



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope this final bulletin finds you and your families safe and well. The Year 8s have made real progress this year and it genuinely has been a real pleasure to work with them. They are a great year group and I am proud of all that they have achieved over the last year. Inside this bulletin you will find updates from different subject areas:

English

Looking ahead: Next year students will start to read poetry and books as mirrors, reflecting and engaging with the world around them – and its problems.

They will start by reading the poetry of Benjamin Zephaniah, a poet who explores all the good and the bad about contemporary Britain. Following this, students will read and engage with a range of texts linked to themes of identity, of who we are. Finally students will then read the novel *The Hate U Give*.

Summer Challenge: Discover new YA fiction: <https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/category/reading-lists-for-ks3-pupils/> This link has loads of great ideas for family friendly free days in Manchester that involve lots of the best cultural institutions in the city: <https://www.visitmanchester.com/ideas-and-inspiration/blog/read/2023/07/10-free-activities-to-enjoy-with-the-kids-in-the-summer-holiday-2023-b2110>

Maths

Looking ahead: In September, your young person will be entering year 9. Over the Summer, please ensure they have full maths equipment; this includes pens, pencils, red pens, ruler, glue, compass, protractor and a calculator. The beginning of year 9 will recap and build their knowledge on straight line graphs before moving onto forming and solving algebraic equations and inequalities. There will be open book assessments in the first half term based on these topics. There will be a closed book assessment in the second half term.

Summer challenge: There will be optional homework set on Sparx which students can complete throughout Summer. Encourage your young person to access this to keep their mathematical brains switched on! Where can you find maths during the summer holidays? Can you see any charts or graphs of data? Are they misleading? Often advertisements or news can show information which can make you think things are better or worse than you realise.

Science

Looking ahead: Students will study the following topics:

- Biology: Cells
- Chemistry: Basic Chemistry
- Physics: Energy

Summer challenge: Over the summer if students would like to, they could use the BBC bitesize website to start to look at the topics ready for September or look through the material available on Seneca.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zng4d2p>

Religious Studies

Looking ahead: After the summer will be looking at philosophy at the start of Year 9.

Summer challenge: Think of an ultimate question and try to get as many opinions about it as they can from others to see just how varied people's beliefs and ideas are.

Geography

Looking ahead: In preparation for next year our students should continue to be interested in the world around them and what global events are taking place, from the current volcanic eruption in Iceland to heatwaves across Europe and events closer to home in the ongoing plans for Poynton Park and Pool!

Summer challenge: watch the BBC Newsround programme and then delve deeper into the topics that fascinate them. A favourite website of ours in the department is the <https://earth.nullschool.net/> live wind map where you can observe live wind patterns but also temperatures and change the dates to look at particular events going back as far as 2013.

Why not try the Planet Planners activities where you use your geography decision-making skills to deal with challenges including volcanic eruptions, earthquakes and coastal <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zs6j2v4/articles/zdmkwnb> There are lots to choose from linked to our topics.

History

Looking ahead: In Year 9 our topic in Conflict in the 20th Century and students will start the year by looking at what caused World War One

Summer challenge: A great place to visit in the summer would be the Imperial War Museum at Salford Quays which covers a lot of the global conflict we will be studying in Year 9.

MFL

Looking ahead: In Y9, students will continue to build on the language they have learned in Y7-8, with topics including

FRENCH

- Sports and hobbies
- Technology and activities online
- TV, film and media

- Celebrity culture
- Family, friends and relationships
- Festivals and special occasions

Outside of the classroom, students will also have the opportunity to take part in the French trip to Paris during the February half term. You should have received information about this trip via Evolve.

GERMAN

- School
- Free time
- Festivals and family events
- Relationships
- Describing where you live
- Healthy living

In Y9, students of German will also have the opportunity to take part in the German exchange to Kassel. More information to come in the new academic year.

Planning for next year's German exchange is now well underway. Details will be available in September!

Summer Challenge: Have a go at completing the lyrics to a song using the website www.lyricstraining.com/fr (French) or <https://lyricstraining.com/de/> (German)

Watch a French series or film (Netflix recommendations: 'Astérix & Obélix: The Middle Kingdom, 'Family Pack', 'Spoiled Brats')

Second language independent study group:

If your young person is interested in learning more languages and might consider doing two Languages [German and French] in their GCSE options, we are going to invite them to a new Google Classroom and add some materials so they can make a head start over the summer. In the new school year, we will also invite them to attend some extra sessions after school in preparation for their option choices. More information to come at the start of the academic year. If you have any questions, please contact the Mrs Ferrandon-Latch in the MFL department gferrandonlatch@poyntonhigh.org.uk

Computing

Summer challenge: With the summer break ahead, there are some great ways your young person can stay engaged with computing while also enjoying a well-deserved rest.

- Talk about technology: Ask how computers work or discuss emerging tech like AI and robotics.
- Encourage safe and responsible online behaviour.
- Explore fun coding websites and games together (see resources below).
- Let them experiment with creating digital content such as a blog, graphic design, or coding projects.

Product design

students will do two lessons of Product Design a fortnight. This gives students an opportunity to cover more skills over the year and continue to work with a range of materials.

We are introducing two new projects next year. A Mini NEA project and a Biomimicry inspired Lamp Design.

