

KEY STAGE 4 NEWS

Winter 2020



Year 9 News



Hello, Year 9!

We are nearing the end of a really busy term. The first of the progress checks has been really encouraging and indicates a positive approach to the start of the GCSE courses. The year group average attitude to learning was an impressive 4.30*, with several students achieving straight 5*'s across all their subjects! As year 9 are now studying a three year GCSE course we recommend their books and notes from their lessons are kept in a safe place in order to ensure that returning to school is seamless and revision is made as easy as possible later on.

Thank you Year 9 for being so fabulous this term! I have had so many members of staff tell me how well you have engaged with your online learning too! Mr Rayner, Mr Dowling and I are very pleased with how well you all have adapted to a very different kind of learning, and I have had such positive feedback from your teachers about how well you have engaged with your online learning. Please remember to let us know if you have any problems or concerns. We are here to help and support you. Remember to take a look at the games and project 9 activities and extra resources we post to help your physical and mental health. You all have shown resilience and strength during these difficult times and we are so very proud of you 😊

I look forward to seeing you for last few days of term, and if I don't I wish you all a restful break, you have earned it.

Miss Cork

Year 10 News

'I cannot say whether things will get better if we change, what I can say is they must change if they are to get better' Georg C. Lichtenberg

During our first term back, I believe that Year 10 have been asked to 'change' more than they ever have. Change the way they walk, change the way they look, change the way they socialise ... the list is endless. Although the return to school in September was a different one and at times has been challenging, I am so proud that Year 10 haven't changed themselves. They have continued to be a community, looking out for their friends and supporting one another like they always have. They have kept their smiles even when being asked to 'hide' them with their masks, and they have worked so incredibly hard on their GCSE's amidst the chaos of the world around them. During our Graduation Ceremony back in Year 8, I asked the year group to be resilient in their next steps... and oh how they have needed to be more than we ever could have imagined.

You continue to make me laugh, you continue to make me smile and you continue to show everyone just what you are made of. Have a well-deserved break when we get there and I am looking forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Ms Baggley



Year 11 News

It is amazing how quick time has gone and finally we are in Year 11! As cliché as it is, it does seem like only a short time ago when Year 11s were coming into school as Year 7 ready to start a new chapter and now they have finally made it to their GCSEs

As we are coming to the end of what has been a very busy and difficult term for Year 11, I would like to say how impressed I have been with their work ethic since the start of the year, particularly following the difficulties of lockdown. They have shown an excellent commitment to their studies and I have been pleased to see the levels of attendance at revision sessions, both in school and remotely. It is great to see so many students taking advantage of the resources available and building their revision materials in preparation for the PPEs next term.

To help with these PPEs, myself and Mrs Coneley have created a channel within Teams where we will be posting regular episodes of revision tips, with the hope being that this gives students some direction on how to revise.

We were pleased to see the feedback from our Rising Sixth evening and we hope the pupils found it worthwhile. In the New Year we look forward to supporting pupils with making choices for post 16, including careers appointments and taster lessons, which will hopefully serve to aid students in taking the next steps in their school careers.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and I look forward to supporting all of Year 11 in the New Year towards their GCSEs. I hope you all have a lovely Christmas break and a Happy New Year.

Miss Kennedy

A message from Mr Dowling

As we draw an end to a most difficult and challenging year, it is still so important to celebrate all the positives things that have happened at Little Heath School this term. As a school we have all embraced technology a little more this term than ever before. Little did I know at the start of 2020 that I would be teaching live lessons to students in the classroom and at home simultaneously.

As well as virtual lessons, we have had a host of virtual assemblies and webinars to support our young people in KS4, and we have had two very successful Virtual Parents' Evenings thanks to Mrs Luck and her team.

The new building in the centre of our school site whilst getting in the way of moving from Year hub to Year hub for staff, is certainly taking shape and both staff and students are excited about moving into our new accommodation in the spring.

Year 11's have been working hard on recent assessments that will help inform them and their teachers on what are the next steps in their learning with a view to make even further progress next term as they build towards their PPEs at the start of February and their summer GCSE examinations.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support and wish you all a peaceful and restful Christmas holiday.

Mr Dowling



Careers News - From Mrs Wooller

Dear all, I wanted to make you aware that Little Heath School is committed to work towards meeting the Quality in Careers standard incorporating the Gatsby Benchmarks. There are three stages to this award, this term we have achieved stage one which is the commitment stage and are now in the process of tackling stage two. This I think will help to improve and further build upon the Careers education that we currently strive to deliver – it is very exciting!

