YEAR 8

Home Learning

23 / 11 / 26



Home Learning – Parent/Carer guide

These home learning booklets will be emailed to all parents/carers of all students in Years 7, 8 and 9 every *2 weeks* on a Monday A week.

The idea is that, across 12 subjects, you will be able to speak with your child about the key pieces of knowledge that they will need to know across that 2 week period. Key Stage 3 is all about students being exposed to a knowledge-rich curriculum so that they know more and remember more about each area of study.

This E-booklet allows all parents and carers to quiz their children, to talk to them about the knowledge and maybe learn things together. Much like the primary model of learning spellings every week, this allows all parents/carers to know the key knowledge that your child will be learning in the next two weeks and also how well your child is doing in remembering these key pieces of knowledge and information.

It is to be expected that students can remember more towards the end of the two weeks than at the beginning and you should be able to see your child make progress.

This can all be done with no pen, no paper, just discussion. Quiz your child whilst having dinner maybe, or even let them quiz you if you would like to learn together! Of course, you can get your child to write down answers but it is not necessary.

I hope that this new initiative allows parents to be more involved with your child's home learning without the pressure and stress that some homework tasks can put on child/parent relationships.
If you have any questions or would like to know more about home-learning at Penketh High School then please get in touch with me directly on ***ifarrar@penkethhigh.org*** and I will only be too happy to assist in any way I can

Kind Regards

Ian Farrar
Vice Principal – Progress and Outcomes

ART

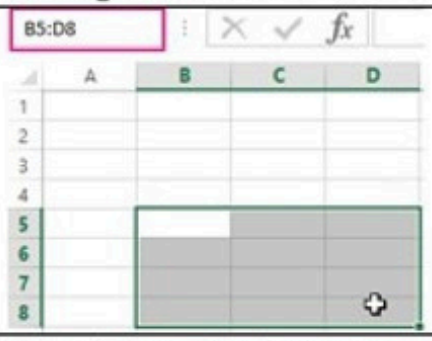
Current Learning

1	Surrealism	An art movement exploring dreamlike, illogical, or fantastical imagery that combines unexpected elements to challenge reality and spark imagination. Task: Draw a surreal object combination (e.g., a fish with bird wings).
2	Imagination	The creative ability of the mind to form new ideas, images, or concepts not present to the senses, driving original art-making. Task: Sketch a creature that does not exist, combining at least three real animals.
3	Drawing	The act of creating marks on a surface using tools like pencils, pens, or charcoal to represent ideas, objects, or feelings visually. Task: Create a quick line sketch of an everyday object (like your shoe) without erasing mistakes.
4	Tone	The range of lightness or darkness in artwork, used to create contrast, depth, and highlight form through shading techniques. Task: Shade a simple sphere with pencil, showing light to dark gradients.
5	Texture	The surface quality of an object, either real (tactile) or implied (visual), giving a sense of feel in art. Task: Draw three different textures (wood, fabric, metal) using only pencil marks.
6	Colour Blending	The technique of smoothly mixing two or more colours to create gradients, depth, or harmony, often used to show light, shadow, or atmosphere. Task: Blend three coloured pencils to create a smooth sunset effect.
7	Anthropomorphism	The artistic technique of giving human traits, emotions, or intentions to animals, objects, or natural elements, often used in storytelling and cartoons. Task: Draw an everyday object (like a teapot) with a human face and personality.

