

What we are learning this term in P16



English

Functional Skills Group

- Recognising text types
- Carrying out a short research task
- Understanding features of newspaper articles
- Practising dictionary skills
- Practising skimming and scanning reading skills

Developing speaking skills (discussion / debate)

GCSE Group

- Reading and analysing extracts
- Developing opinions of texts and justifying them
- Understanding author techniques
- Start comparing extracts
- Developing speaking skills (presenting)

Develop skills of delivering creative written responses

Maths

Functional Skills Group

- Develop and advance skills of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
- Solve practical problems
- Improve mental agility and recall
- Rounding numbers

Work with fractions

GCSE Group

- Refresh basic number skills, factors and multiples
- Use indices
- Reinforce basic algebra skills

Work with area and volume

Some students are working toward a GCSE Mathematics qualification. This course will end with examinations being taken in the Summer Term. Over the course students will cover number and algebra skills, data handling, shapes and measures.

Learning could be consolidated at home through regular practise of skills such as telling the time, working out change and playing most card games. You can also access the 'My Maths' website at www.mymaths.co.uk with the username: Derry-mount and the password: NG58HN.

In the Autumn Term students will strengthen their numeracy skills through regular practice. Students will also be looking at their skills with algebra, graphs and consolidate work covered in previous years in preparation for their exams. Work may include practical activities, written questions, practice of skills and past paper questions. Through these we hope to identify any weaknesses in student methods or understanding of these topics and strengthen their skills in these areas.

Some students are working toward a Functional Skills Mathematics qualification. This course will end with examinations being taken in the Summer Term. Over the course students will cover number and algebra skills, data handling, shapes and measures. The course encourages students to view these "real world" problems and apply the mathematics they know to an unfamiliar situation.

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Upper groups PE

This term, students will be developing and analysing skills in a number of sporting activities including Football, Rugby, Basketball and Badminton. Students will be examining issues such as teamwork, leadership and health and safety in sport. They will also be developing their understanding of both the mental and physical benefits of physical activity

Preparing for Adulthood and Developing Independence

DMA Passport to Adulthood

Each week students will work to develop their independence and employability, as part of the DMS Passport to Adulthood.

Work will include:

- Identifying preferences for adulthood: employment, education, independent living
- Work towards employability
- Creating a portfolio: CV, written personal statement, references, details of work experience, details of life experiences and achievements
- Experiencing workplaces and college environments
- Domestication – skills associated with cooking, washing, ironing, cleaning
- Healthy Lifestyles – diet and exercise
- Time management

Options

BTEC Sport and Leisure

Students will begin working a new unit titled; “How the Body Works”. Students will learn about the Skeletal and Muscular systems as well as the heart, lungs and nutritional requirements of the body. Lessons will consist of both theory and practical sessions. Therefore, appropriate kit should be available for each session.

Astronomy

The Astronomy option will initially focus on the basics of star gazing, such as the definitions of astronomical terms, constellations, and the use of celestial coordinates. Pupils will then study the techniques used in practical observations, the solar system including the motions of moons and planets, and how the different bodies within the solar system are formed. Pupils will then be briefed on how they can begin their own investigation of the night sky, so that they can produce an assessed piece of work for their GCSE.

German

This term the students will explore the topic Travel. They will learn to describe holiday destinations, describe journeys and holiday experiences. They will have opportunity to use more complex sentences including the past tense. You can support your child by asking for new phrases each week and to look for language games on-line.

BTEC & ENRICHMENT Art

This term pupils will be exploring painting along with methods, properties and techniques. Initially pupils will be investigating/ recapping the colour theory before being introduced to a variety of artists to inspire their own artwork. Pupils will demonstrate learnt methods on four paintings, exercising a variety of paint, techniques and surfaces. To celebrate learning pupils will finalise project by creating a large scale painting in subject, mediums and techniques of choice.

Students registered on the BTEC qualification will additionally be completing worksheets to reinforce their learning, consider all Health & Safety aspects, document experimentation, demonstrate an understanding of formal elements and complete peer/self-assessments throughout the painting process.

Adventure School

DofE Group

This term the DofE Bronze group will work on expedition preparation: map reading, packing a rucksack, pitching tents and using stoves, resilience when hiking. The final expedition will see the group complete their Bronze Award

Tuesday group

Work this term will consolidate and extend the group's ability safely, and with growing independence:

- Light and control a fire
- Cook simple meals in the outdoors
- Refine skills with using a hand axe and knife to prepare kindling for a fire
- Improve their knife skills when working with pieces of wood (whittling)

Make simple objects and structures out of wood, lashing pieces together and using appropriate knots where necessary

Dog Care / Dog Walking

Each week the group will spend the morning at Jerry Green Dog Rescue Centre where they will learn about how the kennels are run, become familiar with the facilities and meet and learn about the four-legged friends that are temporarily homed there.

The students will learn about:

- Different dog breeds and their characteristics
- Understanding dog body language and how dogs read our body language

Training techniques

The students will also be helping out at the centre: cleaning out, basic care of the dogs, walking dogs in the exercise field. Gryff will be there too, of course, so he will need looking after and lots of cuddles from time to time.

Home Cooking

Cooking is an essential life skill that benefits our health and wellbeing. The course aims to give the students basic skills and knowledge to be able to cook for themselves in a healthy and cost effective way. This term we will be looking to work on gaining confidence in using different skills whilst cooking, learning basic recipes and understanding food safety and hygiene. Students will be taught how to handle equipment safely during these sessions, so that they are safe at both school and home. Each week students will be given a choice of recipe and as part of the lesson they will plan the meal and calculate the budget for the meal.

Once they gain the correct skills throughout the year and become more confident in the kitchen, we will be looking to work towards a BTEC (Level 1).

First Aid

The group will be following a Heartstart UK Course this term. They will learn about Emergency Life Support (ELS) and actions needed to keep a person alive in an emergency until professional support arrives. ELS skills can be used in a wide range of emergency situations, from choking, serious bleeding to cardiac arrest. The group will also be learning basic bandaging techniques including slings, assessing and dressing injuries.