Curriculum at Catshill Middle School

Year 5

Be Kind, Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Ready

Autumn Term 2023

Subject Area	Curriculum Overview
English	Learners explore and celebrate our differences by studying visually stimulating literature. Building on this, learners then begin to link and make comparisons between two texts considering character, setting and themes. Learners will then craft their own characters and narratives making use of a range of techniques and styles studied. The development of reading, grammar, punctuation and spelling is embedded in students' English learning time. Lastly, learners complete the first term by studying poetry and different poetic forms.
Maths	Learners begin the term with a number focus: reading, writing and ordering numbers; rounding numbers and the use of negative numbers; prime numbers, factors and multiples. They then practise calculations by addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, learning how to solve problems in a variety of contexts.
Science	Following an introduction into the skills needed to 'work scientifically', pupils learn about Earth and the Solar System. They study planet movement, undertake moon observations and learn how to present data.
Art	Artists explore the theme 'The Blue Planet' where they will begin with storytelling igniting their imagination. This will then lead to them experimenting with different painting techniques and textures, they will create a final piece of seascape they have thoughtfully planned and designed.
Computing	Pupils are introduced to the school network, hardware and software and the expectations of their appropriate and safe use. They learn to use productivity software in the form of presentation software such as Google Slides.
Design & Technology	Pupils undertake a variety of practical projects to understand the stages of design. They will be able to research, design, make and evaluate prototypes.
Spanish	Learners are introduced to Spanish phonetics. They develop language skills and vocabulary through classroom instructions, greetings, numbers, and colours. Children also learn about Christmas celebrations in Spain.
Humanities	Pupils are introduced to a range of geographical and historical skills, including an investigation of Anglo Saxon life and culture. They will conduct a local area study and develop their understanding of what the UK looks like geographically.
Life Skills	Pupils study the topic Being me in my World and consider 'Who am I and how do I fit?' They also study the topic Celebrating Difference where they consider respect for similarity and difference as well as anti-bullying and being unique.
Music	Following a 'Haunted House' theme, learners are introduced to graphic musical notation, exploring how symbols can represent sounds before creating their own composition. They then explore the cultural background, history and development of rap leading to composition and performance.
PE	Pupils are introduced to a range of competitive games and learn to apply a broad range of sport specific skills during game play. Pupils are introduced to the basic principles of attacking and defending in games.
RE	Pupils explore the reasons why some people believe that God exists. They then consider whether it is possible to live by the values of Jesus in the 21 st . century.

Spring Term 2024

Subject Area	Curriculum Overview
English	Learners focus on creative writing opportunities including narratives, playscripts, formal letters and diary entries. They identify the purpose of each type of writing and its audience and study the features that make the writing effective. The development of reading, grammar, punctuation and spelling is embedded in all lessons.
Maths	Pupils study geometry, learning about the properties of shapes and their construction. They solve problems involving time then focus on calculations of fractions, decimals and percentages then practise comparing, drawing and measuring angles
Science	Pupils learn about forces and friction and undertake practical tasks to practise measuring, recording and presenting data. They move on to the study of life cycles, learning how animals and plants reproduce.
Art	Artists continue their journey into our world by looking at the topic 'Natural Forms', here they will explore the works of Van Gogh's Sunflowers and learn about observational drawing and experimenting with texture.
Computing	Pupils learn to use a variety of software to manipulate images. They use Paint.Net to create images in different formats and use layers to create different effects. Learners look at the basics of animation using Pivot Animator to create simple stick figure animations.
Design & Technology	Pupils learn about different types of motion and how they can be incorporated into a design. They discover how mechanical mechanisms work and use electronic LEGO kits to create motion and investigate basic coding. They apply their technical knowledge to design and make a range of moving toys based on the four key movement types.
Spanish	Learners further develop Spanish phonetic skills. They expand their vocabulary through our "my life" topic, learning to describe themselves and others and develop their understanding of Spanish grammar, using key present tense verbs and opinion phrases. Pupils also learn about how Easter is celebrated in Spain
Humanities	Learners are introduced to historical interpretations and consider the impact of the Vikings upon Britain, along with what it is like to live in an Alpine environment.
Life Skills	Pupils begin with the topic 'Being me in my World'. They identify goals for the year and consider: global citizenship, children's universal rights, democracy, and anti-social behaviour. Also, they study the topic 'Celebrating Difference' pupils consider respect for similarity and difference, anti-bullying and being unique.
Music	Pupils explore the music of the ancient Maya, studying its cultural purpose and importance, history and features. They learn how to create simple patterns using keyboards and tuned percussion and undertake a group performance. Learners move on to the exploration of electronic sounds creating soundscapes through the theme of Space.
PE	Pupils learn to develop body capabilities through gymnastics, dance and health related fitness. Pupils take part in outdoor and adventurous activity challenges both individually and within a team.
RE	Pupils explore how different people express their beliefs. They make connections between examples of religious creativity, including buildings and art, whilst developing a tolerance and respect for all.

Summer Term 2024

Subject Area	Curriculum Overview
English	Learners study a text which showcases an alternative viewpoint which provides an opportunity for them to write with empathy. They then develop their persuasive writing and create and perform a 'Dragon's Den' style persuasive speech. The development of reading, grammar, punctuation and spelling is embedded in all lessons.
Maths	Learners study geometry, measuring and calculating perimeters and the area and volume of shapes. They investigate the position and direction of shapes after reflection or translation. Pupils then investigate the presentation of data using line graphs and learn to check and estimate answers to determine levels of accuracy.
Science	Pupils learn about change in humans from birth to old age, including the process of sexual reproduction. They then learn about different materials and how these behave and change. Investigative skills are developed which include observation, recording, presenting and evaluating evidence.
Art	Artists will explore the topic of 'man made' to conclude their year looking at our world, they will take inspiration from the Artist Jim Dine looking at tools and equipment, experimenting with charcoal and frottage before planning and creating their own final piece to conclude their project.
Computing	Learners are introduced to coding, using blocks of code to create imaginary stories and games; they develop their skills using Scratch software. They learn to use productivity software in the form of word processing software such as Google Docs. Pupils will create an information text in a word processor.
Design & Technology	Pupils learn how to prepare food using safe knife skills and a variety of basic cooking techniques. They explore healthy eating and the importance of eating a healthy, balanced diet. Researching Fairtrade products and making their own banana smoothies and chocolate pancakes.
Spanish	Pupils further expand their vocabulary in the final topic based on healthy living. Pupils learn how to form present tense verbs when talking about themselves and a friend. They will write and speak about their likes and dislikes of various foods from Spanish speaking countries as well as developing their knowledge of Fairtrade products grown in South America.
Humanities	Learners explore what makes people go on a journey, including Windrush and Kindertransport. Students will enhance cross-curricular links with DT and Spanish to expand their knowledge of fairtrade and the process of how everyday items are produced, from farm to store.
Life Skills	Pupils study 'Relationships' and consider building positive, healthy relationships. Pupils then study the topic 'Changing Me' and explore how to cope positively with change.
Music	Learners explore the history and culture of Hawaii before experiencing ensemble playing whilst learning the ukulele. They have the opportunity to practise in small groups and to compose and perform a song.
PE	Pupils experience a range of athletic sports and continue to develop the skills required for competitive sports.
RE	Learners explore how religions can help when life gets hard. They are encouraged to question and suggest answers about life, death, suffering and what matters most. They learn to express personal opinions whilst respecting those of others.