Prior Learning

8	Pattern	A repeated decorative design using shapes, colours, or lines that creates rhythm, structure, or visual interest in an artwork. Task: Fill a page with a repeated geometric or organic pattern.
9	Drawing	The act of creating marks on a surface using tools like pencils, pens, or charcoal to represent ideas, objects, or feelings visually. Task: Create a quick line sketch of an everyday object (like your shoe) without erasing mistakes.
10	Tone	The range of lightness or darkness in artwork, used to create contrast, depth, and highlight form through shading techniques. Task: Shade a simple sphere with pencil, showing light to dark gradients.
11	Detail	Small, precise features that add accuracy, character, or realism to an artwork by focusing on fine elements. Task: Draw a close-up of your hand, adding wrinkles, nails, and lines.
12	Observation	The careful study of subjects from life, noticing proportions, textures, and details to create accurate representations. Task: Spend 15 minutes drawing an object in front of you exactly as you see it.
13	Illustration	Artwork created to explain, decorate, or tell a story, often used in books, advertising, or design. Task: Illustrate a short scene from a favourite story using only pencil.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

1	**Spreadsheet**	A spreadsheet is a piece of software which is used to carry out calculations. Spreadsheets are very common in business, as they are excellent for handling data such as sales, engineering or financial data.
2	**Cell Reference**	Each cell in a spreadsheet has an 'address' that describes its position in the worksheet. The address is made of two parts  a) its column position and b) its row position This address is called the 'cell reference'. A typical cell reference for the most top left cell in the workbook is A1 this means its sits along Column A and is also in Row 1
3	**Range**	 This can be one cell or a collection of cells
4	**Formula**	A formula is used to do every single calculation in the spreadsheet. A formula can be as simple as adding up two numbers in different cells or it can be as complex as working out a statistical result from millions of pieces of data collected over months. It always starts with =
5	**Drag handle**	 The handle will appear as a small square in the bottom-right corner of the selected cell. You can drag it to copy formulas
6	**Function**	A function does a very specific job within a spreadsheet. **SUM** – will add up at set of numbers **COUNTA**- counts the number of non-blank cells (not empty) in a cell range **MAX**- will find the highest value in a set of numbers **MIN**- will find the lowest value in a set of numbers **AVERAGE**- will find the average of a set of numbers **IF**- checks to see if a statement is true or false and then does one of two things depending on the result **COUNTIF**- will add up numbers only if those numbers meet certain conditions

DRAMA

Current Learning

1	What is a story whoosh?	Where we act out a story to learn the plot and the narrative.
2	What is devising?	Where we create the characters, lines and stories ourselves.
3	What is a script?	Where we act out the characters, lines and stories written by somebody else.
4	What is a stage direction?	The instructions in a script that we follow to act out the scenes as they were written.
5	What is exaggeration?	To make something bigger and more over the top.
6	What is a character?	Someone in the play who is part of the story.
7	What is a plot?	The sequence of events from the story.
8	What is characterisation?	The way you use physical and vocal skills to communicate a character to the audience.
9	What is musical theatre?	The combination of singing, dancing and acting.
10	What is a character relationship?	The way characters act with one another on stage.

Prior Learning

11	What is a physical skill?	Something you change about yourself that the audience can see.
12	What is a vocal skill?	Something you change about yourself that the audience can hear.
13	What is movement?	The way you move in the space as a character.
14	What is a gesture?	A small action to communicate meaning.
15	What is facial expression?	The way you change your face to express emotion.
16	What is proxemics?	The space or distance between characters to show their relationship.
17	What is mime?	Where we act out our emotions physically and without speaking.
18	What is volume?	How loud or quiet your voice is.
19	What is pitch?	How high or low your voice.
20	What is tone?	The way you say something.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Current Learning

1	What is a wood joint?	Joinery is a part of woodworking that involves joining together pieces of wood or lumber, to produce more complex items
2	What is glass paper?	Paper covered with powdered glass, used for smoothing and polishing
3	What is a client?	A client is a person or organization using the services of a professional person or company
4	What are design ideas?	Realization of a concept or idea into a drawing that for fills what you set out to achieve.
5	What is a mitre saw?	A mite saw is a saw used to make accurate crosscuts and mites in a work piece by pulling a large backsaw back and forth across the work to cut at a desired angle.
6	What is a disc sander?	A machine having one or more flat circular disks faced with abrasive for smoothing wood surfaces
7	What is a laser cutter?	Laser cutting is a precise method of cutting a design from a given material using a CAD file to guide it, this is a CAM device
8	What is CAM?	Computer Aided Manufacture
9	What is sand sealer? And what does it do?	A sanding sealer can be used on bare timber products, it protects the timber making it resistant to water and adds a shinney finish
10	What does assemble mean?	To fit together the separate component parts of a machine or other object.

