

Year 10 Curriculum Newsletter Summer Term 1

English



What are we studying? A Christmas Carol - For this half term, students will go onto another key GCSE text, A Christmas Carol. They will begin by studying Victorian context and Dickens' intent in his political diatribe. They will learn the plot, characters and themes that the text explores and develop their essay writing skills through analysis of language and structure.

Assessment: A Christmas Carol end of unit assessment

How can parents help? Ensure home learning is completed. If you are able to take your child to a performance of the play or watch a film version that would be great.

Maths

$$3x^2=y$$

What are we doing this half term? (Higher) We'll start the half term with tree diagrams, and compound measures, before moving onto sequences and proportion.

Assessments: Students will complete a unit assessment after each topic.

How can parents help? Ensure your child has the correct equipment such as a pencil, ruler and their own scientific calculator. Encourage your child to engage fully with SPARX (the maths homework platform) - they should be completing 100% of the tasks each week correctly. If they do not understand a question they need to see their teacher.

Art



What are we studying? Our Y10 GCSE Art & Design students are beginning a new coursework project exploring the theme of 'Identity'. We will be arranging a trip to London to support students in exploring their ideas for this project.

How can parents help? Please ensure that your child stays up-to-date with their coursework, our students are expected to be spending 3-4 hours a week working on their art coursework at home outside our timetabled lessons. A space for students to work on their art at home is an excellent way to support them. Year 10 students are also invited to attend catch-up sessions in 13a after school. This is regularly on a Thursday and Friday but is also available most other days too. Students purchase a pack of materials at the beginning of the course but if parents are able to also purchase acrylic paints for students to also use at home, this would be a really supportive measure to ensure that coursework can be completed both at home and at school. If parents are also able to support students in visiting different museums and galleries and engaging in conversations about artworks.

Science



What are we studying? Biology - Photosynthesis and respiration moving onto Homeostasis and response, Chemistry - Rates of reaction, Physics - Forces moving onto Waves.

Assessment: Unit assessments.

How can parents help? Ensure students complete their Sparx homework weekly, When doing assessment revision, students should be using their revision guides/ knowledge organisers. The better students learn the content as we progress through Y10 the easier Y11 becomes.

History



What are we studying? We will be continuing our study of Crime and Punishment, finishing of with looking at punishment has changed over the past 1000 years. We will then be moving on to our study of Germany after World War Two and the rise of Hitler and the Nazi Party, which will continue through in to year 11.

Assessment: regular end of unit assessments and end of year mock exam on the USA 1929-2000 (our first topic studied earlier this year).

What can parents do to help? Encourage your child to read around the subject. Visit The Clink prison on London's Southbank. Make sure your child is completing the weekly USA revision home learning tasks to get them ready for the end of year exam.

Religion, Philosophy and Ethics (RPE)



What are we doing this half term? GCSE RPE Exam revision is both classwork and homework.

Assessments: No assessment as they have their GCSE this term.

How can parents help? Support your child in revising.

Drama

What are we doing this half term?

Students will continue to their Devised piece of Drama for their Component 1 Assessed Performance. Students will complete class and homelearning tasks on their written coursework the Portfolio of Evidence. This Component is worth 40% of the actual GCSE.

Assessments: Students work will be assessed in line with the GCSE assessment criteria.

How can parents help? Please encourage your child to complete their homelearning on time and to a high standard. Research into their devised piece. Read the set text 'Noughts and Crosses' Adapted by Sabrina Mafouz (Eduqas Exam board).

PE -GCSE



What are we doing this half term? In Summer 1 students will start working on Paper 2 and revise paper 1, specifically focusing on the principles of training and their application to personal exercise programmes.

Assessment: Multiple choice, short answer and extended writing questions in a written paper covering aspects from the start of the course.

How can parents help? encourage regular use of the EverLearner online resource by completing the checkpoints.

BTEC Sport

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How can parents help? encourage regular use of the EverLearner online resource by completing the checkpoints.

Geography



What are we doing this half term? GCSE Geography students will investigate resource management, especially for water.

Assessments: An end of topic written assessment, based on past GCSE exam questions.

How can parents help? Ensure your child has a glue and scissors. Students have a revision help sheet for each topic, and should be encouraged to complete revision notes at the end of each week's lessons, so they are producing them in manageable detailed chunks. Please assist students in keeping their revision folders organised and with detailed notes and diagrams. Students should use GCSE Pod to consolidate knowledge.

Spanish



What are we doing this half term? Festivals, celebrations, food and culture in the Spanish speaking world

Assessment: speaking & translation assessment

How can parents help? With the learning & testing of topic-related vocabulary from the AQA vocab booklet, test your child on verbs in different tenses and opinions and reasons. Encourage the use of "thislanguage" to improve listening skills, and also encouraging students to be creating mind maps on different topics studied to date in order to prepare them for all topics which will be tested in end of year exams.

French



What are we doing this half term? Festivals, celebrations, food and culture in the Spanish speaking world

Assessment: speaking & translation assessment

How can parents help? With the learning & testing of topic-related vocabulary from the AQA vocab booklet, test your child on verbs in different tenses and opinions and reasons. Encourage the use of "thislanguage" to improve listening skills, and also encouraging students to be creating mind maps on different topics studied to date in order to prepare them for all topics which will be tested in end of year exams.

Food and Nutrition



What are we studying?

Students will complete the theory of the course this term.

Focus this half term will be on:

- Food Choice, factors that influence, Traditional cuisines, British foods.
- Food Provenance, the environmental impact of the food industry, Vegetarian foods, seasonal cooking.

Assessment: End of topic tests

DT GCSE

What are we studying? Practical skills builder sessions, using focused practical tasks to introduce high level skills. Theory sessions will focus more on industry and enterprise and the impact of design on society and the environment.

Assessment: Practical outcome marks, end of unit theory test.

How can parents help? Encourage use of revision books and Seneca learning online. Short, sharp questioning sessions to help recall of information or practice exam technique. Encourage sketching and doodling in most forms and visit museums to help build creativity.

Music



What are we studying? Year 10 Music students will be continuing their study of the set work 'Africa' by Toto, as well as looking at Area of Study 2, Music For Ensemble. They will also continue to develop their performing, composing and appraising skills

Assessment: Formative assessments of appraising and composing work.

How can parents help? Please encourage your child completes regular singing/instrumental practice and listen to lots of music at home. Ensure you child arrives to their lessons with their Music book, a pen, a ruler and a pencil.

Computer Science



What are we studying? Topic 4 : Networks

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 Computer science revision guide.

PE (Core)

What are we studying? All students will continue to follow a curriculum which covers team and individual sports. However the focus is to provide opportunities to develop lifelong participation in sport and exercise. All students have one lesson per week and options are changed each half term.

Assessment : Students are not formally assessed in core PE.

How can parents help?: Please ensure students are organised with their full kit on PE days.



What are we doing this half term?

Students will begin working on Component 2: Planning and Presenting a Micro-enterprise Idea as part of the BTEC Tech Award (2022) Enterprise course.

They will develop their own micro-enterprise idea, focusing on key areas such as:

- Conducting market research.
- Planning the product or service they intend to offer
- Considering financial elements such as pricing, costs, and potential profit
- Creating a structured business plan
- Preparing and delivering a presentation to communicate their idea effectively

How can parents help? Ensuring your child maintains good attendance in all lessons

- Encouraging them to attend any Monday catch-up sessions they are invited to
- Checking that all homework is completed on time, as this directly impacts their coursework progress and final grade.