So far this term, Year 9 have been using Unifrog during their PSHE lessons to learn about transferable skills and pathways post-16. Unifrog is an excellent on line platform with a plethora of up to date information on careers, higher education, apprenticeships etc. More recently they have learnt about how your online presence appears to future employers and the benefits of volunteering.

Year 10 have had tutor work on topics such as resilience, healthy mind-set, support networks, healthy body for a healthy mind. Towards the end of the term they completed work on motivation, self-identity, self-worth, healthy habits and future plans.

Year 11 have received a presentation from Adviza (which was also sent home to parents/carers) delivered via Teams entitled “What next?” This was also put on SHMK and I would strongly encourage all students to take the time to watch the three twenty minute videos. The presentation explains what their options are at the end of Year 11, where they can research their choices and finally how to make well balanced decisions.

CV support clinics have been run during afternoon registration and these will continue after Christmas. Students need to book into these via their tutors.

All during lockdown Adviza have conducted telephone meetings with students, face to face meetings will continue once students return. All students in Year 11 will be offered a meeting so that we can put the best support in place to help students in their next transition stage. Parent/Carer will receive a copy of the action plan created after the meeting – if the student consents to sharing this information.

Looking forward to the year ahead, I have been working with various partners to create virtual interactive experience for all of our students. Sessions on Financial awareness, interview techniques, and skills awareness sessions are in the diary!

Mrs Wooller

Careers Leader





KS4 Subjects

RE

On 9th November, Dr Anthony Lewis, a professional geologist and a humanist, spoke, in a remote visit, to 11X5 about his life and his Humanist beliefs. This linked with the GCSE course, as the students are required to know non-religious viewpoints on a range of the ethical topics that we cover. Dr Lewis spoke about his childhood - growing up a Roman Catholic Christian in Northern Ireland, and how he had found school pretty boring until he discovered a love for geology, ignited by his Uncle showing him a rock and discussing how old it was and how scientists had worked that out. He became a humanist, and discussed his interest in using science and reason to answer the big questions around life and the universe. Dr Lewis took questions from the class on a range of topics, from the death penalty to relationships, explaining his own views, based in humanism, but always being careful to explain that humanists are independent thinkers and different humanists would have different views on these topics. We were very grateful for his time and hope to be able to organise another remote visit from him soon. We are looking forward to welcoming the local St Catherine's Vicar for a remote talk in the final week of term, and are looking to organise a visit from an Imam from the Abu Bakr Islamic Centre too.

Mr Eden

Music

Well, this has certainly been a strange start to the academic year! The Music Block has never been this quiet. A department that is normally full of music and sound just doesn't feel right at this time of year, when we can't prepare for concerts and end of term performances as we normally would.

Well, the music must continue, and Mr Davies and I would just like to thank all of our GCSE pupils for the fantastic way they have adapted to our new way of working - it might have taken a bit of getting used to, but you are all doing amazingly well.

We would also like to remind all of our usual extra-curricular musicians that we haven't forgotten you. We might not be able to rehearse together as we would want to, but we will still find ways to keep music playing at the Heath - watch out for a special, socially-distanced performance from Soul Choir in this year's online Carol Service.

On behalf of Miss Roberts, Mr Davies, Miss Hill and myself, I would like to wish you all a peaceful and relaxing break over the holidays - we've all earned it!

Miss Hancock

and to judging for

being sure you we start the christmas

of Unit 1.3 by revising you can mark set by

after school as we have plans and

single help to ensure

A final well done for some amazing 2.2 Assessment scores - standout performances include Erica

Drama

wis

Year 11 students blew us away with their Devised performances in October. The devising process had been interrupted by lockdown, but the students came back in September with enthusiasm and creativity. They were given a range of stimuli from the exam board including, a piece of music, a newspaper article and a painting. From that they then had to create their own idea for a performance, finally bringing it to life in performance. We are already looking forward to seeing what they create for their final GCSE performance for their scripted exam which will commence after the PPE's in February.

later

History

Year 11 History GCSE students are due to finish the course by February half term, and most classes have already started their revision. They can access revision material and advice on [Key Stage 4 - History at LHS \(google.com\)](#) and there's links to documentaries, podcasts and books which link to their course.

Year 10 historians are about to start their historic environment study on Whitechapel in the late 19th Century, and Year 9 are learning about the Crusades. They can all find enrichment materials to further their historical knowledge at the link above.