Prior Learning

11	What is a final design?	A Final design is a drawing that has been developed or selected from previous design ideas that might get made into a real item.
12	What is a vice? What do we use it for?	A vice is a mechanical piece of apparatus used to secure an object; it allows work to be performed on it
13	What does CAD stand for?	Computer Aided Design
14	Name 3 H/S rules in a DT classroom?	
15	What is an evaluation? And why do we use them?	Designers evaluate their finished products or prototypes to test whether they work well and if the design can be corrected or improved.

ENGLISH

Current Learning

1	Tension	A feeling of worry, suspense or uncertainty that makes the reader wonder what will happen next.
2	Antagonist	A character or force that opposes the main character.
3	Tyrannical	Using power in a cruel, controlling or unfair way.
4	Cumulative impact	The overall effect created when several details or techniques build up together.
5	Structure	How a writer organises and arranges the events and ideas in a text.
6	Layers of inference	Looking beyond the obvious meaning to find deeper ideas that are suggested.
7	Dynamics	The way relationships between characters work, change or develop.
8	Character development	How a character changes, grows or is revealed as the text progresses.
9	Juxtaposition	Placing two contrasting things close together to highlight their differences.
10	Ethical	Connected to ideas about what is right, fair or responsible.
11	Morality	Ideas and beliefs about what is right and wrong.
12	Genre	The type or category of a text, such as horror, comedy, tragedy or dystopia.

Prior Learning

13	Scythe	A tool used for cutting crops, often represented as a curved blade on a long handle; in the book, it symbolizes death and the role of reaping souls.
14	Dystopia	An imagined society that is undesirable or frightening, often characterized by oppressive societal control and the illusion of a perfect society
15	Immortality	The ability to live forever; in "Scythe," this concept is explored in the context of a world where people do not age or die.
16	Population	The total number of people living in a specific area; the book discusses the implications of controlling population growth.
17	Reaping	The act of harvesting crops; metaphorically used in the book to describe the act of taking lives by Scythes.
18	Controversial	Likely to cause disagreement or controversy; the actions of Scythes and their moral implications are central to the plot.
19	Ethics	The moral principles that govern a person's behaviour or the conducting of an activity; the book raises questions about the ethics of killing in a world of immortality.
20	Apprentice	A person who is learning a trade from a skilled employer; in "Scythe," characters train under experienced Scythes.
21	Legacy	Something handed down from an ancestor or predecessor; the characters in the book consider their legacies in the context of life and death.
22	Governance	The action or manner of governing a state, organization, or people; the book explores the governance of a society without death.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Current Learning

1	Special diet	Diet that has been adapted to the needs of an individual or group
2	pescatarian	person who does not eat meat but does eat fish.
3	Vegetarian	a person who does not eat meat or fish, and sometimes other animal products, especially for moral, religious, or health reasons.
4	vegan	a person who does not eat any food derived from animals and who typically does not use other animal products.
5	Omnivorous	an animal or person feeding on a variety of food of both plant and animal origin.
6	Boiling	the action of bringing a liquid to the temperature at which it bubbles and turns to vapour.
7	Frying	cook (food) in hot fat or oil, typically in a shallow pan.
8	Deep frying	cook (food) in hot fat or oil, typically in a deep pan.
9	Simmering	keep (food) just below boiling point when cooking or heating it

Prior Learning

10	High Risk food	Food poisoning bacteria grow more easily on some foods than others
11	Balanced diet	a healthy balanced diet containing foods from each food group, so they get a wide range of nutrients to help them stay healthy
12	Deficiency	the state of being deficient; lack; incompleteness; insufficiency.
13	Deficiency disease	a disease caused by a lack of one or more essential substances (as a vitamin or mineral) in the diet.
14	Scurvy	Lack of vitamin c

