



Year 8 Autumn 2

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

MATHS

This half term, the children will be developing their understanding of **coordinates and graphs**, learning to plot and interpret points in all four quadrants and exploring lines such as $y = x$, $y = mx$, and $y = mx + c$, including work on gradients and direct proportion.

In **fractions**, they will learn how to multiply and divide fractions and mixed numbers, including by integers and unit fractions, and explore the concept of reciprocals.

Finally, in **symmetry and reflection**, the children will identify line and rotational symmetry and reflect shapes in horizontal, vertical, and diagonal lines.

SCIENCE

For this half term, pupils be learning all about the periodic table of elements. They will be introduced to the atom and this will be followed by studying elements, compounds and mixtures. All pupils will look at the molecular structure of elements, compounds and mixtures. The half term will end with comparing and contrasting exothermic and endothermic reactions

ENGLISH

In the weeks leading up to Christmas, Year Eight will explore Charles Dickens' timeless novella *A Christmas Carol*. Through shared reading, pupils will experience this classic story of transformation and generosity. Their first extended writing task will be a descriptive piece capturing the atmosphere of London's winter streets, followed by a diary entry written from Scrooge's perspective after his haunting encounter with Marley's ghost.

As the festive season approaches, pupils will be encouraged to reflect on the novella's enduring messages of kindness, compassion, and change.



MFL - SPANISH

Whilst continuing with the topic of holidays, we will learn how to form the past tense in Spanish. Pupils will then build their written and spoken work to include 2 tenses- discussing a "normal" holiday and a past holiday. In reading and listening, pupils will focus on identifying the actions of other people, identifying different time frames.



HISTORY

In Autumn term, year 8 will be studying The Stuarts - looking at the impact of their reign and all the historical events that surrounded them, from the Gunpowder Plot to the removal of the monarchy and Civil War!

GEOGRAPHY

Pupils will study India in their first module of Year 8. They will investigate how Britain and India have a shared history before looking at how modern day India is thriving and why it has the world's largest population. Pupils will analyse the impacts of globalisation on India and the benefits and negative impacts making arguments for and against - a crucial GCSE skill.



P.E

Next half term, Year 8 pupils will be developing their skills in football and basketball. In football, they will focus on advanced tactics, effective communication, and applying their skills in competitive match situations. In basketball, pupils will work on refining their technical skills, teamwork, and tactical decision-making during games.

We also have our Santa Dash taking place on Friday 12th December for all pupils.



RE

In Year 8, this half term, the children will be finishing the topic of 'Racism & Social Justice' before starting the next topic, 'Significant People'. This involves exploring diverse role models and their contribution to society.

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

During this term, year 8 will be working on their resistant materials project to build a light up picture frame. They will be in the workshop sawing mitre joints and learning how to solder LED circuits together.

ART

Students will explore Portraiture, developing their tonal drawing skills while learning to use a grid to draw with accurate shape and proportion. They will study how to draw different facial features using a full tonal range and learn about different drawing techniques, these will be key skills they will be implementing in Autumn 2.



PSHE & RSE

In PSHE this half term, we will focus on social injustice and inequality. We will revise the impact of bullying, particularly the impact on the LGBT community.

COMPUTING

In computing, year 8 pupils will be studying spreadsheets. Pupils will look at cell referencing and formulas. The unit moves on to look at collecting, analysing and manipulating data, creating graphs and charts.



MUSIC

Year 8 will kick off the year exploring the parts of pop songs that hook the listener in. They will learn to play, compose and perform hooks and riffs and consider ways to develop musical ideas to make them more appealing. They will continue to develop their ensemble skills as well as use musical DAW technology.



HOMEWORK

In Year 8, pupils will be set weekly homework. This will include:

- A piece of Maths homework
- A piece of English homework
- Spellings

We also expect pupils to read for a minimum of three times per week at home.

Other subjects will set additional homework to aid learning outside of the classroom when needed. This will be added onto epraise.

CAREERS

We are excited to welcome lots of visitors into school this year to discuss their careers and inspirations.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR

This term we are very excited to be preparing for our Young Voices choir trip in January, as well as our December carol service.

Performing Arts clubs:
Enterprise Club - 3.20pm Mondays
Choir - 8am Wednesdays
Drama Club - 3.20pm Wednesdays
Ukulele Club - 12.35pm Thursdays
Keyboard Club - 12.35pm Fridays