# Welcome to the Year 9 Newsletter

How is that the end of the academic year? It has absolutely flown by. Yet another year ticked off the list and so many things to be thankful for, along with giving some celebratory mentions as we head to the summer holidays in your final Year Meetings.

It is also important to reflect upon the first year of your GCSE options. Whilst the road still looks long, I promise that every lesson is so vital as they are linked to your GCSE's and will make a huge difference in the future if your time management, revision and engagement is where it should be.

I was in absolute amazement and awe at the talent on show during the Wizard of Oz production. It never ceases to amaze me with the sheer talent we have at Bohunt and especially in Year 9. ERA Week is another huge highlight which I hope you enjoyed and Sports Day to finish on the horizon. A huge well done to everyone that has taken part in these activities this term and further reinforcement to the phenomenal provision that our staff provide for you.

I hope you have a wonderful break with your families and friends and re-charge those batteries, ready to embrace what Year 10 has to offer. Keep up the great work and see you in September.

Mr Graham - Head of Upper School

## Ancient History

Year 9 are finishing the year continuing their work on the Persian Empire, learning about the first kings, Cyrus and Cambyses. Please keep an eye out at the beginning of next academic year as we will advertise the Rome and Naples trip early in the new year. Anyone who missed out last year will be given preference next year so please do apply for the trip again.

## Art

Our Year 9 Art students have started their first major GCSE project on the theme of STRUCUTRES. Students have analysed the work of artists and created work inspired by them. They have created 3D cardboard sculptures, and they have also produced work using a variety of techniques and media - tonal pencil, paint, mono printing, stencilling, etching, photograms or sun prints and collage. Students have also been learning how to think creatively and how to work independently.

## Business

In the past term, GCSE Business students have been learning about the various HR (human resource) aspects of business. They have written CVs, participated in fake job interviews, learnt about how to motivate your workforce and the importance of recruitment, selection and training to every enterprise. Over the coming weeks they will also look at how ethical and environmental issues impact companies.

Next year is an important one for our GCSE students. Within Year 10 they will finish off the paper 1 theory (Business Activity, Marketing & People (HR)) before moving onto paper 2 topics like production, quality and finance. Within Year 10 we will also focus more on exam questions, getting them ready to sit a full paper 1 (80 marks in 90 minutes) after Easter.

# Computer Science

This term students have built upon their understanding of System Architecture and have investigated how data is processed, stored and presented. They have used problem solving and mathematical skills to learn how to convert between different number systems such as denary, binary and hexadecimal. Students have also learnt how to add, multiply and divide in binary.

Students have then built on this understanding to see how binary values can be compared in order to make decisions in the computer system. In recent weeks, students have been learning how binary links to the rules of boolean logic and then how these apply to logic gates within a circuit. Over the coming weeks, students will apply logical operators to truth tables to solve problems and create complex circuits.

Throughout the term students continue to practice their programming skills on Python and have been given opportunities to consolidate their application of programming techniques such as iteration, subroutines and string manipulation.

Students also sat a BET assessment within this term where they completed two papers, Paper 1 - Computer Systems and Paper 2 - Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming. This was a great opportunity for students to have a chance to test their knowledge and exam technique and identify strengths and areas to improve next year. Overall, they did fantastically well and should be proud of their results.

# Creative iMedia

In preparation for their R094 - NEA assessment starting in September 2025 (worth 25% of the qualification), students have been practicing and studying the pre-production and production tools needed to design and create an effective visual identity for a client 'WhereAbouts'. Students initially investigated how visual identity elements are influenced by business type, brand values and brand positioning and then generated their own ideas through the creation of a mindmap and moodboard. Students then used their ideas to design a range of concept sketches for their logo, justifying their design choices and considering the brand values and target audience. After selecting and drawing a final design in a visualisation diagram, students have then used Photoshop skills to create their final visual identity.

Students in recent weeks have been designing and developing a travel guide cover for one of WhereAbouts products, giving them further opportunity and insight into the tools and skills required to create a digital graphic consistent with the purpose and audience.

