



## Poynton High School

### Year 8 Parent and Carer Bulletin – December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Inside this bulletin you will find a celebration of an excellent first full term and information regarding what to expect in the coming New Year.



### Year 8 Snowman sprint



On Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December year 8 took part in the Santa sprint to raise money for East Cheshire Hospice. It was the most fantastic day...despite the weather. Thank you so much for all those that have been able to raise money for such a great cause!

### **Taking responsibility!**

This half term, the Year 8s have been challenged to achieve an attendance percentage of 96.5% - at the end of this term, the attendance for the year is 95.35%. This is really positive! But there is some room for improvement next term!

They have been challenged to earn as many housepoints for their houses as possible, with the form with the most housepoints winning breakfast at the end of the half term – in total, 82.725 house points have been awarded to Year 8 since September – well done!

### **English**

By Christmas Year 8 students will have completed the Mystery Stories unit;

Moving on to studying Gothic Stories which involves three assessments – a comprehension, writing the opening to a mystery story and an essay exploring to story openings. These reflect the Reading, Writing and Literature assessments they complete at Key Stage 4;

Encourage students to read as many books as possible! The more they read, the more they become used to understanding a wide variety of texts. This will also help them complete the Reading Challenge project for the end of the year;

All home learning is being set on a weekly basis on Doodle so please encourage students to complete this work. There is a tracking sheet in the back of exercise books that you can sign to track and monitor their engagement with home learning tasks;

Encourage students to ask as many questions as possible and get involved with the various activities and learning experiences on offer!

### **Maths**

Year 8 have an upcoming assessment on the 28<sup>th</sup> January. Revision Lists will be available on Doodle over the Christmas holiday.

Just a further reminder for ensuring all students are bringing equipment to their lessons. Maths lessons require

## **Science**

After Christmas Year 8 will be completing their second science test. The test will be on:

8B2- Exchange and respiration

8C2- Metal reactions

8P3- Energy

Students will then begin to learn about Plants, Rocks and sound waves.

Nominations for science awards are being collected this coming week and will be given out after Christmas.

On Friday 8th February there is a 'Communications' Roadshow coming in which year 8 will be attending.

## **Geography**

Year 8 have had a great term in their geography lessons – they have learnt lots of information about our Volcanoes and earthquakes including why so many people choose to live in such hazardous locations around the world and what those hazards are, to the infamous 'make a volcano' home learning task – some of the best ones we have ever had this year we think! Some students have also been studying the growth of the tourist industry and why people choose to holiday in ever increasingly exotic locations. Next term we shall be looking at the rise of the Superpowers – focusing on China and Brazil in terms of inequalities in society and environmental/ sustainability issues– as topical as ever!

## **Religious Studies**

Year 8 have done brilliantly with discussions about life and the afterlife this term and did the school proud in welcoming visitors from the six different churches around Poynton. Next half term they will be learning about Hinduism and getting a better understanding of how Hindus view life, society and God.

## **Cultural Passport**

The theme of this half term's Cultural Passport has been respect.

The Year 8s have looked at respecting others, themselves, the environment and school, Remembrance Day and Consent.

The students have been extremely mature in their approach to some very important topics and have taken the discussions in their stride!

It has been great to see how engaged and interested the Year 8s have been with the Cultural Passport this term – hopefully they will get the chance to show off their new found cultural capital over the Christmas break!

Well done once again to all of the Year 8s; a final thank you and well done on such a brilliant term. Have a lovely and restful Christmas and we look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 7th January.

Please contact us if there are any issues or if you have any questions at all.

Thank you for your continued support.

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### **Welfare Leader (Years 8 and 9)**



