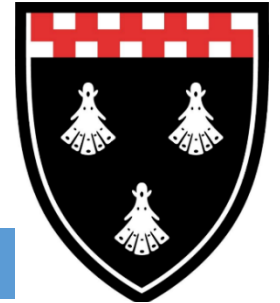




September 2024

Welcome to the September edition of our newsletter for Year 7 parents (and Year 5 and 6 prospective parents). In this newsletter, you can see just how well our fantastic Year 7s have settled into their new school and their amazing experience at Plessey Woods. The students have made an impressive start and show a real enthusiasm to participate and be part of our school community!



Plessey Woods



Only a week into the new term, our fantastic Year 7 students embarked upon an adventure that they will remember for the rest of their time at Ponteland High School! During the week, each Year 7 tutor group participated in a day filled with team building activities in order to get to know their tutor and form class. The trip was a great opportunity for building relationships, developing communication skills and learning how to solve problems together. Mr Murray, one of the new Y7 tutors, said he had a brilliant day and he really got to see the developing personalities of his class. Additionally, Mr Oliver noted that he had 'seen some students unexpectedly take the lead and really grow in confidence' throughout the day.



The activities, which were organised by Tom and James from Pinpoint Adventure, included crossing a toxic swamp, climbing through a rope web and orienteering. The weather was kind on most days with only a few light rain showers in amongst the beautiful autumnal sunshine! Complimenting the Year 7 students, James from Pinpoint Adventure said that the students were very polite and creative. Manha and Charlotte remarked that they 'had so much fun' and the best part was 'the adventure in the woods, finding letters with clues. Each letter was worth a different number of points and we had to work in our teams as quickly as we could!' Luke said he 'enjoyed the toxic swamp activity with the big skis to get across' and Leo received extra points for thinking of others and helping to get his whole team over the swamp!





September 2024

Year 7 Enrichment Launch Night



On Tuesday 10th September, the PE department hosted their annual Year 7 Enrichment Launch Night to give the opportunity for all Year 7 students to stay behind after school and try some different activities to get a taste of what is to come in the programme over the academic year.

It was a resounding success with over 150 students attending and trying one of 5 activities. There was football, trampolining, rugby, netball and badminton on offer. The excitement of

different clubs carries on throughout the weeks with students being able to try a range of sports each week whether that is purely for participation or in the hope of joining various school teams. There is something for everyone, so make sure you get yourself involved in the fun.

RSHE



In the first RSHE session on Monday 16th September, Year 7 participated in a range of discussions about how to make the best start to life in secondary school. Using a range of different scenarios, they considered all the great things about starting a new school and also the challenges.

KS3 Recommended Read