## Creative iMedia


This term, our Year 9 students also had an exciting opportunity to step behind the scenes of the film and television industry during a trip to Sky Studios. During the visit, students took part in a hands-on workshop where they used professional filming equipment and green screen technology to create their very own movie trailers. Working in teams, they explored roles such as director, cinematographer, camera operator, and video editor, gaining a real insight into the teamwork and creativity involved in film production.

## Dance

GCSE Dance have been exploring the second of the 6 professional works 'Emancipation of expressionism' by Boy Blue Dance. Students have created their own pieces of choreography which communicate their thematic ideas and intents. Two students took part in the Bedale's youth dance platform Dance in a day with a professional choreographer and taught all our students the Moana themed piece. What a fantastic experience.

## Drama

Students in Year 9 Drama worked superbly on their performance skills for their Text in Practice unit, with many students going the extra mile to learn lines meticulously, study their character and provide contextually relevant costume decisions to step in to their role most convincingly. Alongside this, students have now completed their study of how successful performances are achieved using analysis and evaluative skills to view digital theatre performance and approached their BET assessment exam answer on this with diligent focus and maturity.

Finally, students are now learning about their second of four practitioners, focusing on Bertolt Brecht's work and just how many of his techniques are seen in theatre, film and television they watch today.

## DT

In Design Technology students have been learning about specific textile and fibres, their sources, construction, and their physical and working properties. The textile fibres topic is a large core material area in the exam and in addition in class we have recapped the different stitch types and how to use the sewing machine to make a phone case. In the last few weeks before the summer holiday the next material topic studied is Papers and Boards which is another core material.

## Economics

In the past term, GCSE Economics students have been learning about the central role that markets play in our economy. They have investigated different sectors of markets in the UK and how these are changing. They have also looked at areas where markets don’t deliver a good outcome and therefore where the state intervenes such as in the controversial area of health care!.

# English

Year 9 students have been really enjoying their introduction to English Literature GCSE with their first text, An Inspector Calls. They have engaged enthusiastically with the play, diving into the intriguing storyline and complex characters. Their excitement for the text has been evident in their insightful contributions during lessons. Students have shown a genuine curiosity to uncover the deeper meanings behind the play's events, particularly by exploring the characters' motivations and the moral questions Priestley raises about responsibility and justice.

Alongside exploring the narrative, Year 9 have also learned a great deal about the historical and social context in which An Inspector Calls was written. They have discovered how the play reflects the societal issues of early 20th-century Britain, such as class divisions and social responsibility. What has made the study particularly meaningful is how students have drawn connections between the themes in the play and issues we still face today, like inequality and the impact of individual actions on the community. This has sparked thoughtful debates and encouraged students to consider their own roles in society, making their study of the text both relevant and inspiring.

They have been hugely successful on their latest BET assessment, where they were challenged to construct a full essay response to a GCSE Literature question relating to the text. Students have really enjoyed studying this play and have risen to the challenge of beginning their English GCSE journey!

# Enterprise BTEC

Year 9 BTEC Enterprise students have now finished learning all of the theory they need for their first piece of coursework. We have just received the brief from Pearson and can begin the first PSA (Pearson Set Assignment) as soon as we return in September. This is worth 30% of their overall grade for the course, and will be completed between September and December. Pretty much all of this coursework is done in lessons, but students could revise the theory and improve their 'research notes' at home. We will be doing this first coursework using Dylan's Ice Cream as our chosen enterprise.

A reminder that Year 10 is vitally important for BTEC Enterprise. Not only will they do PSA1, but after Christmas they will start PSA2 (again worth 30%). This will mean that by the end of Year 10, students will have completed 60% of the course, leaving just the 40% exam to do in Year 11.

Between now and the summer holidays, students will be working on practice assignments to get them used to answering the questions they will have to do next year. We will send a letter home with all the key dates and information in September regarding the coursework and please do feel free to get in touch with Mr King or Miss Paton should you have any questions about this important next year.

