



Curriculum Overview
Year 8J & 8L (CE) Autumn Term
September - December 2017

Form/ Year Group / Section Events	Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship Education (PSHCE)	Computing
<p>Informal Parents' Evening: Tuesday 12th September. Year 8 Visit to Natural History Museum: Monday 2nd October Abingdon Prep School Open Morning: Saturday 7th October.</p> <p>Half-term begins: Friday 13th October (4.10pm) Half-term ends: Sunday 29th October.</p> <p>JPA Fireworks Evening: Friday 3rd November Year 8 Parents Evening: Tuesday 7th November Whole school Christmas Bazaar: Saturday 25th November. Whole School Christmas Carol Service: Monday 11th December. Term ends: Friday 15th December (12.00pm).</p>	<p>At the start of term, the pupils will look at a two week section on Leadership skills, which encourage them to take more responsibility around school and give them specific ideas as how they can do this, as well as working towards becoming 'Young Leaders'. 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>They will then complete two units of the Kaleidoscope PSHCE programme. The first unit, 'Being Me', will concern the question of personal identity. Pupils will discuss features of their own identities and learn how to empathise with those of others. They will also consider issues revolving around self-esteem, health, including emotional well-being, and personal goal setting. They will learn who they can turn to in order to receive guidance or support in making life choices. The second unit, 'Diversity in Britain', will allow pupils to explore images of Britain and what it means to feel 'British'. It will involve considering issues related to nationhood, citizenship and identity, and also understanding the concept of multiple identities. This term there will also be a focus upon keeping safe and anti-bullying with two specific weeks of term where talks will be given across the wider school community. 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.</p>	<p>Pupils will continue the work they started towards towards the end of Year 7 in learning html (Hypertext Markup Language). They will use the knowledge and understanding that they acquire over the course of the term to start to create their own web pages to which they add multimedia content.</p>
English	Mathematics	Science
<p>This term the pupils will study the following topics:</p> <p>Reading: Pupils will learn to understand, analyse and evaluate meaning from a range of poetry and prose. Pupils will learn 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. They will 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>This term the pupils will study the following topics:</p> <p>Set 1: Number: Pupils will study the four rules of number for integers, decimals and fractions (including mixed fractions). BIDMAS. Percentage increases and decreases. Calculating the %. Sequences. Speed/Distance/Time.</p> <p>Algebra: Solving equations and inequalities involving brackets and fractions. Solve using graphs. Simplifying and factorising expressions.</p> <p>Shape and Space: Recap the 4 transformations.</p> <p>Data Handling: Interpreting and constructing frequency diagrams and pie charts. Angle theory. Angles in polygons.</p> <p>Measurement: Area and Perimeter of compound shapes and circles. Pythagoras Theorem.</p>	<p>This term the boys will begin with Biology. They will study the topics of variation and classification. The pupils will learn how to classify living organisms and to use keys. They will investigate the features of habitats and compare how the living organisms in them are adapted. This will include population studies. The pupils will then look at variation and inheritance. A visit to the Oxford Natural History Museum will support this topic.</p> <p>They will also study the adaptation of plants and the process of photosynthesis will be considered.</p> <p>This will be followed by the Physics topics of light and sound.</p>

