

Faculty of English, literacy and communication

What will your child be learning?

For the first part of this half term, your child will be studying 'Unseen Poetry'. Through this topic, pupils will be able to explore poetic devices and images and messages created through a range of poems with a variety of themes. Pupils will also complete an assessment based on a comparison between two poems and how they link two poems together through a shared theme.

During the second half of the summer term, pupils will then move on to the study of 'Macbeth'. During this time, we will look at context, characters and plot before writing an essay that explores a key concept within this play. This analytical essay will help support pupils as they move into year 10 and study their GCSE literature texts.

How can I help at home?

Discussion of learning completed in schools. Independent research using BBC Bitesize. Completion of extra tasks on Google Classroom.

Faculty of mathematics and numeracy

What will your child be learning?

During this term pupils will be extending their understanding of area of 2-D shapes and volume of 3-D shapes as well as carrying out calculations involving length, mass, capacity and temperature. Pupils will next be introduced to transformations with shapes: reflections, translations and rotations. A very important life skill this term is using timetables and time zones.

What can you do to help at home?

Discussing any of these topics at home would aid in your child's learning. In particular, reading bus or train timetables in the context of planning a journey or holiday would be helpful. Likewise, recording the hours of sleep each person in the family has had across a week or month and then presenting this information via a table and a graph would be very useful for them.

Faculty of science and technology

What will your child be learning?

Science

Pupils will be continuing to develop their understanding within biology, chemistry and physics across the GCSE unit 2 topics. In biology they will be learning about microorganisms and disease. Within chemistry crude oil and its importance in the production of fuels and plastics. In physics they will be investigating Newton's laws of motion and understanding key experiments linking to them. All pupils will undertake an assessment using past papers and they are provided with revision material to support them.

Technology

Pupils in DT will move onto textiles this term. They will be focusing on sustainability and using recycled material to design and make cushions for their rooms. They will be able to design, make and evaluate their product. In the ICT lessons they are continuing with the ITQ qualification and completing the necessary units of work to gain this qualification at the end of year 9.

How can I help at home?

Within science, helping your child prepare for the assessment by testing them on the work, supporting their studies and helping them manage their time to revise. In DT collecting old clothes or material they could use for their projects. In ICT ensuring they meet the deadlines for each of the assignments to gain their qualification.

Faculty of language and culture

What will your child be learning?

Languages

Your child will be learning key vocabulary and structures to support discussions and written pieces on the topic of festivals and celebrations in Spanish and in Welsh lesson they'll be learning about healthy living and social problems. In Spanish they will be covering key vocabulary to do with the various festivals celebrated in Spanish speaking countries. In Welsh they'll be studying healthy living and young people's problems as well as social issues in their local area. They will use this new vocabulary to construct sentences in the present, past, future and conditional tenses and use these in the oracy and written work.

Performing Arts

Your child will be focussing on three key topics and associated skills: Solo and/or Ensemble Music Performance, The play "Mugged" and Theatre in Education.

Art

Your child will be exploring the theme of social commentary in Art. Investigating ways to send messages through imagery and developing understanding of the messages within the work of others. Pupils will direct their project to areas that they have a personal connection with.

How can I help at home?

Languages

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

Performing Arts

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.

Art

By supporting the completion of home tasks that will be available through Google Classroom and by encouraging practice of drawing techniques and skills.

Faculty of life

Well-being

What will your child be learning?

During this scheme of learning your child will further develop skills, knowledge and experiences of striking and fielding games such as rounders, cricket and baseball. 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 learn how to solve problems, make the correct decisions and become an effective team player.

Your child will be learning that health and well-being is the achievement and maintenance of physical fitness and mental stability and that we have four health needs:

- Physical
- Intellectual
- Emotional
- Social

How can I 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 a healthy active lifestyle.

Discuss the work with your child and support them in the completion of the cases studies that will need to be completed during the term

Humanities

What will your child be learning?

During the summer term pupils will be developing their understanding of the GCSE options available within the faculty. For example, within health and social care they will be investigating the role of health professionals and support they can offer. During geography lessons pupils will be analysing the impact of natural and man-made disasters, whilst in history pupils will be exploring the factors that led to the outbreak of World War Two.

How can I help at home?

Look at examples of persuasive writing and speeches, and encourage them to practise their delivery of their own persuasive writing to encourage support for their chosen charity.

RVE:

What will your child be learning?

During the summer term pupils will be completing their assessment, looking at religious and non religious views about a range of medical ethics. Pupils will explore the factors that influence your worldview and how this may affect the treatment you may have.

How can I help at home?

You can support by watching the news and finding ethical stories within the media. Ask them to share their opinion, and encourage them to listen to alternative points of view.