

Thematic Overview / Year 8 / Summer Term

2016-2017

Dear Parent / Guardian

Please find attached our Thematic Overview for Year 8 Summer Term.

As explained in my September welcome letter, this year's Thematic Overviews refer to the YLOs (Yearly Learning Objectives) for the core subjects (English First Language, English Second Language, Mathematics and Science) covered every half term at Key Stage 3. You can find the complete list of YLOs for the core subjects for the academic year in your child's Communication Book.

We hope that this will give you a clear picture of the work being carried out by your child in school and enable you to facilitate their learning at home.

The activities being carried out encourage your child to review past learning, access and retain new knowledge, as well as develop and practise a variety of key skills to prepare them for ambitious goals.

Yours sincerely

Ms L. Gonzalès

Head of Secondary

English -----

First Language

This term, the students will be developing their writing skills. We will be looking at a range of different styles of writing, picking out and discussing the features of this writing, and then using these features in our own writing.

Yearly Learning Objectives covered:

- I can structure my work appropriately to create effect.
- I can use a range of sentence structures consistently throughout my writing.
- I can use nearly all forms of punctuation, including speech marks.
- I can write in a tense appropriate to the task and know when to use different narrative perspectives.
- I can embed quotations in my analytical writing.
- I can use a range of sentence starters, including fronted adverbial clauses and prepositional phrases.

Second Language

This term, the students will study a literature text called Charlie and The Chocolate Factory by Roald Dahl and the unit Natural Disasters as part of the Global English activities. In addition to being introduced to an extended literary text, the students will continue to build and develop their vocabulary and practise their grammar skills throughout these two units.

Yearly Learning Objectives covered:

- I can use some oral techniques to create an effect on the listener and engage their interest.
- I can speak clearly and adapt my speech (expression and vocabulary) to the cues I get from the listener.
- I can understand longer texts and recognise people's points of view.
- I can make notes of new vocabulary items, learn them and reuse them accurately to enrich my language.

Mathematics -----

This term, the students will be examined against all topics taught to date. They will learn new skills in line with the following objectives. Students need to be utilising online resources to review old material, as well as their folders from Terms 1 and 2 to be fully prepared to reach their expected Yearly Learning Objectives.

Yearly Learning Objectives covered:

- Apply the property that the probabilities of an exhaustive set of outcomes sum to 1.
- Identify all possible mutually exclusive outcomes of a single event.
- Use the vocabulary of probability; Find and justify probabilities based on equally likely outcomes in simple contexts.
- Identify all mutually exclusive outcomes for two successive events with two outcomes in each event.
- Check a result by considering if it is of the right order of magnitude.
- Use information provided to complete a two-way table.
- Use a straight edge and compasses to construct the mid-point and perpendicular bisector of a line segment.
- Convert one metric unit to another, including decimals (e.g. 3250 grams to 3.25 kilograms, or 3.25kg to0 3250g).
- Identify possible sources of bias and plan to minimise it; understand what is meant by a sample and a population.

Science -----

This term, the students will be reviewing previous learning objectives covered to prepare for the endof-year assessments.

Yearly Learning Objectives covered:

Biology: Humans as organisms

- Understand the relationship between diet and fitness, and discuss how conception, growth, development, behaviour and health can be affected by diet, drugs and disease.
- Discuss the physical and emotional changes that take place during adolescence and describe the human reproductive system, including the menstrual cycle, fertilisation and foetal development.

Chemistry: Material properties

- Use a word equation to describe a common reaction and chemical reactions that are not useful, e.g. rusting.

Physics: Magnetism

- Describe the properties of magnets, recognise and reproduce the magnetic field pattern of a bar magnet.

Humanities -----

In the final nine weeks of term, the Year 8s will be studying the geography topic of plate tectonics. This is a fascinating topic about how the Earth is formed and how we are affected by the natural hazards. This topic will include:

- Different plate boundaries.
- Formation of volcanoes.
- Earthquakes.
- LEDC case study.
- MEDC case study.
- Earthquake proofing.
- Safety kits.
- Predicting volcanoes.
- Hazards of volcanoes.
- Living near a volcano.

Hindi -----

This term, the students will:

- Talk about themselves and answer questions during an interview using complete sentences.
- Memorise new vocabulary and sentences.
- Learn new grammar rules and new tenses.
- Read a text and pick up the main information to answer questions using complete sentences.
- Read instructions and answer various written questions by listening to a conversation or a text.
- Write a letter or three paragraphs about a scenario set in a familiar context.

French ------

This term, the students will:

- Talk about themselves and ask questions.
- Memorise new vocabulary relating to holidays, countries, and friends.
- Write a short paragraph using accurate grammar and spelling.
- Listen to a short conversation and answer simple questions.
- Read a short text and answer various questions.

Arabic Second Language ------

This term, the students will learn to:

- Identify the verb in their text.
- Read paragraphs and answer questions.
- Read sentences and study their structure.
- Talk about themselves and ask questions.

Performing Arts ------

In this unit, the students will learn more about the Indian culture with regards to Indian music. They will be able to recognise Indian musical instruments and their function within ragas. They will also perform and compose their own ragas and appreciate how improvisations are based on the notes of a raga.

Visual Arts -----

This term, the students will continue with their Wayne Thiebaud inspired gumball machine painting. They will learn to:

- Experiment with creating rough texture using acrylic paint and analyse their properties.
- Experiment with using tempera paint and analyse their properties.
- Observe and record accurately.

The students will then move onto another expressive project later during the term. They will learn to:

- Identify two point perspective photos and artworks.
- Create their own two point perspective artworks.
- Identify mistakes in different two point perspective artworks.
- Create monochromatic artworks.

Physical Education -----

This term, the students will be investigating Health and Fitness. Students will be performing numerous tests to help them to understand their current levels of fitness and will be shown various methods of training to help improve different components of fitness. There will also be elements of movement composition in lessons – meaning students will learn body management techniques such as jumping, landing and balancing. Later in the term, there will be a focus on leadership skills, with the opportunity for some of our students to lead small groups of Primary students.