Year 7 Curriculum Newsletter Summer Term 2

English

What are we doing this half term? All about writing! This unit will re-cap and reinforce students understanding and use of grammar in their own creative writing. They will build the skills to write their own fable as well as a piece of travel writing.

Assessment: End of year exam

How can parents help? Please encourage your child to complete their Lexia usage and their spelling and reading log. If you can listen to your child read, even better!

Science

What are we doing this half term? (1) Biology - Classification (2) Chemistry - Elements (3) Physics - Magnets

Assessments: Low stake quizzes and summative assessment. The summative assessment will test students on their knowledge of all topics covered in Year 7. Revision topic list was emailed to all parents.

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

Maths

What are we doing this half term? Year 7 students will be finishing the summer term with angles, data handling, tables and charts; bar graphs and pictograms, collecting and representing data; frequency tables including proportion.

Assessment: Students will continue to complete unit assessments for each topic. There will also be an 'end of year' exam based on all of the content covered since September. Students have been set revision tasks on Sparx to help them prepare for this.

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 exam revision tasks spending at least 1 hour per week. It is also important to remind students that they need to remain focused after their summer exams.

History

What are we doing this half term? We will be finishing of our Historic Sites / Ancient Civilisations topic and then moving on to a study of Immigration to the UK after the end of year exams. This will look at immigration going all the way back to pre-1066 and how it has shaped our country and the way it is today.

Assessment: End of year exam - revision instructions are as an assignment on MCIS.

How can parents help? Encourage revision for the end of year exams (details on Teams). Visit the London Museum Docklands.

Geography

What are we doing this half term? Y7 students will be exploring map skills.

Assessments: An end of topic written assessment.

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

Art

What are we doing this half term? Year 7 students completing their 'What is a Portrait?' project. Students will learn how to draw a self-portrait and respond to the work is different artists within this theme.

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

What are we doing this half term? Year 7 will learn about the style of Melodrama and its place in theatre history. Students will explore the stock characters of the hero, villain and heroine, and will enjoy exploring the exaggerated style associated with this style of theatre.

Assessment: The end of year test will contain a mixture or multiple choice questions and short answers covering key learning through the year.

How can parents help? Please ensure your child completes their revision using advice on Bromcom.

Spanish

What are we doing this half term? My hobbies

Assessment: End of year tests - Listening, Reading and Translation

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

French

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Assessment: End of year tests - Listening, Reading and Translation

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

Religion, Philosophy and Ethics (RPE)

What are we doing this half term? This term, our Year 7 students are embarking on a seven-week exploration of Hinduism, paving the way for next year's temple visit.

Parents can support this journey by taking an active interest in their child's learning and bringing up any relevant news items. For context, the Hindu community is a vibrant part of UK society, offering a wonderful opportunity for cultural exchange and learning.

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 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.

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.

PE

What are we doing this half term?: 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.

Music

What are we doing this half term? Year 7 are learning about the instruments of the orchestra. They will continue to work as a class ensemble to perform a section of the 2nd movement from Dvorak's Symphony No. 9. They will also be expected to listen to and identify the sound of orchestral instruments. They will also creat their own arrangement of an orchestral piece.

Assessment: End of year listening and appraising exam.

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

Computer Science

What are we doing this half term? Students will revise all topics covered this year in preparation for our end of year exam. After the exam students will complete creative micro: bit projects where they will further develop their coding knowledge.

Assessment: The end of year assessment will contain a mixture of multiple-choice, short-answer and extended -response questions.

How can parents help? Encourage students to revise. Please visit Microsoft Teams for revision lists and helpful websites.

Food and Nutrition

What are we doing this half term? 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: Flatbread, Cheese and Spinach Muffins, Chickpea curry, Sausage Koftas and Fruit Crumble.

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 practical's. In addition, where students provide ingredients for practical's 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.

To be successful in this subject, students will need to be good at and enjoy:

Learning how to cook independently

Developing organisational and time management skills

Developing problem solving skills and the ability to overcome challenges

Teamwork when carrying out practical investigations

Learning through practical activities