

**Thematic Overview / Year 7 / Spring Term**

**2016-2017**

Dear Parent / Guardian

Please find attached our Thematic Overview for Year 7 Spring 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 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 study the 21st Century Novel ‘Holes’ by Louis Sachar and various texts by William Shakespeare in the ‘Introduction to Shakespeare’ unit of work. The students will begin to explore different aspects of narrative and begin to consider how they can structure their own creative texts.

*Yearly Learning Objectives covered:*

* I am able to structure my work using paragraphs.
* I can use a range of punctuation accurately.
* I can make basic comments about the structure and organisation of a text.
* I can make basic comments about the settings, characters and themes of a text.
* My spelling of common words and homophones is accurate.
* My vocabulary choices are ambitious, although not always accurate.
* I can make basic comments about the writer’s viewpoint and overall effect on the reader.
* I can make some comments about the writer’s purpose.

**Second Language**

This term, the students will be continuing to develop their spoken and written English through a variety of comprehension, handwriting and listening tasks. They will also be developing their understanding of grammar.

*Yearly Learning Objectives covered:*

* I can understand simple questions.
* I can listen to and usually understand what is being said.
* I can understand the main points, details and some opinions in spoken passages.
* I can speak clearly and check my listener understands.
* I can verbally respond to a narrative/story by commenting on what might happen next.
* I can understand the main points, details and opinions in most written texts.
* I can comprehend and respond to a fictional text.
* I can comprehend and respond to a non-fictional text.
* I can skim and scan a text to find and closer identify specific words and phrases.
* I can accurately write a short text using simple sentences.
* I keep my writing neat by staying on the lines and keeping my letters the same size.
* I know to use capital letters to show the beginning of sentences and proper nouns.
* I can use full stops and commas accurately.

**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.

*Yearly Learning Objectives covered:*

* Read values from straight-line graphs for real-life situations.
* Draw, label and scale axes.
* Read x and y coordinates in the first quadrant.
* Identify parallel and perpendicular lines.
* Recognise and use multiples and factors (divisors), and use simple tests of divisibility.
* Understand and use the language associated with translations.
* Use correct notation for labelling lines.
* Simplify fractions by cancelling all common factors.
* Add and subtract simple fractions with denominators of any size.

**Science** --------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

This term, the students will continue to enhance their knowledge and understanding of topics in Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Yearly Learning Objectives will help the students to be prepared for Year 7 expectations and it is absolutely essential for them to have understood them thoroughly. Continual effort will help prepare them for exams.

*Yearly Learning Objectives covered:*

Biology: Cells and organisms

* I can recall the role of micro-organisms in the breakdown of organic matter, food production and disease, including the work of Louis Pasteur.

Chemistry: Material properties

* I can distinguish between metals and non-metals, and describe everyday materials and their physical properties.

Physics: Energy

* I can understand that energy cannot be created or destroyed, and recognise different energy types and energy transfers.

**Humanities** -------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

During this term, the students are going to study two topics. The first will be a historical study of the Terracotta Warriors, including a field trip. The second topic will be a historical study of medieval life; this includes:

* Medieval settlement
* Medieval roles
* Medieval jobs
* Assessing sources
* Punishment

**Hindi** ------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

This term, the students will learn how to:

* Talk about what they like and dislike and ask questions.
* Write a short paragraph using accurate grammar and spelling.
* Read a short text and answer various questions on their comprehension of the written passage.
* Memorise new vocabulary relating to directions, places, school subjects and activities.
* Listen to a short conversation and answer questions about it.

**French** ---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

This term, the students will learn how to:

* Talk about themselves (what they like and dislike) and ask questions.
* Write a short paragraph using accurate grammar and spelling.
* Read a short text and answer various questions on their comprehension of the written passage.
* Memorise new vocabulary relating to directions, places, school subjects and activities.
* Listen to a short conversation and answer questions about it.

**Arabic Second Language** -------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

This term, the students will consolidate their knowledge gained in Term 1. They will focus on adding items to their bank of vocabulary related to daily life so they can engage in more fluent conversations on a wider range of topics. They will practise their handwritten skills to increase their accuracy. They will practise their listening skills so they can respond more spontaneously and at greater length.

**Performing Arts** -----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

This term,the students will study two units. In unit 1, they will learn about:

* Folk Music and how to recognise the style of Folk Music.
* Less common instruments used in Folk Music.
* Singing and performing vocal riffs and percussion parts independently.
* Musical features and some common instruments used in Folk Music.

In unit 2, the students will:

* Tune a guitar, give the names of the strings, and name the types of guitars.
* Accompany a tune with the three basic chords on a guitar.
* Identify and understand the different time signatures.

**Creative Design** -----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

This term, the students will continue working on their Expressive projects on seed pods and flowers. They will learn to:

* Identify and talk about artworks of Georgia O’Keeffe.
* Use watercolours to add value and to create colour gradation.
* Create a monochromatic painting using the pen and wash technique.
* Combine medium and create a Georgia O’Keeffe inspired piece.

For their Design projects later during the term, the students will learn to:

* Exaggerate the characteristics of a chosen animal and design their own superhero.
* Create colour gradation using oil pastels.
* Create a villain character by combining different animal parts.
* Create a black and white patterned line drawing of their villain.
* Create simple comic strips using the characters they have invented.
* Make use of the sequence and scales in comic strips.
* Develop an understanding of various comic art artists, including Roy Lichtenstein.

**Physical Education** -----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

This term, the students will develop a deeper and more complex understanding of aspects of health and fitness in a variety of activities, and the skills required for a variety of different team games in preparation for Sports Day.

The students will learn to:

* Perform movements requiring agility, balance and co-ordination with success and precision.
* Successfully apply correct running, jumping, throwing, catching, and striking techniques within a variety of structures competitive games.
* Improve accuracy, consistency and technique in a variety of skills whilst in isolation and within structured competitive games.
* Develop the ability to make effective decisions within a game situation in order to outwit their opponents.
* Work collaboratively as a team to plan strategies and tactics in a variety of Games.