



Curriculum Overview Year 8R (Scholarship) Spring Term January - March 2023

Form/ Year Group / Section Events		Academic Scholarship information Key Dates
<p>Term begins: Tuesday 10th January</p> <p>Parents' Evening: Thursday 26th January Staying safe online workshop for parents: Thursday 31st January (18:30) Year 8 Ceilidh with Headington School at Headington School: Friday 3rd March (16:30)</p> <p>Half-term begins: Friday 10th February (16.10) Half-term ends: Sunday 19th February.</p> <p>RSE Parent webinar: Monday 20th February (18:30) Year 8 HPV vaccines: Tuesday 21st February (09:00) World Book Day: Thursday 2nd March ABRSM music exams: Friday 10th March Y8 Drama trip to 'The Tempest' - Tuesday 14th March Senior Section Drama Production (Final production: Wednesday 30th and Tuesday 21st March (19:00) Inter-house cross-country competition (Parents invited): Wednesday 22nd March (14:00)</p> <p>Term ends: Friday 24th March (12.00).</p>		<p>Abingdon School Mock exams: Monday 16th to Friday 20th January (at APS). Academic Scholarship assessment week: Written exams - Monday 27th February to Wednesday 1st March, 2023 (at AS). Interviews - Wednesday 1st March (at AS).</p> <p>MCS Mock exams: Monday 16th to Friday 20th January (at APS). Academic Scholarship assessment: Monday 27th February and Tuesday 28th February, 2023 (at MCS).</p> <p>Harrow School Preliminary round (English and Maths I): During week Monday 16th to Friday 20th January (at APS). Academic scholarship assessment week: Monday 21st to Wednesday 23rd February, 2023 (at APS). Academic scholarship interview: Thursday 24th or Friday 25th February, 2023 (at Harrow).</p>
English	Maths	Science
<p>The main focus of this term is to revise the following topics in preparation for the Scholarship examinations. They will be revisiting important areas covered in Year 8 so far and have practise at completing past papers under timed conditions:</p> <p>Reading: Pupils will revise how to understand, analyse and evaluate meaning from a range of poetry, prose, and non-fiction. They will recap key skills including: understanding and vocabulary; use of text to illustrate answers; drawing of inferences; evaluation of style, language and purpose; delivery of arguments based on material; awareness of how grammar, syntax and punctuation affect meaning and capacity to make comparisons and evaluate contrast. Pupils will continue to recognise and comment on the effectiveness of key literary features, such as: metaphor, simile, personification, symbol, irony, alliteration, assonance, rhyme, rhythm and metre.</p> <p>Writing: Pupils will consolidate how to write both creative and discursive compositions. They will also revise how to bring out the poetic features of a piece of prose by arranging it as a poem. Pupils will explain their choices in a piece of continuous writing.</p> <p>Studied literature: Pupils will continue to study a number of challenging texts, across genre and period, to acquire the skill of discriminating reading and develop their own imaginative and personal responses to literature. The main literary focus will be on Shakespeare's play, Romeo and Juliet.</p>	<p>This term the pupils will revise and practise skills and questions in a variety of topics in preparation for the upcoming scholarship examinations. Particular emphasis will be on the detail and logic of working.</p> <p>Algebra: They will reinforce their knowledge of all algebra techniques that have been covered. Extend the work on simplifying to include fractions and indices. Use simultaneous equations to solve word problems.</p> <p>Graphs: They will investigate straight lines, quadratics, cubics and reciprocals. (Post exams)</p> <p>Number work: They will recap calculating with decimals, fractions and negative numbers. They will use standard index form to write large and small numbers and look at the rules for indices. They will solve equations by trial and improvement. They will explore sequences and find the nth term. They will recap finding percentage amounts and use the multiplying factor to find percentage increase and decreases.</p> <p>Shape and space: They will recap volume and surface area of cuboids and cylinders. They will practise problems involving circles. They will calculate speed, distance and time on single and multiple journeys. Calculate the areas of triangles, trapeziums and parallelograms. They will recap rotating, reflecting and translating shape and learn to accurately enlarge shapes.(Post exams)</p> <p>Following the examinations they will hone their mental arithmetic skills and prepare for the UKMT team and Individual Mathematics challenges.</p>	<p>Physics</p> <p>Waves: Pupils will continue to learn about waves at the start of term, moving on from light to sound.</p> <p>Energy: They will then study energy, identifying the types of energy, considering the law of conservation of energy when looking at examples of energy changes. They will then consider renewable and non-renewable energy resources and how they can be used to generate electricity.</p> <p>Electricity and magnetism: The pupils will review these topics, which will include a look at static electricity.</p> <p>Revision: They will then have finished the syllabus and we will revise any areas that the boys feel less confident about. The pupils will continue to practise scholarship questions.</p> <p>After the scholarship exams the pupils will work towards their Bronze Crest Awards. Here they will do an investigation into a topic of their choice. The aim is to develop their independent scientific enquiry skills.</p>
Geography	History	Religious Education (RE)
<p>This term the pupils in 8R will continue to study rivers and river features, including flooding. Pupils will continue to practise their OS map skills and</p>	<p>This term the pupils in 8R will receive further practice in tackling evidence questions, in readiness for the mock examinations and the upcoming</p>	<p>The pupils will continue preparatory work for their scholarship examinations. The topics covered this term will include how the Bible is interpreted by different</p>

