



YEAR 9 WHITLEY BAY HIGH

Newsletter Term 1 2023



HEAD OF YEAR MESSAGE

Well done to our wonderful Year 9 pioneers for making such an incredible start to their time at WBHS. They have shown a great amount of resilience as they navigate their new school, and have put an incredible amount of effort into getting stuck in to all of the different team challenges, individual initiatives and all of the trips and visits we have had already. We have had some excellent feedback from external visitors and are really proud of how well they are representing our school. They are a real asset to the school - from library helpers to school council, they are getting involved! Next term, we start the process of determining which GCSE option subjects students would like to select for their Year 10 and Year 11 studies. Well done everyone!

Extra Curricular Fair



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING...

- 14th September - Extra-Curricular Fair
- 20th September - Football Team Trials
- 27th September - Golfway Skills Festival
- 5th October - National Poetry Day - A number of Year 9 students read at an event in the library
- 10th October - T-Shirt Morning (P Quarter)
- 12th October - Beach Event
- 21st November - T-Shirt Morning (Q Quarter)
- Week beginning 11th December - Christmas Lectures

KEY DATES TO LOOK OUT FOR:



Wonder Challenge

- 10th January - Year 9 Options Assembly (students only)
- 10th January - Progress Checks home
- 23rd January - T-Shirt Morning (R Quarter)
- 23rd January - Yr 9 Option Evening (remote)
- 24th January - Yr 9 Parents' Evening (P & Q Quarters)
- 30th January - Yr 9 Parents' Evening (R & S Quarters)
- 6th February - Careers Clinic
- 13th February - Careers Fair Speed Dating (Half Year Group)
- 27th February - Careers Fair Speed Dating (Half Year Group)
- 11th March - Maths Fest all Week
- 14th March - T-Shirt Morning (S Quarter)



Cross-Curricular event at Di Meo's

STUDENT VIEW:

"I have loved my start to WBHS. The lessons are fun and interactive."

"I have really enjoyed meeting new teachers and people. I also liked being the first in a brand new building!"

"Teachers here have made me feel really welcome and make lessons fun."



SUBJECT RECAP...

English - Students started the year by looking at coming of age novels and openings to stories. We then moved on to study how writers use island settings in Literature before beginning to study 'The Tempest' by William Shakespeare.

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 measures, averages, sequences, probability, ratio, indices and data.

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 fashion collaboration module. They are learning about lots of new textiles techniques such as applique work and embroidery.

Design Technology - Technology - Students have investigated, researched and designed a Funko pop vinyl figure linked to Whitley Bay and have started manufacturing a prototype figure.

Robotics - Students have been learning how to create a circuit board. They will use this to create a mini robot. **Jewellery** - Students have investigated how designers use inspiration to create their products. The students are using the work of Gaudi to design and manufacture their prototype product.

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

Drama - Students started the year by practically exploring the play The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time. After half term we began to study the history of theatre; starting with Greek theatre, and we will end the year looking at commedia dell'arte characters.

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: family, free time, shopping, food and restaurants, and festivals in the first half term. There has also been huge excitement about the Black Forest and Strasbourg trip.

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 will spend the first half term participating in a range of different activities covering team building, fitness, sports such as rugby, football, hockey, badminton, netball, dance and trampolining.

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

Philosophy & Ethics - Students have been studying the beginnings of Philosophy and some key philosophers, and are moving on to 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.



Golfway Skills Festival



Football Team



Rugby Team

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 McAvooy (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



Extra Curricular Clubs and Activities

Scan the QR code to see the timetable of Extra-Curricular clubs and activities available for all year groups.

See Miss Medhurst for more information or to suggest a future new club.

Whole School Council Meeting

School Council

Whole school council meetings take place on the final Wednesday of each half term in the lecture theatre space. If students have not already signed up to be involved they should contact Miss Medhurst. Year team council meetings take place on the penultimate Wednesday of half term. Students can find out more through their Assistant Heads of Year.

Room CR01
Lunchtime
Every Friday
week 1

Tea and Talk

Support from
peers
Bring lunch!

Do you ever feel you need a space to talk? Why not drop in for hot drinks and a slice of cake to talk through some of your troubles with our supportive 6th formers?

"If only you could sense how important you are to the people you meet"

Tea and Talk

A drop-in session for all years groups which offers support from peers. Every Friday week 1 in CR01, hot drinks and treats available.



Follow us on X
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