House Quiz Results Term 1



1st = Stirling (69.1%) – 250 pts

2nd = Conway (66.1%) – 150 pts

3rd = Warwick (63.1%) – 100 pts

4th = Arundel (62.8%) – 50 pts

2020 Christmas Card Competition Winner

Alessandro P

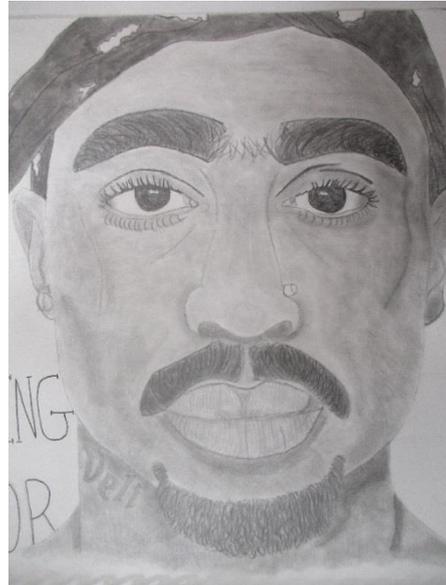
Year 9



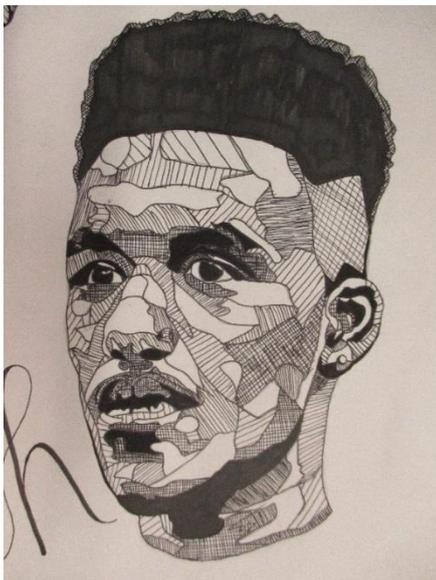
Some of our fantastic artwork,
That's been done by our Year 11 students



By Mya B



By Nicole K A



By Georgina R



By Ria M



Just a little reminder regarding uniform

Students must return to school in full school uniform. This includes:

- White LHS logo shirt.
- Black LHS logo jumper.
- Black school trouser, not jeans.
- Black school skirt.
- Black polishable school shoes, no trainers.
- **No** false nails or coloured nail varnish.
- No more than one piercing in each ear.
- Facial piercings are **not** acceptable in any form.



Students will be issued with a SDS if they are not in uniform without a note from home.

Next terms Key Dates for the Diary

5 th January 2021	Return to School
11 th February 2021	Inset day and Half Term
22 nd February 2021	Return to School
18 th March 2021	Year 10 Parents' Evening
31 th March 2021	Year 11 Parents' Evening
2 nd April 2021	Easter Holidays

Masks

- Thank you to the majority of students for wearing masks in communal areas and as you move between lessons.
- The government has now made this law, but the message we want to give you is every time we wear a mask we are protecting our families, friends and loved ones.
- Students must wear their mask as they walk onto site and until you leave the school site.
- Please ensure that all students arrive to school with a spare mask, in case one becomes lost or broken.

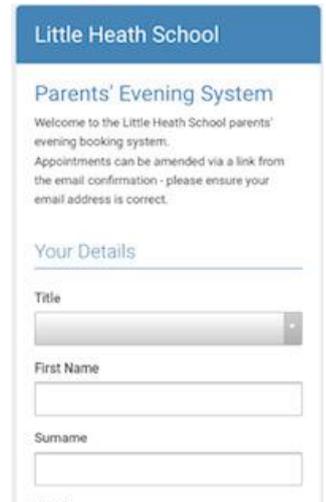


Parents' Evenings

We're very excited to introduce our new virtual Parents' Evenings, we've now had two of these and they were a great success! We're looking forward to our next one in March. More information will be sent out closer to the event.

The Parents' Evening link is

www.littleheath.parentseveningsystem.co.uk



Little Heath School

Parents' Evening System

Welcome to the Little Heath School parents' evening booking system.
Appointments can be amended via a link from the email confirmation - please ensure your email address is correct.

Your Details

Title

First Name

Surname

Year 11 Instagram Page

Mrs Coneley and Miss Kennedy are very excited to introduce to you their Year 11 Instagram page. Please make sure you give them a follow! for tips, motivation and exam information.

Find us at! [Lhsy11](#)



How to contact us

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LHSReading



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