# Expressive Arts Co-curricular

As always, the summer term is a particularly busy one for Expressive Arts Co-curricular.

Particular highlights include the Youth Dance platform at Bedales, the Summer Showcase and The Wizard of Oz.

**HAMPSHIRE MUSIC SERVICE**

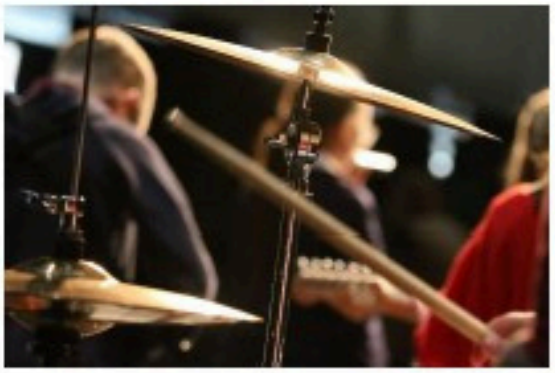
**SUMMER ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES 2025**

**Get ready to turn up the volume this August with our summer enrichment activities!**

Join Hampshire Music Service for two days of music-making where young musicians can dive into the world of rock, pop, and electronic music.

**MONDAY 4th and TUESDAY 5th AUGUST 2025**
**BARTON PEVERIL COLLEGE, EASTLEIGH, HAMPSHIRE, SO50 5ZA**

## ROCK 2 THE BEAT



**Monday 4th - 9am – 3:30pm**

**Tuesday 5th - 9am – 3.30pm** *(Concert at 3:30pm)*

*Suitable for all Years 3-10 currently playing in a Rock 2 the Beat band, or who currently learn voice, guitar, bass, keyboard or drums at Grade 1 (or above) and are able to read basic notation.*

*Come and join other Rock 2 the Beat musicians from around the county and learn a song from start to finish, building confidence through collaboration and creativity. Limited places for each instrument, places will be allocated on a first come first served basis.*

*For queries, please contact music.service@hants.gov.uk*

*If you would like to come along, please sign up using the following link: Rock 2 the Beat Enrichment Days – 4 and 5 August 2025*

## MUSIC PRODUCTION

**9am – 3:30pm** *(both days)*

***Suitable for children in Years 5,6,7 and 8***

*Dive into the world of music creation using iPads and GarageBand. Explore remixing, sampling, and live DJing with hands-on experience using professional gear. Discover how chords shape songs, experiment with different genres, and learn to build your own tracks from the ground up. Whether you're into beats, melodies, or mixing, everything you need is provided - just bring your creativity!*

*For queries, please contact music.service@hants.gov.uk*

*If you would like to come along, please sign up using the following link: Music Production Enrichment Days – 4 and 5 August 2025*

## Food Preparation and Nutrition

Students in Year 9 have been recently learning about fish and the different ways to cook, flavour and preserve such as smoked salmon. The classes are now learning about alternative proteins such as lentils and quinoa. Students have been learning about the nutrients in these foods and the role of proteins in diets, and the effect of deficiency on the body too. It is important that students remember to bring their ingredients to cook so that they can develop their practical skills.

## French CLIL

Prior to May half term, 9ARV students finished our final Module of content which was Module 8 - all about the world we live in, social issues and the environment.

We then focussed on exam techniques as well as our ever important speaking exam worth 25% of their final grade. This important event took place the week commencing the 29th April. We then supported students through exam techniques in lessons, after-school revision sessions, breakfast exam mornings as well as Masterclasses the day before or the day of the exam! In May, students sat their final three French exams - listening, reading and writing.

Our CLIL students had a treat in between the GCSE and DELF courses where they had the chance to watch an award winning French film - they deserved it after all their hard work! We then started the DELF course by looking at the Geography of France and its culture. The Year 9 tutor group have been brilliant this half term so well done to them all!

