

YEAR 9 CURRICULUM MAP, SPRING TERM

ENGLISH

In **English**, we study Shakespeare's 'Romeo and Juliet' exploring the tragedy through character and theme. We then move on to study the seminal novel 'To Kill a Mockingbird' by Harper Lee. We build on our inference and analysis skills as well as exploring context and Lee's intentions.

HUMANITIES (ECONOMICS, GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY, RELIGIOUS EDUCATION)

In **Economics** this term we focus upon studying types of business ownership, limited liability, production methods, deindustrialisation and the UK sectors of primary, secondary and tertiary.

The first topic of the term in **Geography** is Cold Environments, which incorporates Glaciation, the Lake District, Alpine areas, the Arctic and Antarctica. Following this, pupils study Global Issues which includes plastic in the ocean, the causes, effects and solutions to climate change, the refugee crisis, Ebola outbreak and piracy.

The central question in **History** for this term is, 'Should Britain be proud of its Empire?' and we then study both World War One and Two.

In **RE**, we turn their attention to the lives and beliefs of prominent religious influencers': Martin Luther King, Malcolm X, Desmond Tutu, Malala, Maximillian Kolbe, Regina Jones, Gandhi, Dalai Lama.

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

In MFL, the 'Three Pillars' of language learning - Grammar, Vocabulary and Phonics – continue to be upheld in every lesson. All lessons incorporate constant practice of Listening, Reading, Speaking and Writing, and grammar is taught explicitly through topic-based content, authentic audio-visual, and literary sources. The key themes for this term in **French** are: 'Projets d'avenir', 'Ma vie en musique', 'Le meilleur des mondes.' We look at the simple future tense and introduce the imperfect tense before looking at the conditional tense in the context of the environment. In **Spanish**, we conclude Unit 2 by looking at 'An Amazon Adventure' and also at how to describe future holiday plans before moving onto 'Aquí mando yo' in which pupils will describe how they use various forms of technology and give their opinions on it. Using the present continuous tense, they will be able to say what they are currently doing and they will also look at the simple future tense. In **Mandarin**, we centre on the themes of: 'Sport and leisure' and 'Holidays' including 'seasons', 'climate', 'famous monuments' and 'transport.'

MATHS

In **Maths**, the first area of study is Algebra, including: quadratic sequences; $y = mx + c$, parallel & perpendicular lines; cubic, exponential & reciprocal graphs. We then move on to Geometry and measure: transformations including enlarging negative scale factor; converting units of volume; compound measures; review on angles; applications of Pythagoras; trigonometry; arcs and sectors; problems involving 3D shapes; constructions and loci.

PSHE, FORM TIME, ASSEMBLIES AND PE (PHYSICAL EDUCATION)

The **PSHE and Citizenship** curriculum for Y9 begins with an in-depth unit on Politics. Pupils then undertake an evaluation of the needs of their local community and design a social action project to address that need. This is part of our annual participation in the Birmingham Civic Society's 'Next Generation Awards.' Assemblies incorporate themes such as our values and behaviours, being hopeful and visionary, Holocaust Memorial Day, caring for our environment, LGBTQ+ History Month, Literacy Week and 'Awe and Wonder.' In **PE**, the cognitive learner aspects of leadership and communication skills will be the focus of term 2, along with agility, decision making and muscular strength. Cricket will be introduced in after-school sessions.

BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY, PHYSICS AND COMPUTING

In **Biology**, we study material cycles and energy, cellular respiration and photosynthesis before moving to consider the digestive system and enzymes, organisation of organisms and the heart and circulation. Meanwhile, in **Physics** we explore the transfer of energy as heat via conduction, convection and infrared radiation. In **Chemistry** we reinforce the idea of bonding and how it links to the structure and properties of materials. We develop this by examining the process of taking crude oil and turning into a fuel and finally we examine bonding and the uses of these substances as fuels. In **Computing**, the term begins with a recap of data representation, denary and binary. We then progress to studying hexadecimal, followed by ASCII, Unicode and Bitmap. The following unit then focuses on staying safe from email/scams and cyber threats when shopping online.

ART, DESIGN AND MUSIC

In **Art** we study Jim Warren which includes key skills such as surreal secondary observational pencil drawing and developing Photoshop work. In **DT**, the year is divided into two half year units. The Resistant Materials unit follows an iterative design process to create a picture frame using the workshop and graphic design. There is a strong focus on research, development, and testing the creation of the final product. In **Food**, we develop their skills from vegetarian dishes such as pasta Fiorentina, mushroom risotto, and Samos, through to meat dishes such as cottage pie. They move onto more sophisticated skills such as the creation of savoury tart, Dutch apple cake, Thai green curry and Lasagne. The theme for this term in **Music** is Rock and pop music. We explore what makes a good song. They compose and produce music using Logic Pro X.