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) Variation topic in Biology is completed (2) The Metals and non-metals topic in Chemistry is completed (3) Electricity topic in Physics is completed.
Assessments: 3 (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) assessments carried out in class over the half term**.**
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 - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zng4d2p.

It would be useful to have a KS3 Science revision guide for revision purposes. - below is a selection of guides you may want to purchase.https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/secondary-books/ks3/science?srsltid=AfmBOooE0loGpke5OQgfrGVCMKRD7a7NVzqAueec2_ad4OKcMHT1NYyw.
Students to complete weekly Sparx science

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! ! After ancient civilisations we will move on to looking at immigration to Britain over time and how this has shaped our nation today

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

What are we studying? Angles: including estimating, drawing and reading. Finding unknown angles on a line, around a point and in triangles. Data: including finding the mean, mode, median and range. Using frequency tables, tally charts, bar charts and pictograms. Proportion: solving worded proportion problems.

Assessment: Students will be doing an open book assessment once each unit of work has been completed.

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 practice.

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 map skills.

Assessments: Tri-weekly assessment and 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.

Drama



Whare are we studying this half term?
Year 7 Drama students will use the Board Game Cluedo this term to develop and build Drama. They will learn about the key characters in the board game and use character profiles to develop their own interpretation of the roles. Students will work in groups to build their own ideas and motives for the murder that starts the Murder Mystery Drama. They will develop their knowledge of how to build drama, through their use of still image , spoken thought, hotseating and in role writing.

Assessment: Students will be assessed on their ability to create a monologue, and the key Drama vocabulary learnt this term.
How can parents help? Please encouarge your child to read widely, and when possible see Live Theatre.

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!

French



What are we studying? Life at school. Students will talk about their school life, describing their timetable, school subjects and rules, and giving their opinions.
Assessment: vocabulary test and end of year assessment.
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. Students will talk about their school life, describing their timetable, school subjects and rules, and giving their opinions.
Assessment: vocabulary test and end of year assessment.
How can parents help? Encourage your child to learn the new words and phrases regularly by testing themselves or by testing them.

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.

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

Students arrive with limited skills and knowledge as many primary schools lack the facilities or expertise to teach Food at KS2, therefore much of what they know is taught at home, usually cakes. Year 7 focuses on laying the foundation of basic practical skills and Healthy Eating knowledge to allow students to build upon this in later years. Learning how to use equipment safely is a key focus of this year, with fruits and vegetables being the focused commodity.
Practical lessons include: Eat the Rainbow Wrap, Boiled egg and soldiers, Quesadilla, Flatbread and tzatziki, Cheese and Spinach Muffins, Sausage Koftas.

How will they be assessed?

Students will be given regular verbal feedback within their practical lessons 'in the moment'. This allows students to act upon this feedback immediately for the maximum impact on progress.
Students will be assessed via written and practical assessments.
Home Learning
Students are set practical evaluations to reflect upon their practical outcome and own personal performance in practicals. In addition, where students provide ingredients for practicals they will continue to develop their weighing and measuring skills at home when preparing their ingredients for lessons.
Students are encouraged to practice their practical skills out of lessons by helping to prepare and cook meals at home.

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.