

Year 7 Curriculum Newsletter Summer Term 1

English



What are we studying? Drama study: A Midsummer Night's Dream. An introduction to Shakespeare through this fairytale'esque play. Students will get to grips with Shakespearean language and understand the context of this play and history at the time of its writing.

Assessment: End of unit assessment - knowledge, grammar, reading and writing skills

How can parents help? Please ensure your child completes their Lexia minutes, learns their spellings and completes their reading logs. If you can listen to your child read, that is even better!

Science



What are we doing this half term? (1) Biology – Variation (2) Chemistry - Metals and non metals (3) Physics - Electricity

Assessments: : Low stake quizzes.

How can parents help? Ensure your child has the correct equipment such as a pencil, ruler and their own scientific calculator. The BBC KS3 bitesize is a useful resource for homework tasks and revision - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zng4d2p>. It would be useful to have a KS3 Science revision guide to aid students in preparation for summative assessments – <https://www.amazon.co.uk/KS3-SCIENCE-REVISION-LEVELS-GUIDES/dp/B008MWXGFO>

History



What are we studying? In the summer term we continue our studies of Ancient Civilizations. From the Aztecs to the Silk Road and lots in between!

Assessment: end of year assessment.

How can parents help? Encourage your child to read books or watch TV programmes on Ancient Civilisations. Ensure payment and consent have been given for our trip to the British Museum.

Maths

$$3x^2=y$$

What are we studying? Angles: We have been measuring and drawing angles and will continue to find missing angles on a straight line, around a point, in vertically opposite angles and in triangles. Handling data and statistical diagrams: We will be looking at mean, median, mode & range. We will also be interpreting and drawing tables and charts as well as collecting and presenting data. Proportion: We will be solving problems involving proportion.

Assessment: Students will be doing an assessment once each unit of work has been completed - a topic list will be provided.

How can parents help? Ensure your child has the correct equipment such as a pencil, ruler, protractor, compass and their own scientific calculator. Encourage your child to engage fully with SPARX spending at least 1 hour per week doing their home learning and the times tables practise.

PE



Skills, techniques and strategies are continuing to be built on by experiencing a different set of sports and activities from, striking and fielding games such as cricket, rounders and softball to athletics.

Assessments: Students will be assessed throughout the practical blocks of work.

How can parents help?: Please ensure students complete home learning tasks on time and that they are organised with their full kit on PE days.

Geography



What are we doing this half term? Y7 students will be investigating settlement.

Assessments: An end of topic written assessment.

How can parents help? Ensure your child has a glue and scissors. Make sure the literacy sheet is fully completed. Revision notes for assessments need to follow the guidance on the revision help sheet.

Art



What are we studying? Year 7 students continuing on their 'My Journey to School' project. Students will explore a variety of artists to inspire a painting based on their own observations.

Assessment: Students are graded holistically throughout the project based on the 4 assessment objectives detailed in their sketchbooks.

How can parents help? Please ensure that your child completes all their Art & Design homework activities for this project. Drawing equipment and good quality colouring pencils will support students in completing their work in lesson and at home.

French



What are we studying? Life at school

Assessment: Informal speaking and end of year assessments

How can parents help? Encourage your child to learn the new words and phrases regularly by testing themselves or by testing them.

Spanish



What are we studying? Life at school

Assessment: Informal speaking and end of year assessments

How can parents help? Encourage your child to learn the new words and phrases regularly by testing themselves or by testing them.

Drama



What are we studying this half term? The theatrical style of Melodrama.

Assessment: Devised performance using the conventions and stock characters of Melodrama.

How can parents help? Please ensure your child completes any home learning on time, encourage them to express themselves in lesson and complete wider reading around the topic. Encourage them to share/demonstrate their characterisations.

Music



What are we studying? Students will learn about triads and pitch notation and compose a fanfare in pairs

Assessment: Formative assessment of fanfare pieces

How can parents help? Please ensure your child arrives to their lessons with their Music book, a pen, ruler and pencil, and encourage them to listen to lots of Music at home.

Religion, Philosophy and Ethics (RPE)



What are we studying? Religious Festivals

Assessment: The same style of assessment is used throughout the year. 5 questions that add up to 24

How can parents help? Ask your son/daughter lots of questions, play devils advocate!

Computer Science



What are we studying? Principles of Programming

Assessment: On the topic above students will answer a mixture of multiple-choice, short-answer and extended-response questions.

How can parents help? Encourage students to revise using BBC Bitesize: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z7tp34j>

Food and Nutrition



What are we doing this half term?: Students will be introduced to health and safety practices within Food Preparation and Nutrition which will give them an understanding of how to prepare, store and cook food safely. They will learn about the eat well guide and will expand their knowledge on healthy eating and dietary requirements. They will develop their researching skills and be introduced to sensory analysis and evaluations.

The practical lessons will include Veggie dippers, couscous salad, boiling an egg, pizza wheels and planning a healthy muffin. These lessons have been chosen to introduce different food preparation equipment, using the hob, grill and oven, demonstrating the correct food cutting techniques, safely and accurately as well as understand the basics of food preparation to work safely within a practical food lesson.

Assessment: will include, sensory analysis, research into nutrition, making of their own healthy muffin.

What parents can do to help: encourage a love of food by letting your child demonstrate their chopping skills when cooking at home. Let them take responsibility for collecting and weighing out their own ingredients for practical lessons.

Design Technology (Rotation)



What are we doing this half term?: We will be looking into the key terms that we use to describe material properties and wood based materials. We will start practicing cutting wood joints to build confidence and resilience then move onto creating a phone stand made from bent plywood. We will be trained on the sanding machine and understand general health and safety and how to perform a risk assessment.

Assessments: Students will be assessed on the finger joint practical work which they have the opportunity to repeat and improve. They will also create a phone stand out of a laminated plywood curve. Practical's will be marked on accuracy and quality of finish.

How can parents help?: Take an interest in the project work and skills they are learning and discuss them. Help them look at products made from wood materials and try and work out how they are made and constructed. Make some IKEA furniture!

DT Graphics (rotation)

What are we doing this half term?: Students will be given a design context which they will use to design and manufacture a tea light holder that has a pattern inspired by a historical design movement. The project aims to develop students' awareness of design movements whilst encouraging them to reflect upon the needs of different clients. The students will also be given the opportunity to experiment with CAD in order to produce innovative designs.

Assessments: Students will be assessed in the areas of Investigation (analysing patterns and their appropriateness for a tea light holder), Designing (designing patterns that would be appropriate for the tea light holder) and Evaluating (evaluating the final product).

How can parents help?: Students will be designing a product for a real world situation, so discussing what customers might want from the products they buy would be useful. It would also be helpful to talk through what design movements are to help support with students' understanding.

DT Textiles –(Rotation)

What are we doing this half term?: Students will be using recycled fabrics or items of old clothing to design and produce a cultural cushion. The project aims to introduce and develop an understanding of basic Textiles, and to ensure the creative process of the design and make project is acknowledged. Students will also develop an appreciation and awareness of different cultures, and learn how they can reflect on the principles of a certain culture through the medium of colour and fabric.

Assessments: The research work that is completed will be assessed for accuracy and how well inspiration has been drawn from it. The final constructed product will also be assessed using quality and complexity as the benchmarks.

How can parents help?: Discuss the project, look at existing textile products, turn them inside out and understand how they were constructed. Help them to experiment or practice sewing skills at home.