GEOGRAPHY

Current Learning

1	What happened in 1760?	The Industrial Revolution
2	Which continents have a dense population?	Europe and Asia
3	Which continents have a sparse population?	Oceania, Africa and South America
4	What factors increase population density?	Good healthcare, education, employment, housing and transport
5	What factors decrease population density?	Extreme climate, natural disasters, war/crime, lack of infrastructure
6	What is birth rate?	The number of births a year per 1000 of the total population
7	What is death rate?	The number of deaths a year per 1000 of the total population
8	What is immigration?	The action of coming to live permanently in another country
9	What is emigration?	When a person leaves a country to permanently live elsewhere
11	What 5 events caused a change in UK population?	The Black Death 1348, the Great Plague 1665, the Industrial Revolution 1760, World War I 1914-1918, and World War II 1939- 1945

Prior Learning

11	What has happened to population over time?	Increased
12	What is natural increase?	When birth rate exceeds death rate, so population grows.
13	What factors increase birth rate?	Governments introduce policies to encourage people to have more children
14	What factors decrease birth rate?	More women decide to delay having children and spend more time earning money
15	What factors increase death rate?	A severe drought destroysmuch of the world's food supply
16	What factors decrease death rate?	Improvements in farming help to reduce food shortage and famine
17	What does densely populated mean?	Many people living in an area
18	What does sparsely populated mean?	Few people living in an area
19	What happened in 1760?	The Industrial Revolution
20	Which continents have a dense population?	Europe and Asia

HISTORY

Current Learning

1	What was the only alternative for poor people that could not afford a room?	Vagrancy
2	What was published annually between 1757 and 1795 that allowed Georgian men to exploit women in poverty?	Harris' Guide of Covent Garden Ladies
3	What vivid print was created by William Hogarth to highlight the social problems caused by alcohol?	Gin Lane
4	What act of parliament succeeded in placing a tax on gin, leading to a decline in popularity?	1751 Gin Act
5	What act of parliament gave Britain the right to bear arms?	1689 Bill of Rights
6	What did crime waves often coincide with due to decline in industry?	End of Foreign Wars
7	What notorious London prison frequently suffered from the outbreak of typhus?	Newgate
8	What was there an increase in during the 18th century in which armed robbers attacked people travelling in stagecoaches?	Highwaymen
9	Who is the most well-known highwayman, often remembered today as a dashing hero?	Dick Turpin
10	What term is used to describe the cartoons created to criticise the moral failings of Georgian society?	Satirical

Prior Learning

11	What declaration did Charles II make prior to his restoration as King?	Declaration of Breda
12	In what year did Charles II's restoration take place?	1660
13	Who were the only Parliamentarians on whom Charles II took revenge?	The 59 'regicides' who signed his father's death warrant
14	What nickname was Charles II given due to his lack of seriousness and fun-loving lifestyle?	Merry Monarch
15	How many illegitimate children was Charles II known to have fathered?	14
16	Who humiliated Charles II in 1667 by stealing his greatest warship?	Dutch Navy
17	What secret treaty did Charles II agree with Louis XIV in 1670?	Treaty of Dover
18	What law did Parliament pass in 1673 requiring all who held public office to be Protestants?	Test Act
19	Who became king after the death of Charles II in 1685?	James II
20	Why were many English people concerned about having James II as king?	He was a Catholic

MFL

Current Learning

1	La géographie	The geography
2	À Treize heures	At 1pm
3	Il y a des laboratoires	There are science labs
4	C'est petit	It's small
5	Les feuilletons	The soaps
6	Les programmes sportifs	The sports programmes
7	Ma meilleure amie et moi aimons	My best friend and I like
8	La musique techno	The techno music
9	Car c'est dramatique	As it's dramatic
10	Nous avons vu	We saw

