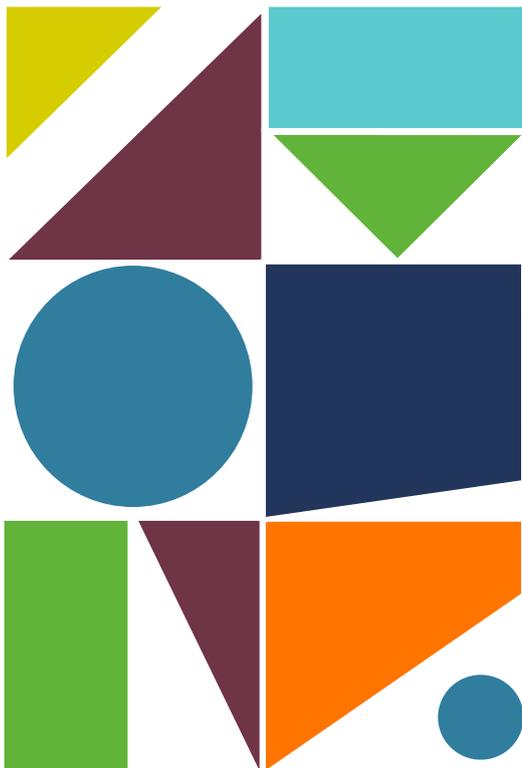




YEAR 9 WHITLEY BAY HIGH

Newsletter Term 1
2025



HEAD OF YEAR MESSAGE

I wanted to take a moment to celebrate the amazing start your children have had here at WBHS! They've shown incredible resilience and determination as they embrace the theme of "Your Story", starting new chapters, tackling new challenges and getting involved in all the activities on offer.

The feedback from staff has been overwhelmingly positive—our Year 9s have really embraced the WBHS spirit, settling in well and already feeling like an integral part of the school community.

Next half term, we'll start the GCSE options process. This is an exciting step as students begin choosing the subjects they'll focus on in Years 10 and 11. We're here to support them in making choices that fit their interests and strengths.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and well done to our fantastic Year 9 students for such a positive start!

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING:

- 11th Sept - Extra-Curricular Fair
- 22nd Sept - European Week of Languages
- 2rd Oct - National Poetry Day
- 6th Oct - Market Masters
- 20th Oct - Settling in Check home
- 23rd Oct - Tutor Evening
- 7th Nov - Navy Workshops
- 17th Nov - Market Masters
- 8th Dec - Christmas Lectures week



Under 14 Girls Football Team



National Poetry Day

KEY DATES COMING UP:

- 7th Jan - Option Assembly
- 7th Jan - Progress Checks home
- 8th Jan - Parents' Option Evening
- 19th Jan - Market Masters
- 22nd Jan - Parents' Evening (P/Q Band)
- 27th Jan - Parents' Evening (R/S Band)
- 29th Jan - Careers Speed Networking
- 30th Jan - Options deadline
- 5th Feb - Careers Speed Networking
- 2nd March - Options Meetings begin
- 2nd March - National Careers Week
- 9th March - Maths Fest
- 11th March - Anti-bullying Launch Assembly
- 16th March - Wellbeing Week
- 18th March - Parent Workshops and Wellbeing Fair
- 20th March - Challenge Week Options Assembly
- 30th March - Literature Festival all week
- 3rd April – Bank Holiday



Cross Country Team

"I have made loads of new friends from different middle schools since I started in September. It has been really cool.

I've really enjoyed being part of Musicals Club and also the creative writing group, they are lovely environments to be in."

STUDENT VIEW:

SUBJECT RECAP:

English - Students started the year by reading and studying the novel 'The Climbers' by Keith Gray and looking at some openings to stories. We then moved on to study the novel 'The Birds' by Daphne Du Maurier as well as exploring how writers use settings in their stories.

Maths - In half term one we covered core number, algebra and shape skills with a particular focus on problem solving. In half term 2 we have been covering probability, indices, ratio, data and estimation.

Science - Students have been looking at Earth and Atmosphere, Space, Let's think Scientifically and Bioenergetics, experimental design and practical work based on basic electricity, acids and alkalis bioenergetics.

Art - Exploring and applying the formal elements to an observational drawing of toys using colour pencils. Students have also explored the work of toy artists and all this work will be presented in a similar way to the GCSE coursework.

Art & Design: Textiles - Students have been looking at a project based around the topic of 'Human'. They are learning about lots of new textiles techniques such as fabric painting, applique work and embroidery.

Design Technology - Technology - Students have investigated, researched and designed a Funko pop vinyl figure and have started manufacturing a prototype figure. **Electronics** - Students have completed an introduction to soldering and are now completing their LED Christmas trees. **Jewellery** - Students have investigated how designers use inspiration to create their products, using this to create a Guadi inspired keyring. They are now developing key skills to create Christmas based ornaments.

Digital IT - Creating logos, floor plans, mood boards, house layouts and websites for their Buildings and Interiors Project or Creating their Heroes and Villains magazines.

Drama - Students had a great start to the year, studying the origins of contemporary theatre in Classical Greek Theatre. After the half term, they began to practically explore the play *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, working as an ensemble and using elements of scripted and physical theatre.

Food Technology - Students have just completed a module on 'fake away food'. They are currently learning about cakes and pastries. They are building up their technical skills through a number of different practical sessions to provide a good foundation for GCSE Food.

French & German - Topics include: free time, cinema, TV, the Internet until Christmas when we introduce festivals.

Geography - We have been looking at a range of Environmental Issues, at the local as well as the global scale, analysing their impact on the world in which we live. We will soon move onto studying glaciers and their impact on the landscape.

History - Students will study the Russian Revolution and the Second World War.

LEU - In our lessons for Life, Equality and Values students have been working on their first topic rotation in one of the four key areas of computing, relationships and wellbeing, beliefs or citizenship. Please see the school website for more details on each module.

Music - Students have been reviewing the basics of pitch and rhythm.

PE (Core) - Students have spent the first half term participating in a range of different activities covering, fitness, sports such as rugby, football, hockey, table tennis and volleyball.

PE (Extra) - Students participate in one sport per half term. All students will cover the same sports throughout the year.

PE Health & Fitness - Students have participated in a 3K challenge and are now starting a leadership block of work.

Philosophy & Ethics - Students have been studying the origins of philosophy in Ancient Greece, explored the key branches of philosophy and have started a study of ethics looking at a range of ethical issues including animal testing and debating ideas such as "Is war ever right?"

Spanish - Students have been learning all about themselves in Spanish and progressing beyond the basics to begin to form more complex sentences about their lives.



DID YOU KNOW?

You can follow us on Instagram:
[@whitleybayhigh](https://www.instagram.com/whitleybayhigh)



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

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



Year 9 Rise and Read Launch



Cross Country Team



MFL Week of Languages - Quiz

Whitley Bay High School
Deneholm
Whitley Bay
NE25 9AS
0191 7317070
www.whitleybayhighschool.org



Poetry Live Event