



ALL SAINTS SCHOOL
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ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL

Directors: Mrs J Gardiner and Mrs R Smith
Headteacher: Ms S Dangerfield



September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to welcome you and your child to Year 7 at All Saints. We are very excited as this is the first time there has been two Year 7 classes and we have all been working hard to make sure that every child has the same opportunities regardless of which class they are in.

In 7A, the teacher is Ms Austin, assisted by Mrs Montgomery and Mr Sabine.

In 7B, the teacher is Miss Cossey, assisted by Mrs Upton.

If you would like to support your child's learning at home, we thought it would be helpful for you to have a more detailed idea of what we are learning about this half term.

English

Key Questions:

- What is a non - fiction text?
- What are the features of a non - fiction text?
- Can I write a non-fiction text?

Our English work is connected with our Geography work which is based upon climate change and information texts.

We will be looking at the structure of non- fiction texts and presenting information in different way: posters, recipes and presentations.

Our grammar focus is plurals and the correct use of the possessive 's'.

You can always help by watching Newsround / reading newspapers with your child and discussing any climate change related articles.

We do not operate a reading scheme where your child will bring home allocated books to read. Instead, we offer a book rich environment so every child has 2 reading books in school; a fiction and a non-fiction book and they will have chosen these from the library, with guidance. They will also take part in either a Fresh Start session or a group reading session on a daily basis. We also have a book box relating to our learning in the classroom.

The book we are reading aloud to the students this half term is 'Song for a Whale' by Lynne Kelly, which has been chosen to fit in with the current protected characteristic focus - Disability.

If you are keen to read with your child at home, they are able to bring their library books home with them to share with you or we are happy for them to read books from home / the library / comics – anything which nurtures a love of reading. Please record any reading done at home in their planner.

Geography

Key questions:

- What is physical geography?
- Has the world changed physically from the Ice Age to the present?
- Are we currently living in an ice age?

In this topic, we are exploring the physical changes to the Earth from the Pleistocene Ice Age until the current day. We are looking at plate tectonics, glaciers, climate change and weathering. We will be going on a trip to the Museum of Zoology in Cambridge on 20th September - details to follow.

A good series to watch at home is BBC Earth which clearly explains how Earth has changed from its creation.

PSHE

We shall be exploring and discussing the following topics; Self-concept, Mental Health, and well-being. We will be using zones of regulation and vocabulary around emotions.

Drama

This term year 7 will be developing their Drama skills to explore social skills and communication with a focus on Narration and Storytelling.

Interventions

We will be exploring many different areas of Personal Development, building on our Speech and Language skills and our fine motor skills.

Within the first couple of weeks, we will be setting personal targets and recording them in planners - please have a look and let us know if you see anything at home which supports the target.

Maths

We recognise the diversity of our students and the support that is needed to develop mathematical fluency, reasoning and potential in each student.

In order to achieve this, Maths is taught in “Stages” (based on students’ current mathematical understanding) rather than in year groups. This allows teaching to be focused at a level appropriate to students and allows teachers to support any gaps in understanding, misconceptions and allows for consolidation of topics.

Across the stages, this term focuses on the core concepts of place value, addition and subtraction, and multiplication and division. Underpinning this is our aim to develop each student’s confidence, fluency, reasoning and problem-solving skills.

Science

In Year 7 Science this half-term we will be studying the topic Cells, Reproduction and Variation.

This topic gives an introduction to the building blocks of life, Cells, living things and life processes. While we will focus on keywords and knowledge required to understand the topic, there will also be a focus on scientific thinking and investigation skills, learned through taking part in practicals.

Computer Science

This term’s Computer Science topic requires learners to use a range of different skills across several pieces of software. Learners will work between different applications to create a poster and slides on a given theme

The Arts and PE

Art - Mark making- In Year 7, we will be exploring the importance of mark making on the page.

Looking at the pen and ink drawings of Van Gogh then developing into tonal gradation and paint mixing looking at the work of Henri Rousseau.

Music - In music this term in year 7 we will be exploring ensemble performance using our newest resource, the boomwhacker. We will be learning how to read different types of score and we will be exploring rhythm, pitch and harmony through performance.

Practical PE- In PE this half term lower junior students will be completing a range of challenges to improve their fundamental movement skills (balancing, catching, throwing, jumping, running and hopping). They will also be participating in dodgeball.

Other subjects:

Year 7 also go to lessons in Drama and computer science.

Homework

In Year 7, Maths and English homework will be offered to all students but both are optional.

Homework is based upon work carried out in the classroom.

Getting in touch

We all want to make sure that your child's time in Year 7 is as positive as it can be so please get in touch with us if you have any worries or concerns as we have found that we are usually able to sort them more effectively if we know about them in the early stages. We also love to find out about achievements that have happened outside school, so please let us know!

It is quickest to use email or, if urgent, to phone the school and ask that we phone back:

naustin@allsaintsl.co.uk

lcosey@allsaintsl.co.uk

01692 582083

Your child will also have a planner which they are expected to bring in and take home every day. You can write any notes here for us.