Prior Learning

11	L'histoire	The history
12	À quatorze heures	At 2pm
13	Il y a une bibliothèque	There isn't a library
14	Il n'y a pas de piscine	There isn't a pool
15	Les dessins animés	The cartoons
16	Les films d'action	The action films
17	Mon frère aime	My brother likes
18	La musique pop	The pop music
19	Car c'est émouvant	As it's emotional
20	Le weekend dernier	Last weekend

MUSIC

Current Learning

1	Pulse	Steady beat heard throughout a piece
2	Beat	Main pulse
3	Polyrhythm	Many rhythms that are layered
4	Syncopation	Off-beat rhythms
5	Semibreve	4 beat note
6	Minim	2 beat note
7	Crotchet	1 beat note
8	Quaver	½ beat note
9	Semiquaver	¼ beat note
10	Intro, Verse, Chorus, Bridge	Different sections within a musical structure

Prior Learning

11	Major	Music sounds ‘happy’ in tone
12	Minor	Music sounds ‘sad’ in tone
13	Triad	Type of chord where 3 notes played together at the same time.
14	Accuracy	Parts are played correctly in terms of pitch and rhythm
15	Fluency	Parts/chords are joined together in a sequence with no stopping

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Current Learning

1	Allah	Arabic word for God.
2	Hajj	A pilgrimage (religious journey to a holy place) to Mecca, which Muslims should perform once in their lifetime. One of the five pillars of Islam.
3	Idol	A picture or object that people worship as part of their religion.
4	Ka'aba	A holy site in Mecca which Muhammad dedicated to God.
5	Monotheism	A belief in one God.
6	Muhammad	The final prophet, to whom God revealed messages to, to be shared with people about how they should live their lives.
7	Shirk	Comparing anyone or thing to God. Rejecting the oneness of God.
8	Tawhid	The oneness of God - there is only one God.
9	The Five Pillars	These are the main points that support the religion of Islam. Muslims should observe these to help lead a good life. They are five individual acts of worship.

Prior Learning

10	Apostles Creed	A summary of what the Christian church teaches.
11	Bible	Christian holy book
12	Incarnation	God in human form. 'God in flesh.'
13	Resurrection	To come back to life after death.
14	The Trinity	The Christian belief in one God, in three persons – The Father, son and holy spirit.

SCIENCE

Current Learning

1	Classification	The process of placing living organisms into groups based on their structure and characteristics.
2	Organism	A term used to describe any living things such as a human or a bacterium.
3	Classification Key	A series of questions that allow an organism to be identified based on its characteristics.
4	Dichotomous	A classification key based around a series of pairs of phrases or descriptions.
5	Carl Linnaeus	A Swedish scientist who developed the system of classification we use today.
6	Genus	A rank of classification below family and above species. Its name must be written with a capital letter at the start.
7	Species	A group of similar organisms that can breed with one another to produce fertile offspring.
8	Vertebrate	Animal organisms that do have a backbone, for example, humans and snakes.
9	Invertebrate	Animal organisms that do not have a backbone, for example, insects or jellyfish.
10	Mammal	Vertebrate animals that are warm-blooded, have hair and feed their young with milk.
11	Insect	Invertebrate animals that have three body segments, three pairs of legs and most have two pairs of wings.

Prior Learning

12	Energy Store	The amount of energy held in an object or system, which can be transferred or transformed.
13	Kinetic Energy	The energy an object possesses due to its motion.
14	Gravitational Energy	Energy stored in an object due to its height in a gravitational field.
15	Chemical Energy	Energy stored in chemical bonds, which can be released during a chemical reaction.
16	Elastic Energy	Energy stored when an object is stretched or compressed, like a spring.
17	Thermal Energy	The internal energy of an object due to the motion of its particles, related to temperature.
18	Nuclear Energy	Energy stored in the nucleus of an atom, released in nuclear reactions.
19	Transfer	The movement of energy from one place or form to another.
20	Dissipate	When energy spreads out or is lost from a system, usually as heat.
21	Conservation of Energy	The principle stating that energy cannot be created or destroyed, only transferred or transformed.