



Curriculum Overview

Year 8J & 8L (CE) Spring Term

January - March 2018

| Form/ Year Group / Section Events | Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship Education (PSHCE) | Computing |
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| <p>Term begins: Tuesday 9th January</p> <p>Half-term begins: Friday 9th February (4.10pm)</p> <p>Half-term ends: Sunday 18th February.</p> <p>Mock exam week: Tuesday 20th to Friday 23rd February.</p> <p>World Book Day: Thursday 1st March.</p> <p>Parents' Evening: Tuesday 6th March</p> <p>Term ends: Friday 29th March (12.00pm).</p> | <p>This term the pupils will complete two units of the Kaleidoscope PSHCE programme.</p> <p>The first unit will continue to explore the theme of diversity and what it means to be British in a multicultural society.</p> <p>The second unit will look at staying healthy, including the importance of diet, exercise and hygiene.</p> <p>Pupils will also study the theme of democracy in the UK, beginning with the role of local government before learning about the working of Parliament and national government.</p> <p>Although PSHCE is a non-assessed subject, it does, of course, link into the school's pastoral programme and forms part of the school's commitment to ensuring that each pupil can learn in a secure environment whilst also developing self-confidence and personal responsibility. During their form time pupils will be involved in identifying their strengths, weaknesses and personal and collective goals in relation to their personal ambitions and wider academic and pastoral progress. All pupils in Year 8 will have the opportunity to show leadership and responsibility through the class pairings sessions, lunch monitor duties and other section events.</p> | <p>Pupils will learn about html, a markup language for describing web documents (web pages), and Cascading Style Sheets (CSS), a style sheet language used for describing the presentation of a document written in a markup language. They will use these to code their own webpages on a topic of their choice.</p> |
| English | Mathematics | Science |
| <p>This term the focus will increasingly be towards preparations for the mock and final Common Entrance examinations. They will be revisiting important areas covered in the last two years and have practice 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 and prose. Pupils will recap key areas 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. They 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 revise the important skills needed to write for a practical purpose: to argue, persuade, explain, advise, and inform. They will also have opportunities to complete creative tasks which provoke imaginative, descriptive or narrative responses. In addition, pupils will have opportunities to write essays about texts which they have studied</p> | <p>This term the pupils will be revising the topics covered using CE questions to practice and reinforce. They will cover the remaining topics in the CE syllabus</p> <p>Set 1: The pupils will study the following topics:</p> <p>They will learn how to apply ratios to problems.</p> <p>They will apply simultaneous equations to problems.</p> <p>They will learn to find the multiplying factor and use the % triangle to calculate increases and decreases in percentages.</p> <p>They will use their knowledge of bearings to calculate distances and bearings on plotted journeys.</p> <p>They will practise reading and continuing sequences.</p> <p>They will learn to draw linear and quadratic graphs.</p> <p>They will learn how to plot conversion and scatter graphs.</p> <p>Set 2: The pupils will study the following topics:</p> <p>They will reinforce their knowledge and understanding of algebra.</p> <p>They will develop their understanding of ratio and apply this to problems.</p> <p>They will learn to find the area and circumference of circles and fractions of circles.</p> | <p>Acids and Alkalis: The boys will start by using indicators to identify acids and alkalis, they will then study neutralisation reactions. They will then consider the chemistry of limestone.</p> <p>Energy: They will begin by looking at the types of energy and how they can be transferred from one type to another. They will consider the different types of energy resources, renewable and non-renewable and how these can be used to generate electricity.</p> <p>This will be followed by a review of the electricity and magnetism and the forces topics, including moments, pressure and speed.</p> <p>Chemistry: After this they will revise a number of the chemistry topics. Included in this will be separation techniques for mixtures, in particular fractional distillation.</p> <p>There will be an opportunity to revise and complete practice Common Entrance questions.</p> |