# French

Last term, year 9 students looked at the 'My Lifestyle' topic which looked at healthy eating, exercise, food and going out for a meal. We have since moved onto the topic of Media which looks at music tastes, reading, TV and films as well as celebrity culture.

In the last couple of weeks of the summer term we will be working on a special project for Year 9. This can be in the form of a collage, a storyboard, a piece of artwork or a movie (anything!) and consolidates everything about ‘My personal world’ which covers all the topics they have studied this year. This is a great way of showcasing each student’s personal progress and reinforces everything they have learned this year.

Year 9 had their second BET assessment recently which tested them on everything they have learned so far and which reflected the new Edexcel specification. The Year 9 cohort have been brilliant this half term so well done to them all!

# Geography

This term, our Year 9 students have been focusing on the River Landscapes of the UK, exploring how these waterways shape and are shaped by the land. They've investigated river processes such as erosion, transportation, and deposition, and have examined case studies of significant UK rivers.

Over the course of the year, our budding geographers have delved into a variety of crucial topics. They have covered Resource Management, understanding how we use and manage vital resources like water, energy, and food. Additionally, students have explored the rich biodiversity and environmental significance of Tropical Rainforests and the unique adaptations and challenges of life in Hot Deserts. These topics have given them a global perspective on different ecosystems and the importance of conservation.

Beyond content knowledge, our Year 9s have been honing the essential skills required of a GCSE geographer. They've developed their abilities in data collection, analysis, map reading, and critical thinking, preparing them for the rigorous demands of the GCSE curriculum.

It's been an engaging and informative year for our Year 9 Geography students, filled with both theoretical knowledge and practical skill-building. We are proud of their progress and excited to see them continue to thrive in their geographical studies.

## Health & Social Care

This academic year, the Year 9 Health and Social Care cohort have learned about the development through a persons life stage. Students have used their own and family members' life experiences to understand and apply this knowledge. This group of students have also shown their creative side as they have been producing revision guides to assist them when they sit their first BTEC assessment next year.

## History

In the last term, Year 9 started their second unit of the GCSE, Development of Germany 1919-1991. We have explored how Germany recovered in the 1920s from World War One under the Weimar Republic. We've moved on to looking at how the Nazis were able to dismantle this newly formed democracy and how Hitler became a dictator.

A great success of the last term was the trip to Belgium and France in May to the WWI battlefields. The students were impeccably behaved and represented the school well. In Year 10, we will finish the Germany unit by studying what happened under Nazi rule and during WWII, then looking at how Germany was affected by the Cold War. We are hoping to run our Berlin trip again, so please key an eye out for letters next year.

# Library

For Year 9+, book club have been reading the shortlisted Yoto Carnegie books for 2025 – a fabulous selection this year. They are all available in the library, I would really encourage you to try them.


Accessit - library catalogue

We have a new library system, which pupils can now access here. You will be able to browse our library catalogue, create a reading list, write book reviews and keep up to date with library news.

## Library

Summer reading

Start the next academic year off positively with an ERA by keeping your reading going over the summer. Read 5 books and review them here to get your ERA. They can be books from home, books on our eLibrary SORA or pop into your local library for plenty of choice.

These are the top 5 books borrowed from our library – give them a go!


## NEWSFLASH

Student Librarian of the Year 2024 becomes Head Student 2025! Well done and congratulations to Lauren B.

“Today a reader, tomorrow a leader.”

# Mandarin CLIL

A huge well done to all our Year 9 Mandarin CLIL students for completing their GCSE Mandarin exams. This is a fantastic achievement that reflects their hard work, commitment, and resilience. We're incredibly proud of their efforts and positive attitude throughout the course.

At the time of writing, they are on their way to Guangzhou, China. During the trip, they will study Mandarin each morning and take part in a range of cultural activities in the afternoons, such as martial arts. They'll also visit local tourist attractions and, of course, enjoy authentic Chinese cuisine. Most importantly, they'll have countless opportunities to practise their Mandarin in real-life situations. We hope they have a truly memorable and inspiring experience!