<p>Writing: Pupils will study how to write for a practical purpose: to argue, persuade, explain, advise, and inform. They will also be given tasks which provoke imaginative, descriptive or narrative responses. In addition, there will be opportunity to write about texts which pupils have studied in class or read for themselves.</p> <p>Studied literature: The main literary focus this term is on Northern Lights by Philip Pullman. Pupils will analyse the characters, settings and themes of this book. They will also learn to develop and express their own personal responses to the text both in their writing and discussions in class.</p>	<p>Set 2: Number: Four rules of number for integers, decimals and fractions. BIDMAS. Rounding to decimal places and significant figures. Ratios. Percentages.</p> <p>Algebra: Simplifying simple expressions - to include brackets. Substitution using negative values. Solving simple equations, to include brackets.</p> <p>Shape and Space: Transformations, introduce enlargements.</p> <p>Data Handling: Interpreting and constructing frequency diagrams and pie charts. Probability. Averages - mean, mode, median and range. Angle theory. Angles in polygons.</p> <p>Measurement: Area and Perimeter of compound shapes.</p>	<p>They will then finish the term with Chemistry, studying the reactions of acids and alkalis, including the chemistry of limestone.</p>
<p>Geography</p>	<p>History</p>	<p>Religious Education (RE)</p>
<p>This term the pupils will be finishing the APS senior years Geography curriculum. This includes studying coastal geomorphology; comparing National Parks and London Docklands; and investigating globalisation and sustainable development. They will undertake a variety of map work activities. They will be taught how to write extended pieces of work. These essays will form a vital part of the various senior school exams taken in the Spring Term.</p> <p>The pupils' main focus for the first half of term will be the Y8 fieldwork project. This is a 800 -1000 word document that is assessed in conjunction with the senior schools. It forms 20% of the final exam. They will then move on to coastal geomorphology.</p> <p>On the human side of geography the pupils will then study the regeneration of urban areas and land management, using London Docklands and Dartmoor National Park as case studies.</p> <p>They will then review previous senior years work during the next unit on weather and climate studies.</p> <p>At the end of term they will be studying globalisation and international trade, investigating the interrelationships between the two areas. Population and urbanisation will be another review of the complex issues rising from the population explosion.</p>	<p>This term the pupils will study several important topics related to the Medieval Realms component of the Common Entrance syllabus. Firstly, they will investigate the relationship between Henry II and Becket, and analyse how their relationship broke down leading to Becket's murder.</p> <p>Later in the term they will study the main events in the reign of King John, including the signing of Magna Carta, and consider whether he really was a bad monarch. To help them they will compare a range of written sources by contemporary chroniclers and modern historians. In both units pupils will receive guidance in constructing appropriate answers to typical CE evidence section questions or essay titles. They will then begin to study the major causes of The Hundred Years' War before focusing on how and why the English, under King Edward III, defeated the French at Crecy in 1346.</p>	<p>The pupils will continue with their study for the World Religions section of the Common Entrance examination. The focus will be on is Buddhism and this term pupils will learn about the origins of Buddhism and its key teachings. They will also learn about different traditions and how these teachings are put into practice followed by Buddhist festivals and beliefs about life after death.</p>
<p>French</p>	<p>Latin</p>	<p>Core Skills</p>
<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>The pupils will continue with their study of the Latin language and culture in the Roman Empire. New areas of study will include the genitive and vocative cases and the use of imperatives. Pupils also learn about the ancient city of Alexandria and about pagan worship in Egypt.</p>	<p>Using 'Northern Lights', by Phillip Pullman, and 'Animal Farm' by George Orwell the pupils will discuss the texts and explore the moral dilemmas within each story. Clarity of oral self-expression and defending a point of view will be addressed. Syllabification will be revisited to enhance accuracy in reading. To enhance their writing, the pupils will work on improving their sentence construction with different types of clause and the addition of adverbs of cohesion. The sessions will follow a 'writing workshop' style where pupils can experiment with improving their writing in different ways.</p>
<p>Art</p>	<p>Craft, Design Technology (CDT)</p>	<p>Music</p>
<p>Pupils in Year 8 are divided into Art or CDT sets for the first half of the year.</p> <p>The Art scholars and more able artists are taken through a comprehensive programme of extension art work including drawing</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>Blues Pupils will study the Blues. They will be taught to understand the Blues as an important 20th Century genre and consider the history of the Blues. They will learn the primary chords in treble staff notation, how to identify a walking bass and</p>

<p>skills, art history, perspective and independent study. Pupils are given weekly extension homework to complement their class work - this is only compulsory for the prospective art scholarship candidates. All pupils will have an option to do CDT after their scholarship or for the second half of the year.</p> <p>The main topic will be: Architecture: Past, Present and Imaginary. Using photographs of Oxford, our school and a variety of famous buildings the pupils will develop their understanding of Architecture through Shape, Form, Scale and Perspective. Using artists such as Gaudi and Escher, they will explore decadence of design and see the mathematical and imaginary sense of structure building. They will explore structures already present and how they may be altered, looking at the work of Jean Claude and Christo. Focusing on improving their drawing and painting they will create mixed media large scale pieces, using photography as a starting point.</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>Christmas Bazaar: Pupils will work in groups to design, make and run a fundraising game for the Christmas Bazaar.</p>	<p>riff, and to perform a 12 bar Blues. They will understand the 3 line stanza lyrics structure and identify and play a Blues scale.</p> <p>Performing Arts They will create, rehearse and perform a call and response song and improvise dramatic scenes on the theme of slavery.</p> <p>Indian Music Pupils will examine how music is used and performed in a non-Western culture. They will develop an awareness of the cultural and historical background of Indian music through listening and compositional tasks and learn about scales, improvisation and notation. Pupils will become aware of the terms raga and tala and know how these are constructed, composing and performing their own. Pupils will discriminate between Indian and other ethnic music and learn the names of common Indian musical instruments.</p> <p>Pupils will practise singing carols and perform in the carol concert.</p>
<p>Games</p>	<p>Physical Education (PE)</p>	<p>Swimming</p>
<p>This term's major team sport will be rugby. The pupils will develop their skills in the 13-a-side format through a combination of skills sessions and matches. They will learn safe and effective tackling techniques and scrummage in 6-man scrums. They will be taught how to ruck, maul, and place the ball appropriately in these situations. They will learn how to improve their support play, including their running with or without the ball. They will develop their positional play and respond to phases of play through 1st, 2nd, and 3rd phases. They will practise kicking. They will learn the differing roles of forwards and backs. They will be taught how to avoid infringements, start or restart the game, avoid becoming offside, and improve their knowledge of the principles of rugby and their tactical awareness. They will improve their decision making, in both attack and defence, and learn how to better use space. All pupils will participate in inter-school matches, as well as inter-house 13-a-side and 7-a-side matches. At all times pupils will follow the RFU Continuum.</p>	<p>The focus for the first half of term will be on badminton and working on serve and rally techniques. The pupils will learn how to develop a rally in either a singles or doubles situation and move their opponent around the court with a variety of different shots. Following on from this handball will be introduced with passing and shooting skills covered.</p>	<p>This term the pupils will develop and be assessed in the following skills:</p> <p>Front Crawl – This will include developing their stamina, arm entry, leg kick, and breathing.</p> <p>Backstroke – They will practise their starts and learn how to improve the use of their legs and arms.</p> <p>The pupils will also have the opportunity to improve their race technique, including racing starts and racing in lengths. They will also develop their knowledge and understanding of the game of water polo through drills and practice sessions.</p>