Here is some information about the projects.

- The first project which we will do is the Mini NEA project. We have slimmed down the GCSE Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) for students to learn and understand how an NEA is ran. Students will go through the designing element and create a model of their chosen design.
- The second project is the Biomimicry inspired Lamp. Students will be able to design and make a lamp which will be inspired by Biomimicry. This project will allow students to learn a new concept and put this into part of their design.

Physical Education

Looking ahead: In year 9 students will have 1 lesson per week, they will explore a range activities from netball to badminton to volleyball to dance to rounders and athletics

Summer challenge: This summer, why not challenge yourself—head out for a walk, try a new activity, or aim for a personal best in your sport? Summer 2025 is packed with thrilling sporting events, so why not tune in, get inspired, and discover something new along the way?"

- UEFA Women Euros
- Women's rugby world cup
- Tour de France
- The open gold championships
- Us open

On Tuesday 8th July, we held our Whole School Sports Day. It was fantastic to see so many students take part in the events throughout the day. The results for each event are

Year 8 Boys Javelin	Legh	R Trollope
Year 8 Girls Javelin	Legh	I Floyd
Year 8 Boys Shot	Vernon	W Yates
Year 8 Girls Shot	Davenport	S Pembery
Year 8 Boys LJ	Legh	J Day
Year 8 Girls LJ	Newton	B Alvey
Year 8 Boys Basketball	Vernon	J Titterton
Year 8 Girls Basketball	Newton	K Poon
Year 8 Boys target Throw	Legh	H Grainger

Year 8 Girls Target Throw	Davenport	C Chapman
Year 8 Boys Welly	Legh	W Covil
Year 8 Girls Welly	Vernon	E Osbourne
Year 8 Boys 800m	Vernon	B Lugsden
Year 8 Girls 800m	Legh	L Johnson
Year 8 Boys 400m	Legh	A Asprey
Year 8 Girls 300m	Newton	K Alshahoud
Year 8 Boys 200m	Davenport	H Guymer
Year 8 Girls 200m	Legh	I Floyd
Year 8 Boys 100m	Davenport	O Herbert
Year 8 Girls 100m	Newton	B Alvey

Overall Sports Day Results

4th = Newton – 790 points

2nd = Vernon – 818 points

2nd = Davenport 818 points

1st = Legh – 876 points

Dance

Well done to all those who took part in the House Dance Competition. It was so wonderful to see all of your choreographies and it was great to see so many different genres and pieces of music. Congratulations to Newton won the competition. Dance Clubs will resume next September on the same day as you have had this year.

Tuesday - Year 7

Wednesday – Year 9

Thursday – Year 8

All new members welcome

Drama

- The big event for Year 8 was our annual Play in a Week.
- This year it was our own interpretation of George's marvellous medicine

- There were 148 students in the team divided into Set and Props, marketing, Acting, music, dance, costume design, lighting and sound.
- The Creative team made up as always of our staff, Year11,12 and 13 students and our wonderful alumni who so generously come back to guide and inspire our young students. Many thanks to them all.
- Thanks also to the parents – your emails and comments were much appreciated.

Message from Miss Holyland

You can claim free school meals for each child who attends school in Cheshire East if you receive one of these benefits:

- Income Support
- Income based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income related Employment Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit - as long as you have a yearly household income of less than £16,190 (as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs) and do not get
- Working Tax Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit with no earned income or with net monthly earnings less than £616.67

You can apply for nursery-age children if they attend before and after lunch sessions at a local authority nursery school, nursery class or an Academy nursery if it has the same Ofsted number as the primary school.

Phone 0300 123 5012 for further information and help or you can apply online at

https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/free_school_meals.aspx

Mental Health and Wellbeing

- Over the course of the school year, we have focused on supporting positive mental health and wellbeing.
- Students can find resources on the Google Classroom Year page to support positive mental health, including ideas for boosting wellbeing.
- Students have taken part in fortnightly Wellbeing Wednesdays during form time, as well as five Student Development Days, which all aim to promote positive wellbeing.
- The summer holidays are an excellent opportunity to spend time boosting positive mental health and wellbeing, as well as establishing good habits to continue in September.
- We would encourage the students to be kind to themselves, be kind to each other, spend time away from phones and social media and enjoy some outside space and experiences.

September

As we look ahead to the start of the new academic year, we kindly ask for your continued support in ensuring that all students return in full and correct uniform and with the appropriate equipment for learning.

Essential Equipment:

To be ready for learning each day, students must bring:

- A school bag
- Black/blue pens, Red Pen, pencil, ruler, and eraser
- A scientific calculator
- Reading book
- Subject-specific equipment as needed (e.g., PE kit, ingredients for Food Tech)

Having the correct uniform and equipment is a vital part of maintaining high standards, supporting learning, and preparing students for the expectations of the world beyond school.

It has been a real pleasure to get to know and work with the Year 8 students this year; they have made fantastic progress and have thrown themselves in to all the opportunities Poynton High School has to offer. I look forward to continuing to work with the young people in the year group next year. We look forward to welcoming them back to school on Wednesday 3rd September.

Thank you for your continued support.

Jodie Hancock

Director of Learning for KS3

Jhancock@poyntonhigh.org.uk

Jodi Horobin

Head of Year

Jhorobin@poyntonhigh.org.uk