

# What we are learning this term in M2



## **English**

In the beginning of the autumn term, Year 7 pupils will begin by studying various types of non-fiction texts and learning how to differentiate their features and purpose from those found in fiction. Throughout the term, pupils will specifically study the content and structure of news articles, online media sources, recipes, travel brochures. Pupils will also engage in a case study on the history of the Titanic. Furthermore, they will then record their own conclusions about the relevance of non-fiction texts in everyday life for conducting research and extracting important information from various types of sources. As pupils study various forms of non-fiction texts, they will also compose their own writing in the form of news articles, persuasive writing, recounts, and individual product reviews.

In the latter half of the autumn term, pupils will begin a class novel study on Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. Pupils will study this classical novel with specific attention to the impact of historical, social, and cultural contexts on the events and themes found in the novel. Specific attention will be paid to various literary features such as symbolism while pupils work to further develop active reading and listening skills in class.

## **Maths**

In the beginning of the autumn term, pupils in M2 will be focusing on number properties in Maths. This will include mental and formal methods and strategies for solving addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division problems. Pupils will begin number work using the four operations and number rules, as well as problem solving with prime numbers, squared numbers and integers. Pupils will also extend their knowledge of Year 6 fractions and decimals by specifically learning methods for ordering fractions and converting between decimals, mixed, and improper fractions.

In the second half of the autumn term, M2 will be studying geometry, measurement, and rates of change. Pupils will specifically be developing mathematical skills related to finding metric length, area, perimeter, capacity, and mass. Towards the end of the term, focus within Maths will be placed on reflection and rotational symmetry and translations within geometry.

## **Science**

This Autumn during science lessons, pupils will be taught the essentials for developing a scientific method of reasoning. Tuition will involve a step by step and hands on guide to scientific methodology. This will include how to make detailed and accurate observations, how to make accurate and reliable measurements, how to evaluate the safety aspects of an investigation, and how to interpret results and draw a conclusion about an experiment. The interpretation of results has cross curricular links with numeracy in mathematics.

Pupils will then learn how to evaluate the validity of their experiment, and learn methods of ensuring that they have made a fair test. They will then be able to put into practice their knowledge by performing their own experiment, producing a practical write up. It is important for the pupils to develop these skills when moving on to studying science at a higher level.

## **Music**

In music this half term, we will be learning how good listening skills can help us in a range of jobs. We will be evaluating the music we hear using professional vocabulary, and begin to identify the pitch of different sounds or chords. This means using our computer skills to create new sounds, as well as playing some games online.

## **Design and Technology**

During the first half of the term, we will be exploring the topic, 'Global Foods' and looking at what constitutes a healthy and balanced diet. This links to the topic being studied in Humanities and gives plenty of opportunities for tasting new and unusual foodstuffs!

After half term, we will be looking at traditional tales and how various mechanisms are employed in books to make the stories 'come to life!' This will involve pop-up books, books with turning wheels and sliders etc. The class will then have a go at creating their own.

Inevitably, towards the end of term, the focus will be on activities linked to Christmas!

## **Humanities**

During the autumn term, pupils will be studying the history component of Humanities, with specific attention to Medieval Britain between the time period of 1066 to 1509. Pupils will begin the term by investigating the difference between primary and secondary sources, as well as the role of historians in the past and present. Furthermore, pupils will conduct online research to understand the significance and perspectives associated with The Battle of Hastings and The Norman Conquest. As pupils progress within this unit, they will also begin to understand the significance of political, economic, and social systems on the development of the feudal system and medieval architecture and knighthood.

## **PE**

This term pupils will continue to work on teamwork and sportsmanship as well as build on and embed both their basic PE skills but also start to develop their tactical awareness across a variety of sport such as team sports like Dodgeball and Baseball as well as more individual sports such as Badminton, Parents can support pupils by sending them in every week with a clean PE kit (eg a change of t-shirt, jumper either shorts or tracksuit bottoms as well as a comfortable pair of trainers).

## **Art**

This term we are looking at African and Indian art. Our first project will be inspired by Africa's resourcefulness and the way some art is made from found materials. Pupils will first be creating patterns in relief made from beans, lentils and pasta, experimenting with dying and printing methods on cloth and making jewellery. Inspired by Indian art the second half of term pupils will be working in three dimensions. Small paper pulp vessels will be made and later decorated with pastel colour patterns, gold liner and clear varnish to seal.

## **PSVE**

Through out the autumn term, pupils in M2 will be focusing on two distinct topics including “Healthy Living” and the “Wider World.” Specifically, pupils will begin the term by learning about the effects of drugs, alcohol, and smoking as well as the importance and maintenance of physical, emotional, and mental health. Pupils will be given the opportunity to conduct their own research, design anti-smoking advertisements, and discuss ways in which to circumvent the instances of peer pressure associated with making healthy living choices in adolescence. As part of the “Wider World” topic, pupils will investigate the purpose of charities, instances of prejudice found in past and current society, and will have the chance to research and choose a suitable community project to be completed together as a class.

## **ICT**

During the autumn term, pupils in M2 will begin to learn about abstractions, patterns, decomposition, and algorithms relate to computer science and various applications. Pupils will begin to understand the meaning of each term in relation to complex problems and computer programming. Pupils will be given the opportunity to apply these cornerstones to examples of real-life programming. Pupils will relate these terms to the processes associated with game design and applications, as well as making appropriate choices for picking applications to complete various tasks using a computer.

## **RE**

This term, pupils will be investigating the following questions from the perspectives of diverse belief systems and faiths; “Why believe in God?” and “Are the ideas of science and religion compatible?” Pupils will begin to thoughtfully answer these questions through asking questions, formulating respectful opinions about religions and beliefs, and explain the diverse ideas and viewpoints of various belief systems studied in class. In the autumn term, RE will give specific attention to the views and beliefs associated with Christianity, Atheism, and Islam. Pupils will have the opportunity to independently research, explore, and discuss the customs and thought processes associated with each belief system.

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## **German**

This term students are studying the topic “Home and Environment”. They will learn how to describe where they live, their houses and their area. You can support your child by asking for new phrases each week and to look for language games on-line.