



Curriculum Bulletin - Y8 EPS5



What Will I Be Learning About This Half Term?

English	In Yr8 we will be learning about the novel 'Of Mice and Men'. This links to past learning by building on previous work in terms of reading and analysis skills and will prepare students for further study of Literature texts. We will be continuing developing our writing skills by learning how to write a piece that argues and persuades. We will be having weekly quizzes to assess understanding of key skills in English.
Maths	We are learning a variety of Data and Algebra topics that will be taught in sets. These will include: Statistics and averages, as well as sequences, functions and graphs. Pupils will complete an assessment every few weeks based on the topics covered.
Science	We will be learning about the processes of photosynthesis and respiration in the Ecosystems topic as well as about different types of rocks in the Earth Structure topic. Throughout all topics we will continue to develop our knowledge and understanding of 'working scientifically'. There will be ongoing assessment in lessons and these topics will be included in the written assessment next half term.
Art & Design	We will be continuing with our them of Industry completing our Paolozzi mechanical from cardboard structure and will produce a display coming together as illustrators. We will then begin our Identity project researching the work of Jasper Johns and Juame Plensa looking at text and fonts.
Design Technology	We will be moving on to look at CAD/CAM (computer aided design, computer aided manufacture) in EPS 5 and 6, pupils will be using Google Sketch Up, this is a 3D CAD software. Pupils will be taught some of the basic functions on how to use this software, pupils will build their knowledge and skills throughout these lessons ending with an assessment asking pupils to retrieve the skills shown in previous lessons to answer a detailed design challenge.
Drama	Students will undertake a unit of work this half term that follows the story of a student who has moved home, started a new school, and made a different group of friends. It explores the challenges they face as they begin this new journey, and how we can use drama to explore the topic and how this character overcomes difficulties. We will use a combination of devised and scripted drama to explore the themes.
Geography	We will be learning about Rivers, linking back to Coasts in Year 7. Here pupils will look at how rivers have carved out the landscape in the UK with a focus on one of the UK's biggest threats, flooding. Pupils will complete an assessment at the end of the topic.
History	We are learning about the birth of USA and will then begin the First World War. The themes are changes in religion and beliefs and then changes as a result of conflict. This builds on previous learning on changes in religion and beliefs and war and conflict.
Reading	We are learning about Diversity through short stories and extracts from fiction and non-fiction as well as the novel – The Curious Incident of the dog in the night time by Mark Haddon. 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 will complete the unit on Networks and then move onto the IT strand of the curriculum and complete the "Using media" unit of work. There will be end of unit assessments for each.
Religious Studies	We will be learning about Sikhism, following the Religion is a Force for Good unit. We will be investigating the positive impact religion can have on people's lives and the world within which we live. We will be focusing on Sikhism and its key beliefs, teachings, and practices.
Languages	We are learning to say where we go on holiday and what activities we do there. To do so, pupils will recall their knowledge of conjugating a verb in the 1 st and 3 rd person of the present tense as well as giving opinions. Pupils' progress and engagement will be monitored by the use of fortnightly homework set in the homework booklet and in the assessment planned for the summertime.
Food Technology	We will be looking at the history of coronation recipes including Coronation chicken. We will also be developing our skills in food safety including handling raw meat and looking at the importance of Mise en place.
Music	We are learning about arranging skills and remixes. We will be analysing remixes in a range of different styles and using this knowledge to create our own arrangements of songs. Pupils will explore how songs can be remixed and reworked into a different genre to the original version.
Physical Education	We are learning to develop our skills in athletics events. This will include developing and understanding the correct techniques for effective running, jumping and throwing. This will build on previous athletics experience and participation. It will lead to participation in the school sports day and possibly representing the school athletics teams. Assessments will take place in each event; pupils will record their scores and have the opportunity to improve their performance.
Personal Development— Learning for Life	We are learning to develop our knowledge and understanding surrounding the risks and consequences associated with Drugs & Alcohol. This will allow pupils to make better informed decisions and understand how to deal with peer-pressure.
Personal Development— Form	We are learning about Celebrating Difference, pupils will explore shared experiences which they have from living in the UK, which are influenced by Christian beliefs and traditions and how these impact upon their lives and identities. Comparisons will be made to other shared experiences around the world. We are learning to respect similarity and diversity, whilst linking learning to the Fundamental British Values and Protected Characteristics.