

Autumn 1 Subject Information

Year 8

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| English | Students will study the Romantic poetry of Blake, Shelley and Wordsworth in the first half of the Autumn term. We will look at the rebellious nature of the Romantic poets and how their poetry was controversial and often critical of society at the time. Parents can support at home by asking students about the poetry they have read and the opinions these poets expressed and why these were significant. |
| Maths | Students will build on their Year 7 learning by developing skills in adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing integers and decimals. They will round to the nearest 10, 100, and 1000, to decimal places, and significant figures, as well as estimate calculations with appropriate accuracy. Work with fractions will include simplifying, finding equivalents, converting between improper and mixed numbers, and calculating with fractions and mixed numbers. Students will also convert between fractions, decimals, and percentages, and solve problems involving percentages of amounts, percentage change, reverse percentages, multipliers, and simple and compound interest. The unit will conclude with a banking project to apply these skills in a financial context. |
| Science | Students will build upon the knowledge taught in Year 7. They will complete short modules chemical reactions, evolution & forces and their reactions. |
| Education for Life | <p>This half term we are focussing on Health and Wellbeing. The programme consists of Education for life lessons, tutor sessions and assemblies. Please see below for a brief outline of what each year group will be studying this half term:</p> <p>Drugs & Alcohol</p> <p>In this unit students will explore issues surrounding drugs and alcohol. They will gain an understanding of the law surrounding drugs and alcohol, along with the different types of drugs. They will study in depth the socially accepted drugs of alcohol and tobacco with an emphasis on their effects and with regards to alcohol, how to stay safe.</p> |
| Art | Year 8 artists complete a baseline test before commencing their first SOW whereby they learn about the groundbreaking artist Georgia O’Keeffe - the <i>Mother of Modern Art</i> . Students develop skills when working from observation, in order to create a final outcome inspired by O’Keeffe and Natural Forms utilising skills with oil pastels whilst deepening knowledge of Colour Theory. |
| Dance | Year 8: Capoeira: A Brazilian Martial Art. Students will learn the origins and history of the Art form, actions from Capoeira as well as having the opportunity to create their own actions to reflect the style. At the same time students will be developing their knowledge of key dance skills such as unison, canon, action/reaction and mirroring. |
| Design | Timbers - Students are designing and making a wooden mechanical pull along toy. |

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| Technology | Textiles - Students are designing and making a plush toy. Mixed materials - Students will be designing and making a mood lamp. |
| Drama | The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins is the focus of the first half term. Students will discuss and bring to life the characteristics of the main protagonists and antagonists. They will look at sections from the Hunger Games and reinterpret them using a range of drama strategies including physical theatre, still images and narration. |
| Food and Nutrition | Students are introduced to food science, looking at the function of ingredients with a focus on carbohydrates. Practicals this term support student understanding of food science. |
| Geography | This term we investigate China's One Child Policy and develop an understanding of Megacities and the push and pull factors associated with living in the city. We explore the impacts of changing economies and how this impacts the environment. |
| History | 'How equal were the Edwardians?' Year 8 will be travelling to the depths of the Atlantic ocean in an investigation into how and why so many people lost their lives on the Titanic in 1912. This case study can also teach students about social classes and life in pre war Britain. |
| IT | Students are revisiting Esafety at the start of the term, before moving on to developing their computational thinking and programming skills |
| MFL (French, German or Spanish) | My Town – Talking About Where You Live In this unit, students learn how to describe their town and give their opinions about it. They also learn how to say what they can do there and talk about their future plans using the future tense. |
| Music | Music in year 8 is split between two rooms; a traditional classroom with musical instruments and a digital media suite (DMS). In the traditional music room, there will be a focus on singing and vocal warm ups. In the DMS students will re-learn how to use the music software program, LogicPro, completing a set of challenges to consolidate their knowledge. |
| RE | Year 8 will become resurrection detectives and investigate the death of Jesus Christ. |
| PE | Students are engaging in our concept curriculum in their Core PE time, where students will experience a range of activities including Football, Fitness, Basketball, Gymnastics and Swimming. Groups will work on a carousel of activities throughout the year to make sure they receive a broad balanced curriculum. Our concepts are Overcoming opponents, Technique and Performance, Fit4Life and Water Safety this term. |