

## Faculty of English, literacy and communication

### What will your child be learning?

Through the first topic of 'Graffiti', pupils will identify what is meant by the word graffiti and explore examples from around the world, including one from this community. They will explore the messages behind graffiti and whether or not it should be considered as a good thing or a bad thing. Through this topic, learners will be focusing on language style questions such as comparison questions and GCSE style writing tasks.

The second topic of this half term is 'Literature Shorts'. During this term, your child will have the opportunity to explore a range of different literature texts and identify language and effect. They will answer a range of different literature style questions to ensure they are fully prepared for their GCSE examinations.

### What can you do to help at home?

Encourage pupils to log on to Google Classroom to complete the homework tasks, discuss examples of graffiti/literature shorts and explore new texts to support in-school learning.

## Faculty of science and technology

### What will your child be learning?

Pupils will be working on 1.3 the topic of digestion where they use their knowledge of enzymes to understand how food is digested and learned about the parts of the digestive system and their roles. In chemistry they will be further developing their practical skills in unit 1.5 rates of reaction. In physics they are learning about heat transfers and Newton's Laws of motion.

In DT pupils move onto the resistant materials aspect of the course and will be designing and making and evaluating their work an amplifier for their phones. They will be working in both wood and plastic for this project.

In ICT they are undertaking the ITQ qualification and will continue to work on the necessary assessments to gain this. This includes spreadsheet, emails and software development.

### What can you do to help at home?

It is very important that resources such as the Google Classroom for all sciences, the WJEC question bank ([www.wjec.co.uk](http://www.wjec.co.uk)), the WJEC biology, chemistry, physics apps and our after school homework club are accessed to support learning and revision. All of the topics taught in biology are fully resourced on the Google Classroom, including pre-recorded lessons, the WJEC revision guide and knowledge organisers. You are able to support your child by encouraging them to engage with the above resources and supporting them with their homework and revision.

There is also material on the DT and ICT Google Classroom and independent learning sheets which they should be encouraged to access. Within this term they will be making decisions about which subjects to continue with into year 10 and so talking about the different areas within DT and ICT will support their options. Over the term they will experiences both engineering, resistance materials and product design in DT for example.

## Faculty of mathematics and numeracy

### What will your child be learning?

Calculating and forming equations and formula.  
Using number facts and relationships.  
Deriving and using formulas for area and volume of shapes.  
Completing and forming sequences.  
Estimating and checking calculations.  
Management of money.

### What can you do to help at home?

Discussion around the learning completed in school and look for examples of sequences and estimation in real life.  
Practise personal management of money and budget setting.

## Faculty of language and culture

### What will your child be learning?

Pupils will be learning key vocabulary and structures around the topic of holidays and travel in Spanish and healthy living in Welsh. In Spanish they will be covering key vocabulary such as types of tourism as well as weather and countries. In Welsh lessons they will be covering types of food, healthy habits and sports and illnesses relating to an unhealthy lifestyle. They will use this new vocabulary to construct sentences in the present, past, future and conditional tenses as well as expressing their opinions fully

Pupils will be focussing on developing practical skills in drama and music. With an emphasis on voice and body language. They will be studying the dramatic text Blood Brothers.

Pupils will be developing personal creative skills through exploration of pattern and decoration. They will be investigating artists and cultures that celebrate patterns, finding patterns in natural and man-made environments and developing use of various materials to make art. They will create personal responses to their studies whilst building skills and techniques.

### What can you do to help at home?

Allowing your child to repeat learnt vocabulary will help their memory of key words, this will support them in regular vocabulary tests at various points over the term.  
Also encouraging your child to subscribe to a free online learning platform such as Duolingo, Memrise or Quizlet for both Spanish and Welsh.

Pupils will be working in groups to prepare work for performance so parental support with attendance will have a positive impact. Also if any dialogue or music needs to be learnt pupils should be encouraged to prepare for this at home.  
Opportunity to upload performances via Google Classroom will be available.

Please support and encourage the completion of independent learning tasks that will be available through Google Classroom and by encouraging practise of drawing techniques and skills.

## Faculty of life

### What will your child be learning?

During this scheme of learning your child will further develop skills, knowledge and experiences of invasion games such as football, netball, rugby and hockey. They will have opportunities to explore various roles of performing, coaching, and officiating. Whilst performing your child will develop the necessary skills and techniques of each sport. Pupils will discover how to solve problems, make the correct decisions and become an effective team player.

Pupils will be learning about the factors that can affect growth and development. They will learn to distinguish between those factors that they can control (diet, exercise, sleep) and those that they are unable to control (genetic diseases).

Pupils will be learning about how rivers are a component part of the hydrological cycle, the main parts of a river and how a river changes from its source in the mountains to its mouth where it enters the sea. Furthermore, they will be learning how various named river process shape the land to produce "V-shaped" valleys and waterfalls. Finally, in this unit of work your child will be considering why some rivers flood regularly whilst others never do, the impacts of river flooding and what are the strategies to minimise the risk of flooding.

### What can you do to help at home?

You can support your child by helping them make sure they are organised by ensuring they have their kit on PE days so that they are fully engaged in all lessons and encourage them to lead an healthy active lifestyle.

One of the most important skills for all geographers is the ability to ask the question "Why is it like this?" Therefore, getting your child to think more deeply about what they see around them in the landscape and encouraging them to conduct their own independent research (e.g. through the internet, or watching clips on Youtube) will benefit them greatly as developing geographers.