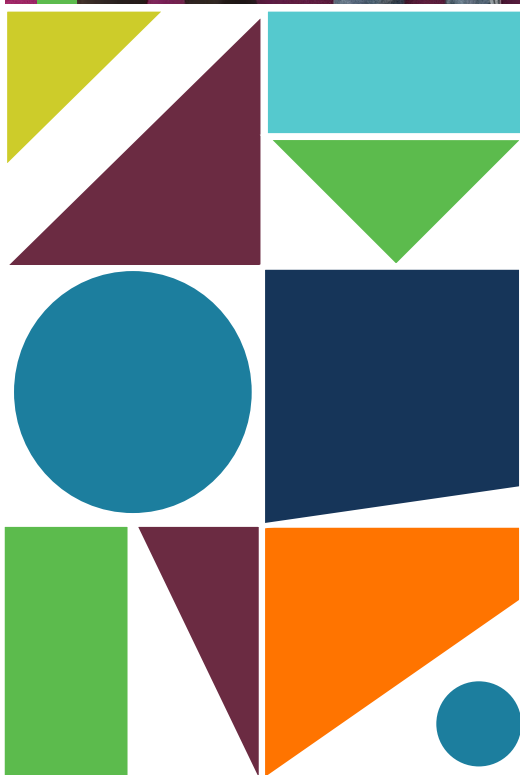




YEAR 10 WHITLEY BAY HIGH

Newsletter Term 2
2026



HEAD OF YEAR MESSAGE

As we approach the Easter break, I want to congratulate Year 10 on another positive and productive term. Students continue to show maturity and determination in their GCSE studies, rising well to the challenges of the course.

Work experience preparation has been a real success, with over 150 students already logging their placements on Unifrog — a fantastic achievement. Thursday lunchtime drop-in support remains available in A113 for anyone who still needs guidance.

This half term has also been enriched by brilliant opportunities including MathsFest, Wellbeing Week and the Literature Festival, with students engaging enthusiastically throughout.

There are even more exciting opportunities next half term, so please encourage students to keep an eye on the daily bulletin and listen carefully in tutorials.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable Easter break.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING:

- 4th & 5th February - Performing Arts Showcase
- 11th February - Progress Checks Home
- 9th March - Maths Fest all week
- 16th March - Well-Being Week
- 30th March - Literature Festival all week
- 30th March - GCSE PE Practical Exams all week



Performing Arts Rehearsal

KEY DATES COMING UP:

- 20th April - Eco Action Week
- 21st May - Year 10 Assessments Start
- 1st June - Pride Week Celebrations
- 1st June - Year 10 Assessment Week Continues
- 15th June - Year 10 Geography Fieldwork
- 18th June - Year 10 Work Experience Assembly
- 22nd June - Year 10 Work Experience
- 29th June - Year 10 Results Day
- 1st July - Summer Music Concert
- 2nd July - Year 10 Art Trip to London
- 6th July - Year 10 Jesus College Cambridge Residential
- 15th July - Sports Day
- 17th July - Last Day of School



STEM Racing Regional Finals



World Book day Quiz

STUDENT VIEW:

"I am enjoying my DT lessons. We recently have made a box. I have enjoyed making and designing my box regardless of the mistakes I made, the teachers are extremely kind and offer me many solutions."

"I've really enjoyed doing all the chemistry experiments and how the chemicals react with each other."

"I'm proud of stepping out my comfort zone, and achieving higher grades than I thought I could achieve in year 10."

SUBJECT RECAP:

English - Students have now completed their work on 'An Inspector Calls'. They have also studied some of the poems from the Power and Conflict anthology and they have created their own character to use in creative writing pieces. We are now studying Shakespeare's play 'Macbeth' for Literature Paper One.

Maths - Foundation - Percentages, Circles, Area and Perimeter, Ratio, Linear Equations, Angles, Substitution, Standard Form and Indices.

Higher - Circles, Area and Perimeter, Ratio, Linear Equations, Angles, Standard Form, Surds, Averages, Probability, Substitution, Standard Form and Indices.

Science - Combined and Triple Science - Biology: Infection and response. Chemistry: Students have been studying Quantitative Chemistry and Chemical Changes. Physics: Combined- Particle Model of Matter and Atomic Structure. Triple- Electricity and Particle Model of Matter.

Applied Studies: Photography - students have taken part in practical photoshoot opportunities and are editing images using professional software. Students have been developing their photoshop skills. **Occupational Studies** - Students have engaged with cooking meat, fish and vegetables and explored a range of cooking techniques. They have completed workbooks to evidence the new skills they have learned. **Sports Studies** - Students have continued to work on their outdoor activity education coursework. They have enjoyed one practical per week in sport studies where they can apply some of the skills learned in lessons.

