



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope this final bulletin finds you and your families safe and well. The Year 9s have made real progress this year and it genuinely has been a real pleasure to work with them again. They are a fantastic year group and I am so proud of all that they have achieved. Inside this bulletin you will find updates from different subject areas:

English

Looking ahead: Students will study both English language and English literature.

English Language: Term 1 begins with a visit to three key concepts for GCSE English Language:

- Language.
- Structure.
- Audience and purpose.

English Literature: Term 1 begins by studying a cluster of war poetry. This ranges from Tennyson's 'Charge of the Light Brigade', a response to a military 'blunder' in the Crimean War, through to the more contemporary 'Remains', by Simon Armitage. Following this, students study Shakespeare's Macbeth in its entirety, until the end of half-term 3.

Summer challenge: This link is a great resource for discovering new YA fiction aimed at Y9-10 students: <https://schoolreadinglist.co.uk/reading-lists-for-ks4-school-pupils/suggested-reading-list-year-10-pupils-ks4-age-14-15/> 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 10 and officially beginning the GCSE course. Their knowledge from KS3 will have laid the foundations for their GCSE years. 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 10 will recap and build their knowledge on congruent (identical) shapes and problem solving with similar shapes. Following this will be a higher GCSE topic called trigonometry which explores the ratio relationships between sides in a right-angled triangle. 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? Are you travelling distances in a certain amount of time? What speed were you going, and what was your average speed?

Science

Looking ahead: Students will study the following topics

- Biology: Disease
- Chemistry: Structure and bonding
- Physics: Electricity and Atomic structure

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/examspecs/z8r997h>

Religious Studies

Looking ahead: Year 9 have now completed the first module of the GCSE and will continue with this after summer looking at key beliefs, Christ and salvation for Christians.

Summer challenge: Students could create revision resources such as mind maps from scratch to see what has stuck in their head from the course so far.

Geography

Looking ahead: We are so excited that so many students have chosen to join us for GCSE geography next year where they can build on everything that they have learned so far in KS3. In preparation for this we encourage students to be curious about the events happening in the world around them – to discuss events with people and to read and watch news articles. The volcanic eruption in Iceland which last erupted in April 2025 is a good place to start – why there? What is happening? How are the people affected? How is the environment affected? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CWJt03w-1rQ>

Summer challenge: Encouraging our young people to engage with the world around them, to be aware of global events and those closer to home is essential in geography studies. It is such a dynamic subject that there is always some topic to discuss and research. It is a really good idea to consolidate the knowledge on map skills, graph skills and statistical skills before our students start their GCSE course – there are more mathematical skills in the course than some will realise. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zy3ptyc> This BBC website is a good place to do that if they scroll down to the Geographical Skills section.

History

Looking ahead: Year 9 have been studying the civil rights movement in the USA this term which forms part of the GCSE course for those continuing with GCSE in Year 10. Topics studied have included: The Montgomery Bus Boycott, the Freedom Rides and Martin Luther King and these topics have helped students understand conflict in the USA in the 1950s and 1960s

Summer challenge: Students could investigate civil rights activity in Britain in the 1960s. A good website to use is: <https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/article/section/civil-rights-movement/history-of-civil-rights-in-the-uk/>

MFL

Looking ahead: In Y10, students will begin the new GCSE course. Topics will include:

GERMAN

- Staying fit and healthy
- Role models
- Celebrations
- Where you live
- Holidays

SPANISH

- Family, friends and relationships
- Celebrity culture
- Healthy living
- School
- Town and local area

Summer challenge: Have a go at completing the lyrics to a German or Spanish song using the website <https://lyricstraining.com/de/> (German) or <https://lyricstraining.com/es/> (Spanish). Watch a series or film on Netflix/Amazon Prime/Disney+. A lot of films originally in English have the option to change the language so you can watch something familiar whilst practising your listening skills and learning new vocabulary.

Product Design

Looking ahead: For those students studying GCSE Product Design – we are so excited to see you in September! We will be completing a range of projects which will include modelling a stool which involves learning about anthropometrics/ergonomics. To go alongside the theory side of the course students will create a ‘tool box’ out of a range of materials which they will learn in line with making the tool box.

Summer challenge: Students could experiment in using Sketch Up that would be great. This will really help them next year when exploring design ideas.

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 9 Boys Javelin	Davenport	J Hunt
Year 9 Girls Javelin	Davenport	L Barratt
Year 9 Boys Shot	Legh	J Kitchen
Year 9 Girls Shot	Vernon	C Kelly
Year 9 Boys LJ	Davenport	C Ma
Year 9 Girls LJ	Legh	A Arnold
Year 9 Boys Basketball	Davenport	C Ma
Year 9 Girls Basketball	Vernon	B Sanford-Whyte
Year 9 Boys Target Throw	Newton	J Turner
Year 9 Girls Target Throw	Newton	M Austin
Year 9 Boys Welly	Legh	M Arthur
Year 9 Girls Welly	Legh	A Westerby
Year 9 Boys 800m	Legh	T Smith
Year 9 Girls 800m	Legh	A Boyle
Year 9 Boys 400m	Davenport	M Roberts
Year 9 Girls 300m	Newton	I Proven (**School Record**)
Year 9 Boys 200m	Vernon	H Bailey
Year 9 Girls 200m	Newton	M Chandler-Oduah
Year 9 Boys 100m	Legh	L Edgar
Year 9 Girls 100m	Legh	S Adderley Brushett

Overall Sports Day Results

4th = Newton – 790 points

2nd = Vernon – 818 points

2nd = Davenport 818 points

1st = Legh – 876 points

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 privilege to be the Director of Learning for the Year 9s this year. It has been such a pleasure to get to know and work with such an engaged and enthusiastic year group, who have so much potential for successes. I have every faith that the Year 9 students will get stuck into their GCSE courses in September and I know that Miss Dovey (Director of Learning for KS4) and Mrs Riley (Head of year) are really looking forward to working with the students in September. We look forward to welcoming them back to school on Wednesday 3rd September.

If you have any queries about anything school related, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Thank you for your continued support.

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From September:

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