## Mandarin

This term, Year 9 students have been learning how to describe their local areas and talk about shopping—skills that we hope will give them greater confidence when buying items in a Chinese-speaking environment.

They also completed their second BET assessment, which gave them a chance to reflect on their progress and celebrate their hard work. At the time of writing, they are also thrilled to be welcoming a group of students from China—a fantastic opportunity to put their Mandarin communication skills to the test in real-life situations!

## Maths

Students are finishing the year by looking at probability – a starting point for exploring the likelihood of certain events; either simple ones like flipping a coin or more complicated ones like the famous Monty Hall problem involving goats and motor cars!

As we finish the year, please remind your son or daughter to collect a calculator if you have paid for one and they haven't already done so. The window for buying calculators through Gateway has closed now for this year but will re-open in September.

## Music

Year 9 have been exploring composition looking at theme and variation form to equip them with ways to develop musical ideas in a range of ways. They are now exploring songwriting techniques

## Outdoor Education

Year 9 Outdoor Education has focused on Bronze Duke of Edinburgh for our students this year, where they have focused on completing their Volunteering, Skills and Physical sections. We are so pleased to be seeing more and more assessors reports coming through on the eDofE system. Keep up the hard work over the summer and see if you can get all your sections completed before September. For those that have not started, you must have started all your sections to be able to attend your expeditions.

In September we will be launching style Silver level of Duke of Edinburgh. You must have completed at least 3 sections of your Bronze award (which can include the expedition) to sign up to this (direct entrants are also accepted).

## PE Sports Leaders

A huge thank you to all the Year 9 Sports Leaders who have supported the PE department this term - from assisting with sports day heats and primary school events to volunteering at the South East Hants Athletics Championships. Your commitment and leadership have been greatly appreciated.

## PE GCSE

Our Year 9 GCSE Sport Science students have made an excellent start to their course this year. They've been working hard in preparation for their BET test, which they completed at the end of term, showing great focus and determination.

It's also fantastic to see so many students already committed to collecting evidence for their practical NEA submissions - a great sign of what's to come! Well done on all your efforts so far. Have a well-deserved summer break, and keep up the great work!

## PE BTEC

Year 9 BTEC Sport students have been working hard to complete their coursework and are now shifting focus to the Year 10 Component 2 content. Alongside their studies, a friendly but fierce competition has emerged between Mr Waterfield's and Mr Crossman's classes, battling it out in a series of key fitness tests. At the time of writing, Mr Crossman's class holds a narrow lead of 4-3, with three tests still to go—plenty to play for and all to be decided!

## PE - Core

Core PE lessons have seen all Year 9 students continue their activity rotations as well as preparing for their Sports Day Athletics disciplines!
For up-to date information on co-curricular training and matches, check out our Bohunt Sport webiste:
https://sites.google.com/bohunt.hants.sch.uk/bohuntliphookpe/home

## PE - Health & Social Care

Year 9 Health & Social Care students have been working hard in preparation for their PSA in September. Their focus and dedication are setting them up well for the challenges that Year 10 will pose!

# Personal Development

Our students took part in a wide range of activities as part of ERA Week – a celebration of our school values. From trips and team challenges to careers talks and creative workshops, students made the most of every opportunity. It was a joyful, engaging week that reminded us all of the power of learning beyond the classroom.

## Philosophy and Religion

Throughout this half-term, our GCSE Philosophy scholars have embarked on an erudite exploration of the 'Religion, Peace, and Conflict' unit, rigorously examining the nuanced perspectives of both Christian and Buddhist doctrines on the profound debates surrounding war. Among the critical and thought-provoking issues we have grappled with are the morality of nuclear warfare, the ethical imperative to aid victims of conflict, and the very possibility of a "just" war.

