



RED HOUSE  
SCHOOL

36 The Green  
Norton  
Stockton-on-Tees  
TS20 1DX

01642 553370  
office@redhouseschool.co.uk  
redhouseschool.co.uk

8 January 2021

Dear Parents

### **Year 7 Subject Summaries: Spring 2021**

I thought that you might like to know some details about what your child will be studying over the next term. A brief summary follows:

#### **Art**

Year 7 pupils will study a range of different artists and techniques, broadening their understanding of art and artists from different movements, cultures and genres. Lessons are planned to use a range of materials and media that are easily accessible at both school and home.

#### **Biology**

Pupils will be studying: respiration (aerobic and anaerobic) and the respiratory system; movement and the skeleton (hydro-, exo- and endo-); coordination of movement by the nervous system and sense organs (ear, eye, tongue, nose and skin).

#### **Chemistry**

Pupils will be studying the particle model to support their understanding of the changes of state. They will apply this work to their understanding of separation techniques.

#### **Computing**

We will begin programming using Scratch to learn how to create variables, loops and functions. In the second half term we will program the BBC Microbit, a tiny computer, to further develop programming skills.

#### **English**

Pupils will explore science fiction writing, with a view to investigating advanced technology, cloning, superheroes and aliens. They will then move on to look at travel writing. Spellings of high frequency words will continue to be tested periodically to ensure accuracy. Pupils will plan their own writing in various forms and they will complete an assessment at the end of each half term.

#### **French**

Pupils will continue to work on the themes of personality, family, schools and friends. Having described their family members and friends, they will learn how to give opinions of school subjects, make comparisons between themselves now and how they used to be and use the present tense of regular -er verbs. They will also learn how to conjugate irregular verbs such as aller, faire, avoir and être. Finally, they will talk about school, where they live, discuss leisure activities and describe animals.

#### **Geography**

Pupils will study Africa. They will study an overview of the physical and human geography of the continent, as well as the causes and consequences of uneven development. Then they will focus on

an individual country, Kenya, in order to concentrate on more specific challenges facing a developing nation in the 21st century.

### **German**

Pupils will focus on topics such as sports and freetime activities, technology, school, telling the time, descriptions and giving opinions. Through these themes they will look at word order, qualifiers, expressions of frequency, possessive adjectives and prepositions.

### **History**

Pupils will continue to look at different aspects of life in medieval England. Pupils will study the relationship between the crown and the Church and we will focus on the murder of Thomas Becket. In addition we will look at health issues such as the Black Death and living conditions in towns. Ideas of medieval justice will also be considered. Alongside an examination of these events, we also aim to continue developing pupils' skills in communication whether written or verbal, and course analysis.

### **Maths**

Pupils in Year 7 begin the term by studying the different types of averages and a variety of ways in which data can be displayed. The next unit of work will give many pupils a first experience of algebra and expressions whilst our number work will look at how to work with fractions. Later in the term, pupils will apply their algebra skills to draw straight line graphs and how to substitute numbers into expressions and formulae. Our shape work this term introduces pupils to angle properties formed within parallel lines.

### **Music**

Pupils will study music that uses repetitive rhythmic or melodic patterns as a building block. They will learn about the importance of a steady pulse and compose rhythms for a small percussion ensemble. Pupils will also learn how to balance small steps and larger leaps between notes when writing a melody.

### **Physics**

This term we will complete the work on speed, friction and pressure. For the remainder of the term pupils will study energy: energy from food, energy changes, fuels and renewable energy resources. Skills will include a research project and evaluating data.

### **RS**

Pupils will start to examine the religion of Islam; their focus will be on Islamic beliefs and practices. Additionally, they will study the history of the Sunni and Shi'a split and the subsequent diversity in beliefs and practices within Islam

### **Spanish**

Pupils will be covering the following topics throughout the spring term: describing yourself and others; talking about free time and weather. We will also consolidate the use and structure of the present tense of regular and some irregular verbs; possessive adjectives; adjectival agreements and an introduction using if and when clauses.

**Design Technology**

During this Spring term, Year 7 will initially undertake a combined Design Technology and English project where pupils will design and make a theatre set, based upon their current English reading book. They will use this set to present a scene of the book to their peers. As the term progresses, pupils will undertake a design activity where they will generate ideas and designs for educational toys for toddlers.

**Physical Education**

Pupils will have the opportunity to engage in a variety of physical activities during the remote learning period. They will have a menu style programme for them to choose a range of indoor and outdoor activities. The aim is to maintain their fitness levels, as well as participating in sports specific skills to improve their coordination and agility. This will be great preparation for their return to school where pupils will have the chance to showcase their skills in games such as hockey, rugby (boys) and netball (girls).

I hope that this information will be useful to you so that you might support your child in their studies.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lara Roberts', written in a cursive style.

Lara Roberts  
Head of Teaching & Learning