Art - Students started on an 'Identity' project, exploring who they are as individuals and their influences. They've chosen their own theme, and have created their first artist and research piece and are developing their ideas along this theme.

Art & Design Textiles - Students have finished their coastal project and have started their Personal Project where students have selected their own theme.

Business - Students have been learning about the importance of external influences on business and how businesses change in response to these influences. They are now onto looking at the purpose of human resources, its role within business and how it influences business activity.

Child Development - Students have been evaluating the activities that they planned for their child.

Computer Science - We have now started looking at data representation and how images, text, and sound can be represented on a computer using only binary numbers (zeros and ones).

DT - Students have been building on their specialist area skills and applying these into focused application tasks. They are starting to build and develop their design communication skills and manufacturing techniques.

Digital IT - Students have sat their Component 1 Controlled Assessment and will have completed their second Component 2 Controlled Assessments by the end of March.

Drama - Students began by studying An Inspector Calls, from the viewpoint of an actor, a director, and a theatre designer (Component 3). They have made an excellent start to their devised unit (Component 1), creating their own pieces of theatre from the given stimuli of a painting, a poem, or a news article, and writing their portfolios to document the process.

Food Technology - Students have been learning about food safety, food storage, packaging. Practicals have been completed to support this learning. Students are going to be doing an assessed pavlova practical, showcasing their practical and presentation skills.

French & German - Topics include: holidays, travel, transport, weather, family and friends, free time and the media, food, eating out and sports.

Geography - We have been studying the 'Challenges of Natural Hazards' which includes an in-depth study of earthquakes and tropical storms as well as climate change. We are about to start 'The Changing UK Landscapes' involving coastal and river landscapes within the UK.

Health & Social Care - students have been focusing on the ways practitioners can successfully meet the needs of individuals, recommending sources of support to benefit their client.

History - Students have been studying the USA from 1920-1973, focusing this term on the Roaring Twenties and the Depression and New Deal of the 1930s.

Music - Students have been learning about vocal music from the 1970s (Queen - Killer Queen) and vocal and instrumental music from the Baroque era (Henry Purcell - Music for a While and Bach - Brandenburg Concerto No. 5).

PE GCSE (AQA) - Students will continue with two theory lessons and one practical. Students will start looking at the anatomy and physiology aspect of the course starting with muscles and bones.

PE Cambridge National (OCR) - Students will continue to complete the outdoor and adventure coursework for completion with marks being sent to the exam board in May. Students will then start the practical assignments.

PE Core - Badminton, trampolining, fitness, dodgeball, table tennis

Philosophy & Ethics - Students have been learning about the beliefs of Buddhism - the origins of the philosophy and how Buddhist's beliefs affect Buddhists in their everyday lives.

Spanish - Students have made a successful start to GCSE Spanish, learning about identity and relationships with others, healthy living and healthy lifestyle and education and work. Now they are starting a new topic of free-time activities.

DID YOU KNOW?



We have our own in-house Careers Guidance Team

who offer 1-1 and small group guidance. They can be found on the 2nd floor A Block at the Careers Office:

Steph Towns (Career Development Lead)
steph.towns@whitleybayhighschool.org
Vicki McAvoy (Careers Assistant)
victoria.mcavoy@whitleybayhighschool.org

Look out for events and workshops throughout the year. Contact staff for more information.

Our School library opening hours are as follows:

- Monday - 8.30am-4.30pm
- Tuesday - 8.30am-2.15pm
- Wednesday - 8.30am-4.30pm
- Thursday - 8.30am-4.30pm
- Friday - 8.30am-4pm

School Council

So far this academic year the Student School Council has met each half term to discuss such diverse topics as school uniform, wellbeing, extracurricular offerings and how diversity is represented in our school wide curriculum. We value and appreciate all student feedback and so far this year this suggestions and views shared with us have been able to enact some genuine change. As we move through to the summer term the school council will be looking at some charity initiatives they want to support and sharing their ideas and suggestions as we prepare for the next academic year. For those who are regularly attending, there will also be some opportunities to attend some invited events and hear from outside speakers. The school council meetings take place on the last Wednesday of every half term during extended registration - keep an eye out during TFTW and on the bulletin notices to get involved!

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Great Britain Ice Hockey camp



Jazz Band On Tour



The Choir at Ryton Music Festival



You can follow us on Instagram:
@whitleybayhigh