

# 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**

The topic covered for the early Autumn term will be forces in the world around us. Pupils will look at the effects of forces using real life examples, the measurement of forces, and will investigate the effects of friction. The forces topic will cover balanced and unbalanced forces, speed and acceleration, floating and sinking, and pressure. If pupils could be encouraged to take note of these phenomena in everyday situations, this would help reinforce their learning. Later, pupils will move on and look at the properties of acids and alkalis. They will look at using different types of indicator, uses of acids and alkalis, and the process of neutralisation.

## **RE**

This term pupils will be analysing what religion is within the world, helping to widen pupil's knowledge and understanding, recognising the importance of being aware and respectful of it all. To support your child with this subject at home you could chat about different faiths that they may spot in the local area such as different religious buildings and what they are used for.

## **ICT**

Pupils in M2 will complete lessons related to algorithms, debugging, and using logical reasoning in computer science. They will have the chance to explore different programs that use algorithms and simple codes, as well as use various online tools to present their work originally.

## PE

This term pupils will 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).

## 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.

## 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.

## Art

This term is all about architecture and the interior of buildings. We will be exploring the many types and uses of buildings, researching some famous buildings and find out who designed them and look at some fabulous featured doors and windows across the globe. The term ends with inspiration from Lowry and Van Gogh who have made their mark using architecture and interiors in many famous paintings. Pupils will be working in 2 and 3 dimensions throughout the term and will be modelling door surrounds in paper pulp, constructing shelters using natural materials, using mosaic to enhance windows and drawing/painting in one point perspective.

