



Poynton High School

Year 9 Parent and Carer Bulletin – October 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

This bulletin is a celebration of an excellent first half term from the Year 9s for this academic year. They have taken the theme of 'Making the Right Choices' in their stride and have made a really positive start to an important year in their school lives.

Making the Right Choices

- This half term, the Year 9s have been challenged to achieve an attendance percentage of 96.5%
- 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
- They have been challenged to throw themselves into every aspect of school – new lessons, extracurricular activities, sporting activities and the new cultural passport

English

- Currently completing/finishing Literacy Bootcamp;
- Moving on to studying *Of Mice and Men* which involves four assessments – a comprehension, Speaking and Listening, 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;
- 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

Maths

- 26th November - Year 9 open book assessment
- Revision lists will be made available to all students before their assessment week via doodle
- Reminder about equipment – all students must have a maths set including pair of compasses, protractor and scientific calculator

Science

- In science after half term students will be completing the following:
- Biology: Finishing the topics of Cells, Diffusion and photosynthesis and then completing Test 1
- Chemistry: Completed test 1 then studying separating techniques and working on practical skills
- Physics: Energy topic and then a test
- It would be helpful if they could start to revise for the biology and physics tests.

Geography

- Students are continuing to look at the Risky World topic
- They have been looking at Disease risks around the world as well as some physical geography risks such as avalanches
- Students should stay up to date with the news – lots of Geography happening every day!

History

- Year 9 have been working hard this half term on the causes of WW1 and have completed the first assessment of the year on this topic.
- Next half term students will continue with WW1 looking at how the war was actually fought and looking at key individuals in the war like General Haig, on which their second assessment will be based.
- As the centenary of the end of the war approaches students should look out for programmes to watch about the war to widen their understanding.

Religious Studies

- Year 9 have been working on an introduction to Philosophy this half term and have looked at ideas from thinkers such as Aristotle and Thomas Aquinas.
- They should have now completed or be about to complete a balanced argument on the existence of God.
- After half term they will be starting to look at Ethics and will be receiving visitors from some of the local churches to talk about how a Christian might make an ethical decision.

P.E

- After-school clubs – There will be clubs for Basketball, Badminton, Volleyball, Cricket, Football, Rugby, Lacrosse. The weekly timetable will be published on the website, PE's twitter page, the student bulletin and in the PE changing rooms.
- Please note: anyone is welcome to attend any club at either lunch time or after-school. You just need to turn up.
- There will also be an extensive fixture list and details about these will get published on the weekly after-school activity list.
- Please regularly check the PE twitter page @PHS_PhysEd for up to date details about clubs and fixtures.

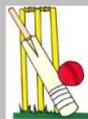
PHS PE Lunch Time Activities

October—Xmas Half Term

All pupils welcome to attend any PE extra-curricular club. You just need to turn up to the leisure centre.

Kit is not needed for lunch time clubs

Day	Activity	Time	Location
Monday	Badminton (CME)	1.20pm—1.50pm	Leisure Centre
Tuesday	GIRLS Year 7, 8 and 9 Games Club (JLH)	1.20pm—1.50pm	Leisure Centre
	Leadership Club (CEW)	1.20pm—1.50pm	Leisure Centre
Wednesday	Indoor Cricket (MAH)	1.20pm—1.50pm	Leisure Centre
Thursday	Basketball (CME)	1.20pm—1.50pm	Leisure Centre
Friday	Dodgeball (KAS)	1.20pm—1.50pm	Leisure Centre



Product Design

- The year has started well in Product Design with students completing their 'Practical Action' team challenges, some creating very impressive systems for lowering a basket of tomatoes down a mountainside in Nepal (or a tray of golf balls from a workbench!). The rest of the year will include mini projects based around smart materials, biomimicry, a passive amplifier for their mobile phones and also a team challenge where the students will need to produce a batch of clocks, using production lines within their teams.
- We have organised for an Architect to come in to school on Monday 19th November and run a 2-hour session giving an insight to Architecture, a chance to ask any questions and also take part in a challenge set by them. If any students are interested

in Architecture as a career and would like to know more, we are offering up to 20 places on this session, but we will need students to see their Product Design teacher in the first week back after half term to get their name down. First 20 students get the places!

Cultural Passport

- It has been amazing to see the Cultural Passport sessions in form times throughout this half term
- The students have made a fantastic effort to complete all of the challenges set to them
- Next half term, Year 9 will be looking at 'Respect' and set challenges around this theme!
- Remember – follow @PHSYear8and9 on twitter for the Cultural Passport challenges every week



Well done once again to all of the students for making such a great start to this academic year. A final thank you and well done on such a brilliant term. It has been a pleasure working with all of the Year 9 students this term and we hope this continues going forward. Have a lovely and restful half term break and we look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 5th November.

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

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Emma Keaveney

Year 9 Director of Learning

eke@phs.cheshire.sch.uk

Laura Swaffer

Welfare Leader for Year 8 and 9

lsw@phs.cheshire.sch.uk