

# March



## Blackpool Aspire Academy – Year 9 Newsletter

### Head of Year Messages

A huge thank you to all who attended the progress/ options evening before half term, the turnout was great and it was lovely to speak to students regarding subject progress and what the options process will look like. We completed a first attempt (draft) on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February and it was great to see how prepared students were in being able to choose these. The second round of option choices will be in a few weeks' time. Mr Buchanan is currently looking at the option blocks and subjects' students wish to study.

There have been a large number of achievement points given out to students in year 9 in the last month – 9979 to be exact.

We also had 23 students with 100% attendance throughout February. The resilience of these students to get in each day, even when they are not quite feeling 100% also does not go unnoticed.

This month, our head of year messages again surround **attendance**. We started the beginning of this half term as a year group on **84.5%** attendance. However, the attendance since then has drastically improved and now sits at **85.6%**. Although still sits short of the desired 97%, it is a fantastic increase and this needs to continue. Absence from school leaves students vulnerable to falling behind, therefore we want to do all we can to support getting your child into school to make progress in their lessons. If you feel that you are struggling to meet the desired attendance target, please reach out to school to see what support we have available for your child.

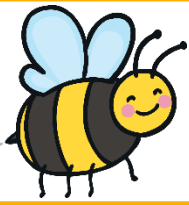
#### Attendance by Form Group

Form Group	%
9T	88%
9O	92%
9A	86%
9S	87%
9P	88%
9I	83%
9R	85%
Year Group Average	85.6%

\*It is expected that students have 97% attendance to make necessary progress.

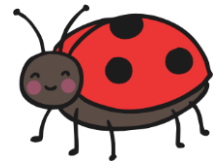
#### Top 10 Achievers since Aug

Student	Points
Maddox B (9R)	1120
Shelby J (9R)	1096
Ellis M (9R)	1015
Martha W (9P)	972
Madison B (9O)	930
Logan S (9A)	910
Samuel S (9R)	907
Ben S(9P)	892
Amera N (9I)	891
Melody W (9O)	888



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## Student Voice – options process

The first student section includes some information from Lya A (9O) who has written a short piece around the Year 9 options process:

The first options draft in my opinion was very successful and I found it very easy and straight forward, this is because I got provided with all the information I needed. I also found the options assembly very helpful with all the information before the options were chosen along with the teachers which were there to answer any questions and talk us through all of the requirements.

Before options evening, I was also clueless on what to pick as I hadn't made up my mind. The options evening gave me an opportunity to ask questions to each subject and I have made my mind up about what I want to choose.

The options evening helped me out so much but if students were unable to make the options evening, the 30-minute assembly was great for these people who needed a bit of help and was the perfect opportunity to ask any questions. So far, I have found it very easy and I know what I want – thanks to all the staff!

## Student in the Spotlight!

Charlie R (9O): Sustained excellent attendance and punctuality to school

Jason L (9O): Improving uniform standards.

Adhena P (9O) - amazing contributions in literacy canon and improved confidence with reading

Daniel O'N (9T) - For consistently hard work, and amazing engagement and hard work in English

Justin J (9A) Tara-Mai (9I) Ellis M (9I) - All did great AR prototypes using their treasure map.

Logan S (9A) for supporting other students with complex tasks.

Ryan B (9S) Lucas C (9I) for an excellent Augmented Reality Prototype.

Kenzie L (9P) - Star baker - Working independently, helping people and being kind

Jaxon C(9A), Kadie S (9R), Beau F (9O), Toby B (9O), Isabelle H (9O) - Fantastic detailed designs and ideas for their steady hand game

Lilly H (9S) for developing confidence in French after taking part in the Paris trip. Lilly has now opted for French GCSE and I am so pleased for her.

McKenzie H (9O) - has been working hard to improve in maths. This is an area he struggles in a lot but he is always willing to try his best and listens when things are explained to him. His effort and perseverance show in his new ability to work out percentages.

Jaxon C (9O), Evie B (9A), Jacob L (9R) for helping the English department decorate their classroom doors ready for World Book Day – they look amazing!