

Year 8 Curriculum Spring Term

English

As readers

- This term we are working on Macbeth
- develop a critical appreciation and love of reading esp. of increasingly challenging material
- read a wide range of fiction and non-fiction, including in particular whole contemporary English texts
- know the purpose, audience for and context of the writing (Inc. language features) and draw on this knowledge to support comprehension studying setting, plot and characterisation and the effects of these.

As writers

- write a range of narrative and non-narrative texts, including arguments, and personal and formal letters summarise and organise material
- apply their growing knowledge of vocabulary, grammar and text structure to their writing and selecting the appropriate form
- draw on knowledge of literary and rhetorical devices from their reading and listening to enhance the impact of their writing

As grammar experts

- draw on new vocabulary and grammatical constructions from their reading and listening, and using these consciously in their writing & speech to achieve particular effects
- know and understand the differences between spoken and written language, including Standard English and other varieties of English

Creative Technology

As artists and designers

- Use of sketchbooks to document & explore knowledge, research, ideas
- Range of design ideas to shape unique projects through variety of media & materials
- Identify and solve their own design problems and develop and communicate design ideas.
- How to store, prepare & cook food safely & hygienically
- How to modify & cook recipes that promote current healthy eating messages
- Develop a range of skills including mastering ceramics & batik

Computing

As computer technologists

- Binary logic
- To be able to explain why data is represented in computer systems in binary form
- Understand and produce simple logic diagrams using the operations AND, NOT and OR

Mathematics

Number

- Rounding & estimation
- Addition & subtraction
- Powers of 10
- Multiplication
- Division
- Trial & improvement
- Calculator skills
- Calculators in context
- Order of operations

As mathematicians

Geometry

- Transformations
- Combinations of transformations
- Symmetry
- Enlargements
- Scale drawings

Statistics

- Collecting data
- Hypothesis
- Time series

Algebra

- Linear equations
- Mappings & functions
- Graphs of linear functions
- Equation of a straight line
- Curved graphs
- Mid-points of co-ordinate pairs

Ratio/Proportion

- Dividing a given ratio
- Direct proportion

Personalised Learning

As learners

- Focus on reading and writing according to the student's needs.

Geography

As geographers

- Europe, migration and population
- Reasons for changes in birth and death rate
- Demographic Transition Model
- World population distribution
- Europe overview – comparing countries
- Recap on weather
- Measuring weather, cloud types, rain types and air masses
- Climate of UK and Europe
- Introduction to coasts
- Waves and tides
- Erosion, transportation and deposition

Modern Languages

As linguists

- Food & drink & preferences
- Holidays
- Preparation for trip to Normandy

Music

As musicians

- Further develop ukulele & keyboard solo & ensemble playing skills to increasing difficulty
- Compose & arrange music within traditional musical structures
- Use & understand the structure of Ground Bass, 12 Bar 1/2 Blues & Chord Sequences
- Listen attentively to a variety of music that uses the musical structure being studied

Science

As scientists

- Eco system process
- The reactants in, & products of, photosynthesis, & a word summary for photosynthesis
- The dependence of almost all life on Earth on the ability of photosynthetic organisms, such as plants and algae, to use sunlight in photosynthesis to build organic molecules that are an essential energy store and to maintain levels of oxygen and carbon dioxide in the atmosphere
- The adaptations of leaves for photosynthesis.
- Aerobic and anaerobic respiration in living organisms, including the breakdown of organic molecules to enable all the other chemical processes necessary for life
- The process of anaerobic respiration in humans and micro-organisms, including fermentation, the differences between aerobic and anaerobic respiration in terms of the reactants, the products formed and the implications for the organism.
- The interdependence of organisms in an ecosystem, including food webs and insect pollinated crops
- The importance of plant reproduction through insect pollination in human food security

History

As historians

- Industrial changes: action and reaction
- Learn about the changes in industry and agriculture which occurred between 1750 and 1900 and evaluate the impact of these changes
- Middle class life in Britain in 1900
- Learn about the occupations in the 19th century which were defined as middle class.
- Students will also look at living conditions

Physical Education

- Volleyball
- Enhancing students motor skills such as throwing, catching and jumping (volley ball, netball, basketball)
- Cross country
- Increasing the fitness levels of students
- To develop team work through mapping and route planning in orienteering
- Dance

Religious Studies

- Is it right to die for your faith?
- How do Buddhists follow the Buddha?

