



9th February 2024

Year 9 Spring Newsletter Feb '24

Dear Parent/Carer

With Spring around the corner and the half-way point of the year reached, our gaze turns to the Year 9 Options process, which begins after half term. I look forward to seeing students and parents at the Options Evening on the 20th of February. Here, students and parents will be given all the information needed to begin the process of choosing their GCSE options, with subject leaders on hand to guide students through these important decisions.

Our talented performing artists have been tirelessly rehearsing for their parts in our College Production of West Side Story, which will be being held from 7th to the 10th of February, I am delighted so many Year 9 students are participating. It is such an exciting opportunity for our young people and watching their confidence grow is very special. The cast this year is one of the largest we have seen for some time and it is so wonderful to see so many students from different year groups working together, as a team, to create such a beautiful performance. Students have really taken the lead this year and have been extremely hands-on with all aspects of the production, from costumes and set, to recording the music tracks and plotting the lighting- it has been wonderful to see. We have made a conscious effort to use the storyline of West Side Story to consolidate cross-curricular teaching by making links to Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet and by discussing the social and political history of New York City.



Looking forward, there are a number of exciting events and activities coming up after half the half term. One highlight comes in March where Mr Annan will be taking a group of students to a "Girls in STEM" at Guildford College. Here, students will have the opportunity to take part in a range of interactive and inspirational activities. As always, I would encourage students to take every opportunity to engage with the extra curricular opportunities that are offered.

On Tuesday 19th March, students and parents will have the opportunity to meet their teachers to discuss their learning at the Year 9 Consultation Day. This will be another opportunity to discuss options choices, alongside your child's learning more broadly.

We would like to hear from all parents/carers and get your view on how we can strengthen engagement and communication. If you haven't had a chance to already, we'd really appreciate a few minutes of your time to complete a short survey https://forms.gle/EMjEGgsoH6SZgimd7





I hope students and parents alike will have a peaceful and enjoyable half term.

Kind regards

Mr E Lang YR9 Progress Leader elang@christscollege.surrey.sch.uk