



Year 8 Summer 1

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

Maths

In Summer 1, Year 8 students will study **Angles in Parallel Lines and Polygons** and **Tables and Probability**.

In the geometry unit, pupils will revise basic angle rules and explore angles in parallel lines, including alternate, corresponding, and co-interior angles. They will solve problems involving these relationships and study the properties of special quadrilaterals. Students will also investigate interior and exterior angles of polygons, including regular polygons, and develop reasoning skills by proving simple geometric facts.

In the Tables and Probability unit, students will build their understanding of probability using vocabulary, scales, and calculations for single events. They will learn to use sample spaces, two-way tables, and frequency trees to organise information and calculate probabilities, applying the rule that probabilities sum to 1.

These topics develop logical reasoning, problem-solving, and data-handling skills.

Science

During this half term, the pupils will study respiration and photosynthesis. They will investigate lung capacity, find out how we turn our food into energy and know the word equation for respiration. They will then study photosynthesis, looking at what plants need to grow and survive.

English

This term, our pupils are embarking on a vibrant and inspiring journey through the unit 'Poetry Across Cultures'. They are delving into a rich tapestry of voices from around the world, discovering how poetry can capture traditions, beliefs, and experiences in beautifully expressive ways. Our pupils are exploring how poets use language to paint pictures, tell stories and share powerful emotions.

As they read and discuss a diverse range of poems, pupils are developing their own creative voices, experimenting with form, playing with words, and crafting pieces that reflect both global influences and their own unique perspectives.



P.E

Year 8 will participate in athletics next half term, focusing on developing technique, speed and endurance across a range of track and field events. Pupils will build on their prior learning to refine skills in sprinting, middle-distance running, jumping and throwing. There will be a strong emphasis on personal bests, resilience and teamwork as students prepare for friendly competition.



R.E

During this term, Year 8 will be continuing with the topic 'Significant Events' they will be exploring how beliefs and values are shaped by history.

Design Technology

During this term, Year 8 will be working through their food and nutrition module - World Food. They will be learning how to follow recipes to make multi-cultural dishes. Pupils will focus on food preparation skills and presentation. Giving them future life skills to cook a range of ingredients to build healthy balanced meals.

Computing

For the remaining time at Catshill Middle School, the Year 8 pupils will be working on a large project. The theme of the project is 'Using ICT for Good' and we investigate and reflect on the positive ways technology has helped people. Pupils will choose a cause to focus on and will complete a range of tasks drawing on the knowledge and skills they have developed in preparation for highschool.

PSHRE

This half term, pupils will cover the topic of "Changing Me". This topic is a required, age approved SRE topic. We will look at relationships and what a healthy relationship looks like. We will also cover alcohol and law in this topic.

Look out for Yr 8 Leavers events which will be shared via email!

MFL - Spanish

This half term, Year 8 will start their final Spanish topic in middle school- "my life". This topic serves as a bridge between KS3 and GCSE, consolidating the grammar knowledge we have learnt. We will firstly begin by learning about how to describe our family and friends and describing personalities. We will recap the present tense and frequency vocabulary, as well as learn core language to describe our relationships.



History

This term Year 8 will look at how the Tudors reformed religion in Britain. We shall study four monarchs and how they changed the Church and its responsibilities for the modern world.



Geography

The end of the Climate Change module has pupils looking at how climate change will effect the UK due to rising sea levels and increased flood risks. Then we move onto our final module where we look at coastal management and how to balance the different needs of those who access and use the coasts of Britain.

Art

This term we are going to delve into the world of "Shoes", designing and producing our own personal response to the topic. We look at how shoes can represent the person and say a lot about them without saying anything and will use them as inspiration for experimenting with texture and printmaking techniques.

Music

This half term, year 8 will complete their final radio advert composition, before exploring chords and progressions. They will explore the history of modern pop music, starting with the development of the blues genre.



Careers

This term Year 8 will be meeting representatives from their prospective high schools to understand the next steps in their school journey.

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.

Extra Curricular Clubs

From sports to creative arts and wellbeing, there's something for everyone. Clubs help pupils build skills, make friends, and enjoy new experiences in a fun, supportive environment. Log in via a parents/carers' epraise account to learn more.

	Summer 1 Extra-Curricular Activities				
	At Catshill Middle School, we offer a variety of extra-curricular clubs that inspire and engage pupils beyond the classroom. From sports to creative arts and wellbeing, there's something for everyone. These clubs help pupils build skills, make friends, and enjoy new experiences in a fun and supportive environment. Log in via a parents/carers' epraise account to find out more information!				
Monday	 Street Dance	 Modulo Orchestra			
Tuesday	 KS2 Multi-Sports	 KS3 Board Games Club (lunch)	 Year 5 Football	 Girls Football	 Book Club (lunch)
Wednesday	 CMS Choir (before school)	 Drama Club	 Play On! Cornet Lessons	 Computing Club (lunch)	
Thursday	 KS2 Multi-Sports	 Netball (all years)	 Ukulele Club (lunch)	 Play On! Cornet Lessons	 Year 6 Football
Friday	 Keyboard Club (lunch)	 School Band			

For more information about our curriculum visit our webpage...



[Catshill Curriculum](#)