



**Miss Brice, Mrs Devaney, Mrs Baker**

## **Year 9 Newsletter**

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March**



Dear Parents & Carers,

It was lovely to welcome Year 9 back to school last week. To see so many smiling faces and to hear our school alive with the buzz of students reconnecting with their friends, their teachers and their learning was truly wonderful.



### **Covid testing in school**

This has been a colossal undertaking these past 2 weeks. Over 4200 tests have been carried out! Year 9 students have been described by the team of testers as “brave, resilient, sensible and amazing”

We had a number of extremely anxious students who overcame their fears to carry out their tests. The testing in school came to a close on Thursday and next we start the process of distributing the home testing kits. Parents must have opted in to be eligible for receipt of a testing kit and don't worry if your daughter is absent when the tests are given out, she can receive one on her return to school. The tests cannot be posted home as they must be signed for by the students.



### **Celebrating Success**

9BS4 winners of ready meals project and presentation

Well done to our superb Year 9 Business Studies Students

Overall winner Zainab

Highly commended; Leora A 9PK1, Sahana K 9HL1, Demi S 9PK1

## **Uniform reminder for next September**

Dear Parent/Carer,

As part of our changes to the school uniform policy at the start of this academic year we insisted that all students must have a sturdy, practical rucksack that was to be plain black, with no visible logos. Student compliance with this has been exceptional and we thank you for your support in this matter. In addition to this, we stated that it was our intention to phase in a compulsory school bag, with embroidered school logo. From September 2020 this was compulsory for all students in Year 7 and optional for those in Years 8 and 9.

Next academic year this phased introduction will continue. From September 2021, all students in Years 7-10 will need the embroidered school bag and must purchase this from our uniform supplier Trutex at a cost of £25. This rucksack has been chosen for its low price, practicality and comfort. The bag has lumbar support built in to the design, reflective stripes and compartments for your daughter's water bottle, booklets and school equipment.

We are reminding you of this now so that you have sufficient time to purchase the bag ready for this September coming. Trutex currently have enough rucksacks in stock for families to begin purchasing the bag now, if they so wish.

Yours faithfully

**Mr C James**

**Assistant Headteacher / SENDCo**

## **Department Focus**

Music this academic year has looked a little bit different, but Y9 GCSE Music students have taken this in their stride. They not only have developed their music skills, but also are now much better at cleaning, with this being part of our daily classroom routine to help keep us all safe. The most recent topic that we have been looking at is Pop Music and pupils are about to start looking at music for film – a topic that is one of my favourites. In pop music, pupils were able to enjoy looking at composing a pop song, but also how pop music has evolved and developed from 1950s to now. I found that most of the group enjoyed Motown more than anything else! Throughout this year we have also looked at developing pupils' confidence in score reading, music theory, composition, performance and have looked at how the orchestra has developed from the Baroque period to modern day. I have been very impressed with how the pupils have worked this year, taken on new challenges and I am proud to teach them music. I look forward to welcoming them back to the music department fully and seeing them grow and develop as musicians in the years to come. **Miss Ogden**

A few pupils from Y9 GCSE Music have put together their thoughts on their learning in music so far this year:

**Summer M** - In GCSE Music, we have recently been learning about pop music which is an interesting and fun topic. We have been looking at DR CAT SMITH (Elements of Music) which is a way of describing music and we have been developing identifying these through listening. In lockdown, it was not as easy to do music as it is in the classroom, but I did like being able to learn new things and do tasks just like we would in class. I really liked how we could have free time to work on compositions and solo performances. I am looking forward to being back in school and to see my class and work together. I picked GCSE Music because for a start I love music in general, it keeps me happy. Also, what we did in year 7 and 8 I enjoyed so I really wanted to keep doing music and Miss Ogden is a lovely and funny teacher, so I am always happy in music and excited for lessons. What I love about our lessons is that we can work step by step on everything, so I am comfortable with things, even if things are challenging there is always a way to make it fun.



**Zavia** – I have learnt more about dictation and before lockdown we were learning about how to compose our own piece of music. I have also learnt about what a 10-marker question in GCSE Music would consist of and the best way to answer this. In lockdown I enjoyed how we



still were sticking to the curriculum and were doing what was expected of us as if we were at school. I am mainly looking forward to, when covid calms down, to singing together again. I picked GCSE music because I have always loved music and wish to be able to write my own music and sing along with it. I want to be able to sing and play the piano. I love that Miss goes over things that we do not understand and takes notes of what we do understand and what we don't so that she can help us further in the future. I also like how Miss Ogden makes us repeat things that we

do not understand until we eventually do, she is a great teacher.



**Amber** - I picked GCSE Music because I really enjoyed music during Year 7 and 8, and I play the guitar. Recently, we have been learning about pop music and how it's changed over time. I really enjoyed listening to the different pieces. We have also been practising 10-mark questions, so we are more used to them when GCSE's come around. I enjoy the amount of fun we have in our lessons; we are always learning but it is done in a fun way.



**Emily** - Recently in music, we have been learning about pop music though the years. Some of the things I have enjoyed about music is we were still able to interact with our teachers and other students. I am looking forward to being able to sing as a choir again. I love our lessons because we get to experiment with new things like compositions and new instruments. Also, I love that my teacher takes what we get wrong as a way of learning and building us up! Mistakes are great and we always learn from them. Music is fun engaging.



**Kat** - In music GCSE we have been recently learning about Pop music and specific key terms that help to identify it as well as starting to look at 10 mark questions and how to answer them. Even though learning in lockdown was not the easiest, Miss Ogden made our music lessons simple yet effective to helping me learn and gain more knowledge; whilst making the lessons fun and enjoyable. Being back at school is good as I get to improve in my compositions again. What made me pick GCSE music was the fun and energetic teachers as well as the topics that we would be covering.



Congratulations to our GOLDEN TICKET winners

Aleisha H- 4 Golden tickets

Llamyah P - 3 Golden tickets

Naveena P - 3 Golden tickets

Thanika B - 3 Golden tickets

# What have Year 9 been doing?

9FTT3 Hospitality and Catering students have been set a challenge.



They need to create a dish which makes the main ingredients of PEAs the star of the show!!!!!!

What could they be creating?????



Year 9 GCSE Dance have started a choreography unit based on the professional work *Shadows* by Christopher Bruce. Students have been given 4 stimuli (starting points) to explore and they will shortly be deciding which stimulus they will use to create their choreography. This unit encourages students to 'think outside of the box' and explore a variety of auditory, visual, and tactile stimuli.

**Starter: Mind Map**

Based on your homework research, mind map dance ideas for both stimuli.

**Auditory - Music:** Four by Olafur Arnalds  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8350906u584>

**Visual - Sculpture:** Not All There by Frances Bruno Catalano

**Main Task: Exploring Stimuli**

Text by Emma Lazarus:

**Step 1 – Warm-up**

**Step 2 – Explore Stimuli 3:**  
Text by Emma Lazarus

**Step 3 – Explore Stimuli 4:**  
Suitcase

"Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed, to me: I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"  
Part of the poem engraved on the base of the Statue of Liberty.

**Think about:**  
Actions  
Space  
Dynamics  
Relationships  
Expressive skills  
Structure  
Narrative

In Design and Technology students were asked to create a product reusing plastic from around the house. Have a look at what Alisha M's has created



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# House Events





This week we get involved with Comic Relief (Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March) and due to Covid restrictions things are going to be slightly different as we are unable to hold our normal fund raising events, but it does not stop us from being involved.

The theme this year is



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So at CHSG

we want you to share your smile and make us happy!

There are other events for you to be involved in too such as baking and the tutor time quiz.  
<https://www.comicrelief.com/history-of-red-nose-day/>



### CHSG Chess Tournament

WE will be holding our 1Online House Chess Tournament in March 2021  
Mr Richardson we be in touch with players shortly.

CHSG  
HOUSE  
LANGUAGE



Will you be the next everyday star?

# Year 9 returning to school.

I was initially anxious about coming back to school as we have been off for a while, as I had got used to the routine of working at home. The day I had my test it was strange putting my uniform on, and I was not sure what the school would be like; I was pleased to see my friends in person rather than on face time. Coming back to school was a challenging - remembering all the new procedures and rules such as lanyards, timetables and facemasks and ensuring I had the right booklets every morning, but it is now becoming my new normal, and shows how easily we can adjust and settle back in.

Lucy B



My routine was really muddled up going into lockdown and I was worried about coming back to school and forgetting everything, it caused me to feel quite stressed, but I had nothing to worry about as everyone has helped each other and we are getting out school routines back!

Holly



I felt a bit nervous about returning to school because I had got into a good routine working at home. Now I am back at school, I have got my usual school routine back and I really enjoy seeing my friends again. I am happy to be back at school but I still don't like having to wake up so early!!

Maddison

When we found out the date we had to come back to school, I was really worried about it, as I had got myself into a good routine at home and could have a little extra time in bed before registration! I was also excited about coming back as I could finally get to see my friends in person and get help for things I did not understand in lessons.

Now we are back in school and things are good and I am happy.

Millie