

Autumn 1 Subject Information

Year 8

English	Students will study the Romantic poetry of Blake, Shelley and Wordsworth in the first half of the Autumn term. We will look at the rebellious nature of the Romantic poets and how their poetry was controversial and often critical of society at the time. Parents can support at home by asking students about the poetry they have read and the opinions these poets expressed and why these were significant.
Maths	During Autumn 1 Year 8 will cover topics of Calculations, Coordinates and graphs and Constructions. To consolidate the accuracy of their constructions they will take part in a World Trade Game.
Science	Students will build upon the knowledge taught in Year 7. They will complete short modules covering speed, electromagnets, movement (including joints and the skeleton), plant reproduction and climate change.
Education for Life	Drugs & Alcohol In this unit students will explore issues surrounding drugs and alcohol. They will gain an understanding of the law surrounding drugs and alcohol, along with the different types of drugs. They will study in depth the socially accepted drugs of alcohol and tobacco with an emphasis on their effects and with regards to alcohol, how to stay safe.
Art	Year 8 artists complete a baseline test before commencing their first SOW whereby they learn about the groundbreaking artist Georgia O’Keeffe - the <i>Mother of Modern Art</i> . Students develop skills when working from observation, proper to creating a final outcome inspired by O’Keeffe and Natural Forms utilising skills with oil pastels whilst deepening knowledge of Colour Theory.
Dance	Capoeira: A Brazilian Martial Art. Students will learn the origins and history of the Art form, actions from Capoeira as well as having the opportunity to create their own actions to reflect the style. At the same time students will be developing their knowledge of key dance skills such as unison, canon, action/reaction and mirroring.
Design Technology	Timbers - Students are designing and making a wooden mechanical pull along toy. Textiles - Students are designing and making a plush toy. Mixed materials - Students will be designing and making a mood lamp.
Drama	The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins is the focus of the first half term. Students will discuss and bring to life the characteristics of the main protagonists and antagonists. They will look at sections from the Hunger Games and reinterpret them using a range of drama strategies including physical theatre, still images and narration.
Food and Nutrition	Students are introduced to food science, looking at the function of ingredients with a focus on carbohydrates. Practicals this term support student understanding of food science.
Geography	Year 8 will begin ‘Commotion in the Ocean’. This scheme of work explores the ocean in detail, looking at why oceans are important, what the biggest threats are to the

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	marine environment, where we explore plastic pollution and coral bleaching in more detail. This is all about our impact on the planet and raising awareness.
History	'How equal were the Edwardians?' Year 8 will be travelling to the depths of the Atlantic ocean in an investigation into how and why so many people lost their lives on the Titanic in 1912. This case study can also teach students about social classes and life in pre war Britain.
IT	Students are revisiting Esafety at the start of the term, before moving on to developing their computational thinking and programming skills
MFL (French, German or Spanish)	My town: Describing your town, including opinions, what you can do and what you are going to do in the future using the future tense.
Music	Music in year 8 is split between two rooms; a traditional classroom with musical instruments and a digital media suite (DMS). In the traditional music room students will compose and perform a song. There is a strong focus on developing composition techniques and ensemble performance. In the DMS students will learn how to use LogicPro to write music for a film scene. There is a strong focus on developing composition techniques such as creating tension and suspense through use of the musical elements. Students will also develop listening skills and use of musical language to describe music used in film scenes.
RE	Year 8 will become resurrection detectives and investigate the death of Jesus Christ.
PE	Students are engaging in our concept curriculum in their Core PE time, where students will experience a range of activities from American football to gymnastics. Groups will work on a carousel of activities throughout the year to make sure they receive a broad balanced curriculum. Our concepts are Overcoming opponents, Sports Culture, Technique and Performance, Fit4Life and Water Safety this term.