

6th September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

As we start a new academic year I wanted to write with an overview of the different topics, units, and areas of study your child/ren will be completing this half-term in each of their subjects. This information will be shared with you at the start of each half-term to support your understanding of the curriculum and any upcoming assessments.

If you would like further details, please visit our website where additional guidance on the curriculum for each subject at the different key stages is available.

Yours faithfully



Samantha Rasmussen
Vice Principal

Year 8 – Autumn 1

	Curriculum Focus	Assessment
English	Creative Writing	Reading: Analysing the writer's craft in a range of extracts Writing: Composing a short story on a given theme
Maths	Solving equations Coordinates Ordering and equivalence	Mid Term 1 Assessment
Science	Photosynthesis and respiration	Learning Check End of unit test
French	Talking about holidays in two tenses	Receptive Productive
Spanish	Describing where you live and what activities you are going to do in your local area using the near future tense	Mid-module writing task
Geography	The Development Gap – Students will learn about how we measure development and why countries have developed at different rates. There will be an opportunity for students to use a GCSE Issue Evaluation on Development to encourage deeper thinking and rigour	Formative – 2020 Issue evaluation 9-mark question on the Development Gap
History	Were the Fennish really 'disgusting representations of ignorance and indecency?' Why do historians disagree about the reasons for the abolition of slavery?	End of enquiry outcome task for each enquiry question FORMAL ASSESSMENT 1



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RE	<p>Good and Evil What is suffering and evil? Do these concepts have a purpose in the world? An exploration of the Christian responses to the inconsistent triad according to Mackie An introduction to the concept of Karma</p>	Written response to a discussion style question
PE	Students will practise one or more of these sports: Football, Netball, Handball, Badminton	Ongoing in lessons
Art	Extraordinary/Ordinary: Students will explore the work of artists that combine animals together to create extraordinary imagery. They then produce highly accurate animal body part studies in both tonal and colour media which students then use to develop designs for a combination creature	Unit 1: AO1 Unit 2: AO2
Drama	<p>Focus will be on acting terms in initial lessons and levels of tension before completing a study of Commedia D'ell Arte Commedia characters Master Servant – status/relationships Use of space Physicality and Vocal skills Commedia techniques Improvised performance Assessing performance</p>	Formative and summative assessment – including terminology Rehearsals and Final performance
Music	<p>Classes will be studying one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hamilton the musical and its historical context, particularly by learning various songs from the show on the keyboard - West African Drumming and Samba through practical activities 	Hamilton: keyboard assessments
Computer Science	<p>Unit 1 – E-safety Cyber Security and the Law: Cyber Security and cyber cybercrimes covered in this unit exposes students to other levels of online safety. They examine data collection online and The Data Protection Act, a range of cyber threats and methods to prevent those threats and protect networks from attacks</p>	<p>End of unit summative assessment Whole class feedback, with Close-The-Gap action</p>
PSHE	<p>First Aid Body Image Managing Change</p>	
Design Technology	<p>Introduction to Design Technology & expectations Rotation 1: Textiles – Biomimicry & surface decoration through printing Catering – Commodities Materials – Designing and working with metals Modelling – Modelling skills in card</p>	<p>Teacher formative marking Close-The-Gap action</p>