I wish to extend my deepest gratitude to all the students for their unwavering dedication and intellectual rigour. May you all enjoy a well-deserved, restful, and rejuvenating summer break, filled with reflection and repose

## Photography

Year 9 have been continuing to work on their first big project looking at the lost art of the music album covers.  They have been exploring a wealth of different skills and techniques and have really been out enjoying the weather and capturing some amazing photos that will be soon on display around the school and on our social channels.


## Psychology

The summer term has been a busy one for the Year 9s, as they have completed the development topic and written their end of Year 9 BET assessment. The development topic had students learning about the neurological development of infants and the impact of mindset on performance. Our key focus throughout the last part of the summer term has been the consolidation of the research methods skills learned throughout the academic year. Students have been learning about the various experimental types and designs, as well as other methods to collect data.

When students return, we will begin by investigating the concept of abnormality and students will find out about the causes of conditions like depression and schizophrenia. A last note of congratulations to the Year 9s for completing their first year of the Psychology GCSE.

## Religious Studies

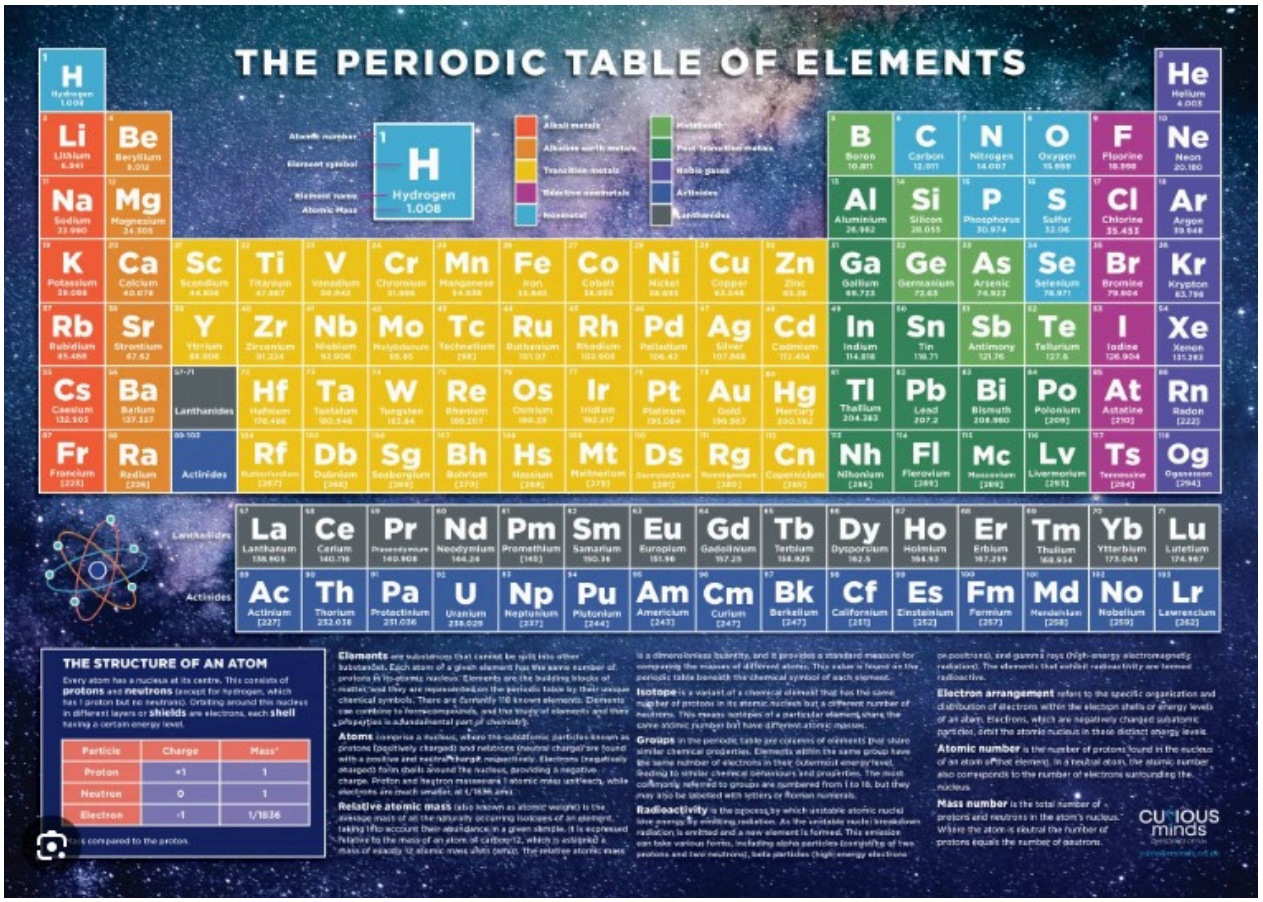
This half-term, our intellectual pursuit encompassed the intricate topics of monetary value and fraud, with a particular focus on the perspectives of religious teachings on poverty and strategies to safeguard against fraudulent activities. This culminated in a comprehensive BET Assessment undertaken by all students across the Bohunt Education Trust.

