Year 9 Curriculum Newsletter Summer Term 2

English



What are we studying this half term? GCSE Transition Skills! Students will complete their KS3 journey by looking at a GCSE style Language paper 1 and gaining knowledge of the skills required to complete this.

Assessment: End of year exam

How can parents help? Please encourage your child to complete their Lexia minutes and the home learning pack set.

Science



What are we studying this half term? Students will continue with their GCSE course in Science with Biology topic 3 – Infection and response, Chemistry topic 2 - Bonding and Physics topic 1 - Energy

Assessments: Low stake quizzes and summative assessment.
The summative assessment will test students on their knowledge of B1, C1 and P1. 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 GCSE bitesize is a useful resource for homework tasks and revision - https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zrkw2hv

Maths



What are we studying this half term? Year 9 students will be finishing the summer term with transformations, similarity and congruence, and interpreting data - including scatter graphs and averages.

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

How can parents help? Please help students to check they have the correct Maths equipment, especially scientific calculators, and that homework is being completed. It is also important to remind students that they need to remain focused after their summer exams.

History



What are we studying this half term? We will be studying a broad civil rights topic - How have civil rights been fought for around the world? Looking at issues of discrimination on the basis of race, gender, sexuality, religion and nationality.
We will be finding out how people have fought for rights in these areas and the impact this has had on the modern world. There will be a focus on the UK, USA, South Africa, India and Ireland.

Assessment: instructions on MCAS assignment. Encourage revision for the end of year exam (details on Teams). Visit the Imperial War Museum, London.

Geography



What are we studying this half term? Y9 students will investigating Sustainable Environments

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.

Drama



What are we studying this half term? Students will explore the play 'Hope Springs' by Richard Conion, and will look at the plot and themes whilst also building their own interpretations and staging of key scenes.

Assessment: Students will be assessed on a performance of a key scene and an end of year exam that encapsulates all their learning in Drama this year.

How can parents help? Please ensure your child completes their revision for the exam and learns lines for their practical assessment.

Spanish



What are we studying this half term? A tourist abroad - practical approach to travelling, booking hotels, transports and restaurants.

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.

Music



What are we studying this half term? Students are learning about the importance of music in film and will be studying how the elements of music affect mood and emotion. They will also learn to perform a leitmotif from a famous film.

Assessment: Performance of a leitmotif and end of year listening exam.

How can parents help? Please encourage your child to revise for their exam using their resources on Bromcom. Ensure your child arrives to their lessons with their pen, ruler and pencil, and encourage them to listen to lots of Music at home.

Art



What are we studying this half term? Year 9 students are starting a project based on 'Contemporary Art'. This includes studying variety of historical and contemporary artworks including the Pop Art movement.

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. Visiting local and national art galleries and discussing works of art and design at home can enable students to gain confidence in their creative thinking.

French



What are we studying this half term? A tourist abroad - practical approach to travelling, booking hotels, transports and restaurants.

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.

Computer Science



What are we studying this half term? Students will revise all topics covered this year in preparation for our end of year exam. After the exam students will learn about the implications of technology, including law and environmental factors.

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.

Religion, Philosophy and Ethics (RPE)

What are we studying this half term? Relationships and Families.
We're making fantastic progress as we dive into the AQA GCSE Relationships and Families unit. With just three more units to go including this one, our students are well on their way to being fully prepared for next year's exams. They will have a whole term to revise the course again in the Spring term. This unit is especially relevant as it reflects key issues in modern society, helping students connect classroom learning with real-world social dynamics.

Design Technology (Rotation)



What are we studying this half term? Students will learn about metal materials. They will cut, drill, file and finish galvanised steel sheet into a desk tidy. They will learn about heat treatment and bending metals effectively. They will also learn about casting metals and make a piece of pewter jewellery/key ring. They will also learn about mechanisms. The project aims to introduce students to practical skills relating to metal. The students will use a range of tools and equipment in order to create products made from metals.

Assessments: The complexity and quality of the material.

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 metal materials and try and work out how they are made and constructed.

DT Textiles –(Rotation)

What are we studying this half term? Students will be advancing their decorative skills and design creativity by making a textile wall hanging based on an inspirational theme. It will include printing, embroidery and applique techniques. Students will be introduced to the method of working needed for the new Textile Design GCSE**.**

Assessments: The research task into the inspiration for the design will be assessed, as well as each decorative technique and the final construction.

How can parents help?: Discuss the project, look at existing textile designs that exist in your home and other places. Help them to experiment or practice sewing skills at home.

DT Graphics (Rotation)

What are we studying this half term? Students will be learning about what graphics is and how it is applied to different products. Students will then spend time researching colour theory and typography and looking at how graphic products are produced, before embarking on a series of Design Challenges that involve them designing graphic products. The project aims to encourage students to consider how information is communicated, and what makes an effective graphic product, before giving them the chance to create some.

Assessments: Students will be assessed in the areas of Investigation (analysing film posters), Designing (designing a graphic product), Making (producing a graphic product) and Evaluating (evaluating the effectiveness of the final product).

How can parents help?: Offering students feedback about the work that they are doing is always helpful as it enables students to reflect upon the effectiveness of their work.

Food and Nutrition

What are we studying this half term? This year more complex practical skills are introduced in preparation for KS4 study. This ensures that students who opt for the subject at KS4 are well prepared but also those that do not continue with the subject still learn complex skills that they can use at home. A key focus is different pastry skills and considering the different nutritional profiles of different types of pastry. These intermediate skills build on the foundations of the basic skills learned in year 7 and 8. Our students come from a variety of different cultures so a focus in year 9 is International and British cuisines. This topic is sequenced in the final year of KS3 as it pulls through knowledge from the previous years and also from other subjects such as RE, Science, Geography and Maths.

Practical lessons include: Fruity Crumble bars, Homemade Fresh pasta, Cauliflower Mac and Cheese, Swiss Roll and improving a recipe and remaking a dish.

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.

Assessments:

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

PE

What are we studying this half term? With a focus on athletics and striking and fielding activities, such as cricket, rounders and softball students will continue to improve and develop not just their athletic ability but also learn valuable skills to take away such as teamwork, communication, leadership and sportsmanship. With each sport they will continue to develop more advanced skills, tactics and strategies.

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.