, trade war. What is all this about and how might it affect us now and post Brexit ? What are the implications for an increasingly globalised world?**
- **You may be tired of hearing about it but the Brexit issue is possibly one of the most important political decisions that will be made in your lifetime. Explore what it is, what the opposing views say and what the implications are for you, different regions in the UK, the UK's place in the world. What do you think?**

These are just four examples that you could use. Find something which interests you and you will enjoy producing your report even more.

Please have it ready for the beginning of term, for your first lesson with Mrs Kain and do enjoy both this research investigation and your long summer holiday.

Mrs Kain and Mr Eynon