We have since transitioned to the critical examination of extremism, understanding its essence, perils, and the teachings of various religions on this crucial issue. Our scholarly endeavours were applied to the poignant case study of Shamima Begum. I applaud your unwavering dedication and wish you all a most restful and enjoyable summer interlude.

# Science

Our Year 9s are currently learning about the periodic table in chemistry. Whilst learning about the properties of the different elements, they may also get to see the reactive alkali metals in action!

In biology they will be learning about lifestyle and its effect on our health. Students will be looking at how our genetics and lifestyle choices can affect our hearts and they will also be learning about the causes and effects of cancer. The physicists will be starting the radiation topic (which will continue when they return after the summer). For now they will be looking at the atom and atomic structure - which not only prepares them for the radiation topic but also consolidates the knowledge they have gained in chemistry.



# Sociology

It's been a fantastic first year for our Year 9 Sociology students, who have made an excellent start to their GCSE studies.

We began the year with an Introduction to Sociology unit. This gave students a solid grounding in key sociological perspectives, concepts and terminology – all vital for understanding the rest of the course.

Our first main unit was Families, where students explored the role and functions of the family in society. We examined family diversity, changing family patterns (including trends in marriage, cohabitation and divorce), and debates surrounding equality within the home.

In recent weeks, students have moved on to Research Methods, a crucial part of the GCSE course. Research Methods appears in every section of both exam papers – contributing around 10 marks per topic – so understanding this unit is vital. So far, students have been learning about different types of primary and secondary data, as well as qualitative and quantitative methods. Over the coming weeks, we'll be exploring the research process in more depth, and evaluating the practical, ethical and theoretical strengths and limitations of different methods. Looking ahead to the new academic year, students will begin with the Sociology of Education unit. In the spring term, they will move on to Crime and Deviance, which introduces students to some of the most engaging and relevant issues in contemporary society.

A reminder to all families that students have been issued with three key revision resources: the Collins GCSE Sociology revision guide, Collins flashcards, and Tutor2U revision cards. These are essential tools for completing homework tasks and preparing for assessments set by the Bohunt Education Trust.

# Spanish

This term, Year 9 students have been learning about the topic of 'Media' which looks at music tastes, reading, TV and films as well as celebrity culture.
In the last couple of weeks of the summer term we will be working on a special project for Year 9. This can be in the form of a collage, a storyboard, a piece of artwork or a movie (anything!) and consolidates everything about 'My personal world' which covers all the topics they have studied this year. This is a great way of showcasing each student's personal progress and reinforces everything they have learned this year.

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# Textiles

Our Year 9 Textile Artists are well into their first 'real' GCSE project based on the Elements. They have started creating wonderful samples linked to artists and photos they have taken and completed their first written analysis. A very exciting time of experimentation and development, wonderful to witness the skills they learnt in our workshops being adapted to create their own styles.