



ABINGDON  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Curriculum Overview

**Year 8J & 8L (CE) Summer Term**

April - July 2018

Form/ Year Group / Section Events	Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship Education (PSHCE)	Computing
<p>Term begins: Tuesday 24th April</p> <p>Year 8 CE Revision sessions: Saturday 28th April, Saturday 12th May and Saturday 19th May</p> <p>Half-term begins: Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May (4.10pm) Half-term ends: Sunday 3rd June</p> <p>Common Entrance exam week: Monday 4th - Thursday 7th June Sports Day: Saturday 16th June Year 8 Residential Trip to Normandy: Sunday 17th - Friday 22nd June Move-up Day - Tuesday 26th June (See separate letter in mailing and see website of your son's destination school) Year 8 Ridgeway Walk: Friday 29th June Year 8 Coral Reef Trip: Thursday 4th July Summer Concert - Thursday 5th July</p> <p>Term ends: Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July (12.00pm)</p>	<p>This term the pupils will learn some common strategies that can be used to revise for examinations and how these can be applied for success at Common Entrance level.</p> <p>They will also be learning about democracy in the UK, what that means, how it works, individual responsibilities, collective responsibilities, both at local and national levels.</p>	<p>During the Summer Term, pupils will investigate some of the technologies that might be able available to us in the future. They will use the presentation tool of their choosing to present their findings which they will then publish on the School's Virtual Learning Environment, Firefly. Pupils will then peer assess each other's work.</p>
English	Mathematics	Science
<p>This term pupils will focus on preparations for the 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><b>Reading:</b> 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><b>Writing:</b> 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 in class or read for themselves.</p>	<p>This term the pupils will be revising the topics covered using CE papers to practice and reinforce their knowledge and skills. Areas requiring reinforcement will be revised using the textbook (ISEB book 2/3) as a primary resource.</p> <p>Post-exams the pupils will learn code breaking techniques and learn how to plot polar coordinates. They will also tackle logic and mental arithmetic problems.</p>	<p>The pupils will spend the first part of the term revising the Science topics for the Common Entrance examinations. They will finish reviewing the Physics topics of forces and space. This will be followed with a review of the Chemistry topics, revising separating mixtures and chemical reactions. The Biology topics of cells and the human body, including human reproduction will also be reviewed</p> <p>There will be plenty of opportunities to develop their exam technique, for example by concentrating on the terminology of the questions, The pupils will go through past CE papers in all three subjects, Biology, Chemistry and Physics.</p> <p>After the exams they will have the opportunity to investigate material changes and their sense of taste by doing some cooking.</p>

