



# Year 9



## HEAD OF YEAR MESSAGE

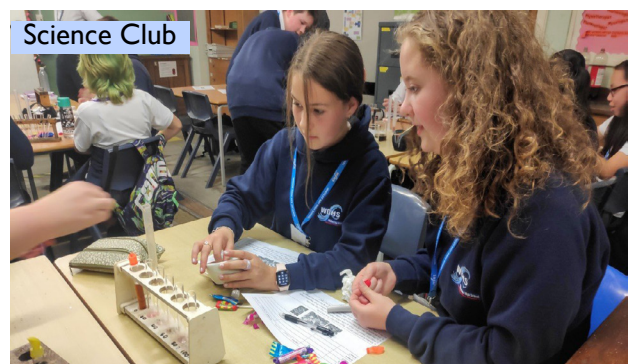
Year 9 have made a fantastic start to life at Whitley Bay High School. As a year group they are characterised by being interested in their studies, fun, and with a strong awareness of political issues. We have been impressed with them in class, on trips and in extra-curricular clubs, some of which they have started themselves. We've had students doing assemblies, successful student council meetings, and some of the best feedback from external visitors to school we've had. 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, and keep it up!

### WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING...

- TICE Enterprise Project
- Visit to Newcastle University for Psychology
- Beach project
- Positive postcard competition

### KEY DATES TO LOOK OUT FOR:

- Upcoming National Trust project
- Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January (provisional): Year 9 Options assembly
- Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January (provisional): Year 9 Progress Reports out
- January - March: Year 9 Options meeting (to determine which GCSE options you'd like to pick)
- Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January: Year 9 Virtual Options evening for parents
- 19<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> January: Year 9 Parents' Evenings



# SUBJECT RECAP

**ENGLISH** - Students began the year studying coming of age novels. They then studied Daphne Du Maurier's *The Birds*, focusing on language, symbolism and structure. They are currently studying war and conflict across a range of texts from Shakespeare's plays to poetry, film and propaganda material.

**MATHS** - We have been covering core number, algebra and shape skills with a particular focus on problem solving.

**SCIENCE** - Students have been looking at Earth and Atmosphere, Space, Let's think Scientifically, 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. Once this is complete they are exploring print, specifically monoprinting and drypoint.

**DT** - Students will look at Mars Rover work and the latest missions to go back to the moon, covering core aspects of the Design Technology course leading to option choice discussions.

**DRAMA** - Students have been studying the history of theatre, starting with Greek theatre. After half term students began studying Commedia Dell'arte characters, improvisation, comedy, status, and physical theatre.

**FOOD AND TEXTILES TECHNOLOGY** - Students will complete two ten week modules, one in Food and the other Textiles. The food module is an introduction to food preparation. Textiles involves developing a range of sewing skills.

**FRENCH, GERMAN AND SPANISH** - Topics include: family, free time, shopping, food and restaurants, and festivals in the first half term. There has also been huge excitement about the return of the Normandie 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.

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

**LEV** - 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.

**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 volleyball, football, dance and trampolining.

**PE (EXTRA)** - Students participate in one sport per half term. All students will cover the same sports throughout the year. Students are focusing on becoming prepared to take the course to examination level.

## WHAT HAVE YR 9 ENJOYED ABOUT WBHS SO FAR?

We asked them and they said:

