

The class of 2023 becomes Year 9!

Another term has flown by and thankfully we've only had one major lockdown of our year group due to Covid, with some students being asked to self-isolate for 10 days. Form tutors and teachers were able to continue teaching both those students in school and those at home via the google classrooms or provide work that was then sent home. Thank you for all your kind messages during this difficult time and the support and encouragement that you provided for your child to ensure that they did not slip behind while at home completing work remotely.

Year 9 have now completed the first of two assessment weeks in this academic year and the results of this will be shared with you via our usual reports system that you have become used too. I have been impressed with the mature attitude with which our students have prepared and undertaken this task. I look forward to a set of promising results.



We now have over 200 students who have signed up to their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. All students are working hard in form time to complete a first aid course that will be assessed by a qualified D of E instructor in the New Year. Once certified we can then concentrate on the Volunteering and Physical elements of the programme. Your child now has an online account where you can monitor their progress and upload evidence of any activities that they are doing outside of school that could count towards the award. If you are unsure of what counts, please email your child's form tutor who will advise.

This half-term's Key Stage Three Champions Certificates and Role Model badges for students who are involved in positive activities outside of school goes to;

Amelie Beck for producing a poppy reef for Remembrance Day and a mental health poster as part of our PSHE programme and Angelica Lee for passing her grade 5 music exam playing the violin! Well done to you both.

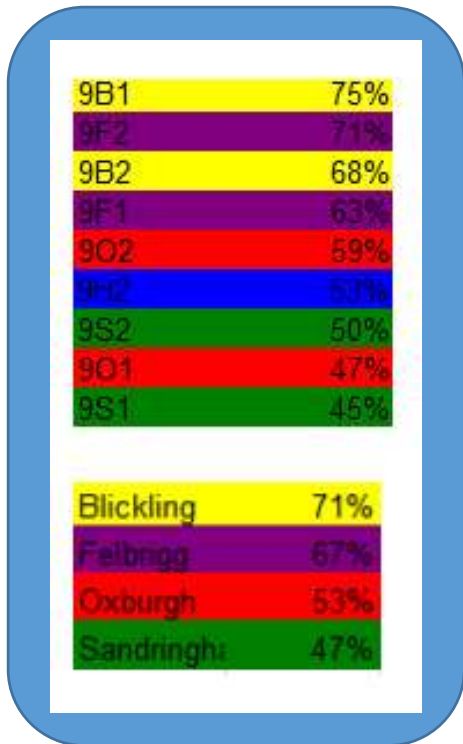
The knowledge organiser continues to replace the usual homework that your child is set and contains the essential information that a student needs to know to succeed each term. Monthly quizzes have been set by me and the scores kept by form tutors to monitor progress. Achievement points will be awarded by tutors and will contribute to the Form Competition.

Can you please encourage your child to learn the contents of these books at home? Spare copies can be obtained from form tutors, the year office or online via the school website.



Every now and then in History we are delighted by the family stories that emerge when we study a particular topic. In this case one of our Year 9 students Yasmine Pereira Styczen enthralled the whole class by telling her family story of her great grandmother who at the age of 17 fought with a partisan unit of the Armia Krajowa (Home Army) against the Nazi invasion of Poland in 1939 and was awarded the Virtuti Militari Cross of Valor. Constantly in danger of being discovered or

betrayed she changed her name to Marta and became a Liaison Officer transferring reports which nearly got her imprisoned or killed. She survived the war and married, settling happily in Gdańsk. It was an important reminder of the bravery and sacrifice of that generation when the school fell silent for the annual Remembrance Service.



The results from the first knowledge organiser quiz are now in! Well done 9B1 you are officially the smartest form and with 9B2 coming in a very respectable third, Blickling is also the brightest House!

Doing well with your knowledge organiser quizzes will also help your form achieve in the inter form competition. So help each other to revise and learn the content!

A brand new knowledge organiser will be provided in January, but be prepared for some quiz questions to still be based on the autumn term, so you cannot afford to forget anything!

Following the progress update for the Form Competition I identified our top 30 students out of the year group and praised them before handing out biscuits as a reward. These students all have 100% attendance, are never late to lessons, no behaviour points, hand homework in on time, are fully equipped to learn and are awarded lots of achievement points for their school work. A very well done to all of you!

1	DURU	Reenie	9B1
2	GOODRUM	Hayden	9B2
3	BERNARDIN	Madeleine	9F1
4	FOX	Jensen	9F1
5	GARNER	Selena	9F1
6	GRIMMER	Daniel	9F1
7	JARVIS	Kyle	9F1
8	KWA	Declan	9F1
9	PARKER	Josh	9F1
10	PRICE	Charlie	9F1
11	BECK	Amelie	9H1
12	HUNTER	Finlay	9H1
13	TOLL	Livvy	9H1
14	BRUCE	Caiden	9O1
15	SAMALBURO	Julian	9O1

16	SKEGGS	Skye	9O2
17	ALLEN	Isabel	9S1
18	HAWKES	Summer	9B2
19	ROBINSON	Maddy	9B2
20	BELLAMY	Chloe	9F2
21	CLOSE	Freya	9F2
22	MARRAY-WOODS	Dominic	9F2
23	CHASE	Daisy	9H1
24	BARCENA	Tristan	9H2
25	BECK	Jessica	9H2
26	LAWRENCE-WRENN	Rhiannon	9H2
27	LEGGETT	Ellie	9H2
28	SKERRY	Maddie	9H2
29	ELLIS	Elysha	9O2
30	BEDWELL	Cara	9S1

Google Classrooms



This continues to be the main way that remote learning takes place for those students who are self-isolating and the way that subjects are providing additional support during lessons by providing lesson resources for students to view at home.

A large number of students in our year group have been awarded language badges this term in recognition of their hard work and progress in this subject area. Students study Spanish, French or German at Springwood; a very well done to all you who were awarded this badge!



On a similar note I was impressed with a group of our students giving up their own time to learn Mandarin this term. This is taught by an outside tutor who comes into Springwood weekly to prepare them for a possible additional GCSE in the future.

I was particularly pleased to see that one of the initiatives that our year group established when they were in Year 7 has now been adopted by the whole school! Mrs Ather launched the reverse advent calendar to encourage acts of kindness at Christmas. The generous gifts of food continue to be given to worthwhile local groups like the Purfleet Trust. At a time of year when young people naturally start to think of all the lovely things they might be getting at Christmas, it's good to see so many keen to provide for others less fortunate than themselves.

On a final note, I was contacted by a parent who is also a nurse at Kings Lynn Hospital and asked if students at Springwood might be able to provide a Christmas drawing that could be laminated and displayed on the wards to replace their usual Christmas decorations which could not be used during the pandemic. The year 9 office has been inundated over the last two weeks with beautiful drawings, carefully coloured in of all sorts of festive scenes that will hopefully bring someone a little moment of joy while they are stuck in hospital over Christmas.

All of us in Year 9 wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!