



Charters School

Specialist Sports and Science College

9 September 2010

Dear Parents/Carers

YEAR 9 CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2010-2011

Firstly I would like to welcome all students and parents, new and existing, to Year 9. I hope you all had a great summer and are prepared for the challenges ahead. I am very much looking forward to continuing to work with your son/daughter and supporting him/her as they meet the challenges of Year 9.

The Year 9 tutors are:

9C	Mr C Anderson	andec005@rbwm.org	9T	Miss K Humphries	humpk001@rbwm.org
9H	Mrs L Foulston	foull001@rbwm.org	9E	Ms R Magill	magir001@rbwm.org
9A	Mrs H Carmo	carmh003@rbwm.org	9M	Mr J Valente	valej035@rbwm.org
9R	Mr G Devine	devig001@rbwm.org	9S	Miss R Warren	warr002@rbwm.org

Assistant Head of Year: Mrs S Gilmour-Smith

Year 9 is an important year, as it will help to prepare students for their GCSE level courses. Over the coming months, tutors will be discussing option choices in their Personal Tutorial sessions with the students so that they are well informed and can start thinking about their future choices early on. I will be in touch with you early next term with more information on option choices.

I hope that all students have a positive and successful year and that they seize the opportunities available to them, both academic and extra-curricular. I am already aware of some excellent achievements within the year group, but I would also love to hear about any achievements that your child attains outside of school so that we can celebrate their success as a year team.

I am sure that I do not need to remind you that we, at Charters, have extremely high expectations of students in terms of behaviour, uniform and attendance. I thank you in advance for your support in ensuring that your child meets these expectations and achieves the very best that they can in all areas of school life.

Please find enclosed some useful information regarding setting of subjects, a homework calendar and some important dates for Year 9. Progress reports will be available via the learning gateway four times a year. A written profile will coincide with Progress 2 this year.

If you have any questions or issues, please do not hesitate to contact either myself or your son/daughter's tutor at school.

Yours sincerely

MRS S F CAMPBELL

Head of Year 9

Email: Camps001@rbwm.org

Shared/tutors/sfc/2010-11/letters/year 9 calendar of events & setting/sep10

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Co-Headteachers: Martyn Parker & Richard Pilgrim



CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Friday 17 September	Year 9 CAT tests
Thursday 23 September	Celebration of Achievement Evening (7.00pm)
Thursday 7 October	House Piano Competition (7.00pm)
Friday 15 October	Harvest Festival Assembly
Monday 18 October	Progress 1 issued this week (effort and concerns only)
Friday 22 October	Staff Training Day – no pupils in school
Monday 8 November	Curriculum Enrichment Day
Tuesday 9 - Friday 12 November	Science internal assessments in lessons
Friday 19 – Friday 26 November	Combined Sports Tour to Tirabad
Tuesday 23 - Friday 26 November	School Production
Monday 6 December	Progress 2 issued this week
Thursday 9 December	Winter Concert (7.00pm)
Tuesday 14 December	Carol Service at Holy Trinity (7.30pm)
Monday 10 January	Year 9 Profiles issued (Attainment & effort grades taken from Progress 4)
Mid-Late January	Options Booklet issued
Wednesday 2 February	House Singing Competition (7.00pm)
Thursday 3 February	Maths Challenge Year 9, 10 & 11
Friday 4 February	Careers fair (daytime event for students)
Thursday 10 February	Options Evening (5.30-8.30pm)
Friday 11 - 19 February	French Exchange Visit
15-17 February	School Dance Production
Monday 28 February	Staff Training Day – no pupils in school
Wednesday 2 March	G&T Chamber Concert
Friday 4 – Friday 11 March	Year 9 G&T to Tirabad
Thursday 10 March	Year 9 Parents Evening (5.00pm – 8.00pm)
Friday 18 – Friday 25 March	Year 8 & 9 Outdoor Pursuits Trip to Tirabad
Monday 21 March	Progress 3 issued this week
21-25 March	Year 9 Art Exams this week
Monday 28 March – Friday 1 April	Year 9 Exams
End March	Deadline for return of completed Option Forms
Tuesday 5 April	Spring Concert
Friday 8 April	Staff Training Day – no pupils in school
Friday 13 May-21 May	French Exchange return Visit
Monday 23 – Friday 27 May	Leadership Week
Friday 27 May – Friday 3 June	Cantabria Trip
Monday 6 June	Progress 4 will be issued this week
Monday 6 June – Friday 10 June	Science internal assessments in lessons
27 June - 8 July	English GCSE Controlled Assessments during this period
Thursday 7 - Friday 8 July	Curriculum Enrichment Days
Thursday 14 July	School Sports Day (reserve Friday 15 July)
End of July	End of Key Stage 3 results letter issued

Setting in Year 9 2010-2011

Setting of classes allows every student to have the opportunity to learn at the pace appropriate to their needs. Setting of students is reviewed on a regular basis. Pupils are set before they start in Year 9 based on their performance in Year 8.

Maths

There are 5 sets for mathematics; a fast track group and then sets 1-4. The fast track group will do their GCSE at the end of year 10 with a view to do the additional mathematics FSMQ in year 11. Sets 1-4 will be covering topics from the GCSE syllabus (OCR: Specification A), in preparation for their first mathematics module which is likely to be in January 2012.

English

There are 2 parallel sides of the year group with pupils placed in five groups. Set 1 is a top ability set, Sets 2, 3 and 4 are equal mixed ability groups, and Set 5 is a lower ability set that receives extra support.

Science

There are five sets on each half of the timetable. For CHAR, sets 1 and 2 are equal top and then sets 4 and 5 are equal with set 5 as a lower set. For TEMS, sets 1 and 2 are equal top, with 3, 4 and 5 as mixed (middle/lower) ability.

Year 9 French: is taught in five teaching groups for each half year CHAR and TEMS. There are two equal top sets (1a and 1b) and three equal mixed ability sets (2a 2b 2c). Pupils work at NC levels 3-6. There are some opportunities to work at NC Level 7.

Year 9 Spanish: is taught in four teaching groups for each half year CHAR and TEMS. There are two equal top sets (1a and 1b) and two equal mixed ability sets (2a and 2b) Pupils who do not study Spanish receive Core Support. Pupils work at NC levels 3-6. There are some opportunities to work at NC Level 7.

Technology (including ICT)

There is not a 'top set' as such - rather two higher ability classes, one lower ability group, and three 'middle' ability classes. The intention is to establish classes where the pupils are most likely to be able to work efficiently in terms of speed and depth of understanding. ICT will be sending a letter including exam details.

Humanities (History, Geography and RE)

There are 2 parallel sides of the year group with pupils set from Set 1 to Set 5. Set 1 and 2 equal top sets, 3 and 4 are equal middle ability and set 5 is the lower set.

Expressive Arts (Drama, Music and Art)

There are 2 parallel sides of the year group with pupils set from Set 1 to Set 5. Set 1 is top set, with sets 2 and 3 equal middle sets, and 4 and 5 are equal lower ability sets. Students will be in the same set for drama, music and art. Therefore, placement in these sets will be as a result of performance in all 3 subjects in Year 8.