



Curriculum Bulletin - Y9 EPS4

What Will I Be Learning About This Half Term?

English	We are learning about how a writer uses language. This links to our learning last half term and is vital in securing a good foundation of the skills of reading and analysis that are necessary for GCSE Language & Literature. We will be reading Malorie Blackman's 'Noughts and Crosses' in class. A more detailed analysis of unseen fiction will form the assessment for this half term.
Maths	We are learning a variety of shape and/or algebra topics that will be taught in sets. These will include: perimeter, area and volume as well as functions, sequences and graphs. Pupils will complete an assessment every few weeks based on the topics covered.
Science	Biology —We will start learning about different diseases, their symptoms and how they are spread as an introduction to the B3 GCSE Infection and Response topic. There will be an end of KS3 assessment in March. Chemistry —We will finish our work on Chemical reactions and then move onto atomic structure by looking at fundamental particles, isotopes and how the structure of the atom evolved over time. In this half term there will be an end of KS3 assessment. Physics —We will be completing our Forces before moving on to understanding and calculating Energy transfers as an introduction to the P1 GCSE Energy topic. There will be an end of KS3 assessment in March.
Art & Design	We are learning about the Culture of Aboriginal art and the significance of the stories the artwork conveys through pattern signs and symbols.
Design Technology	We are learning about Health and Safety in a DT workshop and familiarising themselves with the main differences between a normal classroom and a DT workshop. All pupils will be continuing to design and make a personalised Timber inlaid box. Pupils will produce a range of ideas that suit the brief and then select one as their final design. Pupils will then move on to the making part where they will use a wide range of hand tools and machines to produce this high quality product. Pupils will be completing their first practical skills log in their booklets; this is how pupils can keep track of all the practical skills they have used on each project.
Drama	We are exploring different genres in this half term, considering what genre is and how it can impact a performance or a story that is told to an audience and the effect it can have. We are then focusing on the genre of comedy, looking at various techniques which link to creating comedy and making an audience laugh, completing the unit with some script work and considering how the techniques we have used can be utilised within the context of the text.
Geography	We will be learning about the Geography of the Middle East. We will bring together key concepts learnt across KS3 including population, physical landscapes, ecosystems, and development. Pupils will complete a key piece at the end of this topic.
History	We are learning about the Holocaust, discrimination and rights and then changes in society in USA. This builds on learning on Discrimination and rights and a study of the Holocaust. Pupils will then learn about the Cold War and Post-war Britain.
Reading	We are learning about Good Vs Evil through short stories and extracts from fiction and non-fiction as well as the novel – To Kill A Mockingbird by Harper Lee. The focus is to improve pupils' independent skills to clarify vocabulary, skimming and scanning and discussing authors' viewpoints and purpose. This supports the whole school curriculum, supporting pupils in independent reading. Summative assessments of reading skills will take place each term as well as formative assessments during lessons.



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Computer Science	We are learning Memory & Storage and then move onto learning to program using Python. This is an introduction to the type of work that will be undertaken for GCSE Computer Science.
Religious Studies	We are learning about concepts of peace and forgiveness from the perspective of the world's two biggest religions, Christianity, and Islam, as well as from a non-religious perspective. We will be investigating key beliefs and teachings around these two concepts and how they are applied in real life situations.
Languages	We are learning to describe pupils' use of technology and various apps, but they will also make references to the past with a focus on regular verbs. To do so, pupils will recall and recycle their knowledge of how to provide opinions and reasons from HT1&2 as well as their knowledge of the past tense from Year 8. Pupils' progress and engagement will be monitored using weekly homework set on Teams and progress will also be evaluated with a knowledge quiz at the end of the half-term.
Food Technology	We are learning about the macro and micronutrient food groups. Pupils will learn about the effects of a lack or excess of some nutrients and how it can cause ill health. Pupils will design a menu for a specific need and answer a brief asking them to help a teenager who needs their advice on how to improve their diet due to a lack of iron. All pupils will then cook and make pizza and Quorn fajitas. Pupils will be using of skills and equipment including knife skills, use of a hob. Pupils will build their knowledge of special diets and nutrient needs of different groups of people.
Music	We are learning about African drumming including typical musical features of this style of music. We are going to use staff notation to compose and perform a percussion piece, working within a small ensemble.
Physical Education	We are learning to improve our football performance by improving our passing, dribbling, shooting, tackling, and attacking and defending skills in both isolated and conditioned practices. Pupils will have the opportunity to learn the correct technique of each individual skill and apply it in small-sided game situations. Pupils will be assessed individually against set football criteria and provided with feedback on their performance.
Personal Development— Learning for Life	We are learning to understand health, both in terms of physical and mental health, whilst studying the Healthy Me topic. We will be discussing topics such as misperceptions about young peoples' health choices, physical and psychological effects of alcohol, alcohol and the law, legislation surrounding substances, emergency situations, first aid and CPR. The main focus this term will be on the importance of information when making health choices, whilst also looking at sources of advice and support.
Personal Development— Form	We are learning to understand how the choices you make now can influence your future, with a particular focus on personal strengths, health goals, SMART planning, non-financial dreams and media manipulation. The main focus this term will be on the importance of information when making plans for the future, whilst also looking at sources of advice and support.