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| <p>in class or read for themselves.</p> <p>Studied literature: The main literary focus this term is on ‘Animal Farm’ by George Orwell. Pupils will analyse the characters, settings, themes and historical context of this book. They will learn how ‘Animal Farm’ is an allegory of the Russian Revolution. Pupils will also develop and express their own personal responses to the text both in their writing and discussions in class.</p> | <p>They will practise their scale drawing and develop their understanding of bearings.</p> <p>They will learn to calculate the angles in regular polygons.</p> <p>They will learn how to plot conversion and scatter graphs.</p> <p>They will practise reading and continuing sequences.</p> | |
| Geography | History | Religious Education (RE) |
| <p>This term, Year 8 pupils will be reviewing their work on natural hazards. This is done through the use of natural disaster case studies, taken from the new Geography syllabus. They will study a volcanic eruption, an earthquake, a river flood and a coastal flood from both a MEDC and LEDC.</p> <p>Once this is completed they will begin their revision for the mock examination in February. Sample answers, timed questions and past papers will be used as resources.</p> <p>They will sit a mock examination in the first week back after half-term.</p> | <p>This term the pupils will be examining the causes of The Hundred Years' War between England and France. They will study the events of the Battles of Sluys and Crecy, and analyse the importance of Edward III's role in winning these battles. They will then investigate, through role play, discussion and reading contemporary sources, the major causes of illness and death in medieval England, and the remedies which were employed to improve survival. The pupils will undertake a detailed study of sources relating to the spread of the Black Death in England. They will continue to receive guidance in constructing Common Entrance style essays and in tackling evidence section questions, in preparation for their mock exams this term.</p> | <p>Having completed their study of the New Testament material required for their Common Entrance examination, pupils will start preparing for the World Religions section. Here they are expected to have a good knowledge of one world religion. Pupils will study Buddhism for this section of the examination. They are not expected to evaluate ideas but to have a sympathetic understanding of the main beliefs and traditions of this religion. They will learn: how Buddhism originated, its main beliefs, doctrines, holy books, festivals, main ceremonies, places of worship, pilgrimage as well as its main traditions and denominations.</p> |
| French | Latin | Core Skills |
| <p>The pupils return to some revision of tenses where they will be expected to talk about what they did during the summer holiday. Following on from this, there will be topic based lessons about watching films at the cinema or on TV and reading various styles of books. Pupils will also cover going out and meeting arrangements, performing plays to consolidate the vocabulary. They carry on by describing a school exchange, eating out and travelling by train. They will also be learning about Paris and its monuments to prompt pupils to write letters about real or imaginary visits in preparation for the style of writing needed in the Common Entrance exam. Camping and shopping scenarios will be introduced and the final topic is about being able to talk about things which pupils are allowed or forbidden to do.</p> | <p>This term the pupils will continue their study of Latin grammar and vocabulary and of Roman civilisation. A particular emphasis this term will be on participles, the subjunctive mood, neuter nouns, adjective agreement and relative clauses. Pupils will also learn about Roman religion and the excavation of the Roman town of Bath.</p> | <p>This term the pupils start by looking at creative writing techniques used by well known writers and practise developing these techniques in their own writing. They will look at techniques used in creating effective story openings, character description through the senses, mood and atmosphere. They develop the use of figurative language and revisit grammar and punctuation rules in speech. In preparation for the mocks they do several timed practise papers as well as looking at study skill techniques. In the second half of term they return to Poetry analysis which will include examples of CE questions in which they will revisit poetic techniques and tools. Pupils will gain more experience of writing about this genre confidently.</p> |
| Art | Craft, Design Technology (CDT) | Music |
| <p>Pupils in Year 8 are divided into Art or CDT sets for the first half of the year.</p> <p>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>This term those pupils in the Year 8 CDT set will study the following topics:</p> <p>Electrical control: They will produce a fan powered boat which will be tested in the swimming pool.</p> <p>Woodwork: The pupils will make a set of laminated salad spoons of their design. They will also make a wooden treasure box with a sliding lid.</p> <p>Thermoplastics: The pupils will make an acrylic tube desk tidy, bending and heating plastics.</p> <p>Food Technology: Tossing pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and Easter biscuits will feature in this term's syllabus.</p> | <p>This term the pupils will study the following topics:</p> <p>Ragtime Music: They will gain an understanding and appreciation of ragtime music through listening, appraising and performing. They will explore musical elements, including march accompaniment, syncopation and chromaticism. They will develop keyboard/instrumental and performance skills.</p> <p>Time Signatures: Pupils will be introduced to the concept of irregular time signatures and will perform and compose a range of pieces in different genres including jazz ('Take Five'), pop ('Solsbury Hill') and musical theatre ('West Side Story').</p> <p>Singing: Boys will learn to sing songs from the musical, 'Smike!'</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 or 9-a-side games. They will practise the following skills: kicking, passing, dribbling, shooting, throw-ins, free-kicks, penalties,</p> | <p>Year 8 pupils will develop their knowledge and skills in the following areas this term:</p> | <p>This term the pupils will develop and be assessed in the following skills:</p> |

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| <p>tackling, positional play,tactics, and reading the game. They will have the opportunity to 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>Hockey: They will develop their skills in dribbling, passing and shooting, and taking short corners.</p> | <p>Breaststroke: Pupils will further develop their arm action, leg action, breathing and timing of the stroke.</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 use both strokes.</p> |
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