<p><b>Studied literature:</b> Pupils will revise the key themes from the literature they have studied in class throughout Year 7 and Year 8.</p> <p>Post examinations, pupils will have the opportunity to use ICT to complete some challenging and extended project work on a chosen author.</p>		
<p><b>Geography</b></p>	<p><b>History</b></p>	<p><b>Religious Education (RE)</b></p>
<p>This term, Year 8 pupils will be undertaking complex and lengthy revision exercises. These will include going through past paper sections &amp; whole papers, often within time limits.</p> <p>Sample answers will be produced and a series of in-class tests will act as final preparation pieces.</p> <p>These all lead into the final exam taken after the half term holiday.</p> <p>Post-exams the pupils will then complete a project on a subject of their choosing. The winner of this project will receive a prize at the Prize-Giving in July.</p>	<p>This term the pupils will be preparing for their final Common Entrance examinations in June. To prepare them for the evidence section they will be revising the events of the Norman Conquest and reign of King John. To help them they will examine contemporary and modern sources and practise answering past questions. In readiness for the essay section they will revise key topics and receive further guidance and practice in honing their essay writing technique. Following their exams they will learn of some of the events connected to D-Day in June 1944 in preparation for their residential trip to Normandy.</p>	<p>The pupils will complete their study of <b>New Testament texts</b> including an evaluation of the role of the biblical material in relation to contemporary issues. Revision of topics Following their examinations, the pupils will consider a range of different theological and ethical issues such as the emergence of the Rastafarian movement.</p>
<p><b>French</b></p>	<p><b>Latin</b></p>	<p><b>Core Skills</b></p>
<p>The pupils will revise and practise the final areas of <b>French</b> grammar needed for the Common Entrance exams. There will be ongoing exam practice, as well as tense and grammar revision.</p> <p>After the Common Entrance exams the pupils will be introduced to the <b>Spanish</b> language.</p>	<p>This term the pupils will revise and consolidate their learning from the previous three years in preparation for their examination in June. A particular emphasis will be placed on <b>the revision of tense and case</b> as well as ensuring vocabulary is of the level expected. The <b>subjunctive mood</b> is introduced and <b>participles</b>, which were introduced to pupils at the end of the Spring Term, are also re-visited.</p>	<p>In the first half of term lessons will be devoted to practising Common Entrance and CE-type questions in preparation for the final examinations and study skills to support revision in general across all subjects and to help improve their exam confidence and techniques. After the exams, the pupils will be able to work on a writing project based around their own interests.</p>
<p><b>Art</b></p>	<p><b>Craft, Design Technology (CDT)</b></p>	<p><b>Music</b></p>
<p><b>Year 8 Pupils will continue to experiment with Architecture specifically exploring Architectural embellishments.</b></p> <p>Beginning with clay pupils will learn 3d crafting, attaching and building methods to create a copy of a classic Oxford 3d gargoye.</p> <p>They will then progress to using Mod rock to design their own gargoye and create a relief sculpture accentuating features and exaggerating shapes.</p> <p>They will learn about other architectural embellishments to build up layers of card, paint and collage for a mixed media life sized pillar or column to adorn the Art corridor.</p>	<p>This term those pupils in the Year 8 CDT set will study the following topics:</p> <p><b>Electrical control:</b> They will design and make a working clock.</p> <p><b>Woodwork:</b> They will complete a treasure box with sliding lid.</p>	<p>This term the pupils will study the following topics:</p> <p><b>African and Samba Drumming:</b> They will learn to play the djembe drum and practise Call and Response, polyphony and solo playing. They will perform samba patterns on drums, cowbells and shekeres, responding to musical signals.</p> <p><b>Musicals:</b> They will learn about the origins of opera and classic musicals. They will compare ‘Madame Butterfly’ with ‘Miss Saigon’, investigate the literary and socio-historical background to ‘Les Miserables’, ‘West Side Story’ and ‘Hamilton’. They will learn about recitative, aria, solo character song, duet, action and chorus songs.</p> <p>Performing Arts: pupils will perform short scenes from musicals and write incidental music to Shakespeare’s ‘Romeo and Juliet’.</p>
<p><b>Games</b></p>	<p><b>Physical Education (PE)</b></p>	<p><b>Swimming</b></p>
<p>This term’s major team sport will be <b>cricket</b>. The pupils will consolidate and develop the following skills:</p> <p><b>Batting:</b> They will learn to play leg and offside shots, forward and back foot attacking and defensive shots. They will learn to run between the wickets. They will learn to make appropriate shot selections and read the game.</p> <p><b>Bowling:</b> They will be taught how to bowl spin and seam bowling. They will learn to bowl with line and length, and at different speeds. They will be taught to disguise and refine their bowling action.</p>	<p>Year 8 pupils will develop their knowledge and skills in the following areas this term:</p> <p><b>Athletics:</b> The pupils will be coached and have the opportunity to practise a variety of track and field disciplines. Times and distances will be recorded for evaluation purposes.</p>	<p>This term the pupils will develop and be assessed in the following skills:</p> <p><b>Water polo:</b> They will develop their passing and shooting techniques.</p> <p><b>Race swimming:</b> They will practise relays and different strokes in preparation for internal and external galas.</p>

**Fielding skills:** They will develop their knowledge and understanding of the roles of different fielding positions and the principles of good fielding. They will develop their throwing, both high and low, and practise their catching in the deep and close-in. They will improve their ground fielding and practise run-outs, as well as improve their wicket-keeping.

Pupils will be given the opportunity to participate in **House and inter-school matches**. Coaches will refer to the ECB Coaching Initiative.

**Tennis:** Some pupils will be selected for **inter-school matches**.