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Dear Parents

Year 7 Subject Summaries: Spring 2022

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 continue to study the theme of still life. They will practice mixing and applying paint before painting their own composition in the style of Cubism.

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; 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 the separation techniques used in Chemistry. Assessments will take place every 6-8 weeks depending on progress made.

Computing

This term we will work closely with the Microsoft Office suite, focusing on Excel, PowerPoint and Word. We will use the three tools to cost and promote an imagined music festival.

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. Assessments will take place after each unit of work.

Geography

Pupils will complete their study of map skills before moving on to Antarctica. They will learn about the physical geography of the continent, seasonal changes, the history of Antarctica, why Antarctica

is important, scientific research and threats facing Antarctica today. There will be an assessment on map skills during this half-term.

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. Pupils will complete a short assessment before the half term break.

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. An assessment will take place around February half term.

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. There will be an assessment on work from September towards the end of term.

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. An assessment on this work will take place towards the end of term.

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 to using if and when clauses. Assessments to take place at the end of January.

Design Technology

During this Spring term, Year 7 will initially undertake a 3D drawing project where they will build upon previous drawing work, and incorporate a range of links to their Maths work. They will draw a range of 3D shapes, some with holes or curved surfaces as well as investigating rotation and mirror images of these shapes. As the term progresses, pupils will investigate the use of nets for packaging purposes, and how to create accurate and secure 3D shapes from a 2D net.

Physical Education

Girls: A range of sporting activities will be covered in the Spring Term. In team games, such as netball and hockey, the emphasis will be on refining basic skills and increasing the understanding of match play. Taster sessions in football and rugby will also be included to add some variety to the Games programme. During single PE lessons, pupils will be involved in smaller units of work, including handball and gymnastics.

Boys: A range of sporting activities will be covered in the Spring Term. In team games, such as football and hockey, the emphasis will be on refining basic skills and increasing the understanding of match play. Boys will also be given the opportunity to play competitively during House competitions. During single PE lessons, pupils will be involved in smaller units of work, including handball and gymnastics.

PHSE/RSE

During the Spring Term, Year 7 will discuss their rights and responsibilities within the topic of 'relationships'. They will consider their personal values as a citizen and their roles and responsibilities around bullying. Pupils will investigate the importance of a positive self-esteem upon their relationships and also devise techniques to manage disputes. They will learn about being a responsible digital citizen and develop skills to manage online friendships.

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

Yours sincerely



Lara Roberts
Assistant Head (Academic)