<p>other geographical skills in readiness for the upcoming scholarship assessments.</p> <p>They will expand their locational knowledge of world and UK places. Later in the term they will move on to studying earthquakes and volcanoes, including examining plate tectonics, continental drift theory, causes and effects of earthquakes and volcanoes, including tsunamis, and how people in contrasting societies manage living in areas affected by these natural hazards.</p>	<p>scholarship assessments. Topics will include The Vietnam War and the civil war in Syria.</p> <p>Similarly the mock examinations will give them another opportunity for refining their exam essay technique. They will also be studying the major events of the 14th Century, including: famine; causes of injury; death and warfare; The Black Death and The Peasants' Revolt, and assessing its legacy as arguably the worst century to have been alive in England.</p> <p>Following the scholarship examinations pupils will complete a case study on Richard III and the princes in the Tower. They will examine sources and answer evidence based questions.</p>	<p>Christian traditions, Christian approaches to ethical issues, comparative religion and the relationship between religion and politics.</p>
French	Latin	Core Skills
<p>The pupils will look at a number of past practice papers as they prepare for their mock scholarship exams, which will include reading and writing papers. After their mock examinations, there will be further practice of reading, writing and listening papers, as well as preparing for the speaking exams which will be based on the topics they have covered last term including school, family and free-time.</p> <p>Following the scholarship exams, pupils will begin to learn some Spanish using the following topics: greetings, numbers and birthdays.</p>	<p>This term the pupils will continue their preparation for the scholarship examinations. Particular focus this term will be on participles, the formation of the subjunctive mood, vocabulary building and translation skills. In the latter part of the term, pupils are introduced to the passive voice and how this is constructed and translated.</p>	<p>No pupils in 8R follow the Core Skills programme.</p>
Computing	Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship Education (PSHCE)/Relationship and Sex Education	General Studies
<p>Building on work undertaken in lessons at the end of Spring Term, pupils will work in pairs to use the programming language JavaScript to create a quiz on a topic of their choosing. Pupils will then evaluate, and where appropriate, debug and suggest improvements to, their fellow pupils' work. Pupils will also be introduced to the Applied Digital Skills series of activities provided by Google, which will help pupils to consolidate their ICT learning at Abingdon Prep.</p>	<p>8R will continue to develop their study skills; learning different revision techniques and gain plenty of exam writing practice.</p> <p>Pupils will look at different types of relationships, covering issues such as healthy and unhealthy relationships, consent, gender and how to negotiate social media effectively.</p> <p>They will also cover male body image, including the influence of the media.</p>	<p>In 8R General Studies will be taught discretely to PSHCE. As part of their preparations for the General Studies Scholarship exam, the pupils will focus on likely topics of essay writing and interview discussion which intentionally cover aspects of the PSHCE programme, including themes of citizenship, social diversity and Fundamental British Values. The pupils will continue to develop the skills required to answer questions on the General Paper in Abingdon School's and Magdalen College School's series of scholarship examinations.</p>
Art	Design Technology (DT)	Music
<p>Pupils in Year 8 are divided into Art or DT sets for the first half of the year. The Art students will explore Architecture. They will experiment with a variety of media ranging from acrylic painting, collage and clay.</p> <p>The main topics this term will be:</p> <p>Recording from observation: The pupils will complete large observational drawings of architecture looking to international and local established artists for inspiration.</p> <p>Clay: They will complete the architecture project exploring structural embellishments, and create a 3d clay gargoyle.</p>	<p>In DT this term Year 8 pupils will be working on 2 separate projects, each focussing on different skills using a variety of materials and processes.</p> <p>Mood lights: Pupils will be using CAD and CAM skills and a variety of wood and plastics to create a LED mood light. Students will be using the laser cutter to engrave images into acrylic and MDF.</p> <p>Bedroom Design: Pupils will be working on their graphic design skills and introduced into various forms of technical drawing, including perspective, isometric and Orthographic projection. Students will use these skills accompanied by CAD skills to create a bedroom design of their dreams!</p>	<p>This term the pupils will study the following topics:</p> <p>Rap: Based on pupil feedback, pupils will be introduced to Rap Music, its history and development, and will write and perform their own rap songs using 'Hamilton' as a main resource. Pupils will also spend some of their time learning the songs for our senior production, 'Oliver! Jr.'.</p> <p>Drama: The pupils will be learning the songs for the Senior Production of 'Oliver! Jr.' They will also be learning choreography and rehearsing some parts of the play.</p>
Games	Physical Education (PE)	Swimming
<p>This term's major team sport will be football. They will train for and play 11-a-side games. They will practise the following skills: kicking, passing, dribbling, shooting, throw-ins, free-kicks, penalties, tackling, positional play, tactics, and reading the game. They will have the opportunity to</p>	<p>Year 8 pupils will develop their knowledge and skills in the following areas this term:</p> <p>Hockey: They will develop their skills in dribbling, passing and shooting, and taking short corners.</p>	<p>This term the pupils will develop and be assessed in the following skills:</p>

<p>participate in inter-school and house matches. Pupils will follow the ISFA and FA Junior Football Guidelines.</p>	<p>Basketball: The pupils will practise their passing in small groups using the pivot. They will improve their shooting and be introduced to the lay-up.</p>	<p>Breaststroke: Pupils will further develop their arm action, leg action, breathing and timing.</p> <p>Butterfly: They will be taught and given opportunities to develop how they kick, use their arms, start races and improve their turns.</p> <p>Assessment: Pupils will be assessed in their ability to swim both strokes.</p>
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