



Year 9 Curriculum Newsletter - Summer 2024

It hardly seems possible that we are approaching the Summer term and the final term as Year 9 and Key Stage 3 students! In many ways, this is the loveliest term of all, with the warmer weather, Summer uniform and increased opportunities to enjoy being outside. We have got some exciting curriculum content to discover together and will continue to ensure that everyone is prepared and ready for Year 10 - the whole Year 9 curriculum is designed to be a bridge between Key stage 3 and 4 and everyone has engaged very confidently with that so there is no need to fear Year 10!

We have a focus on kindness to peers and the wider school community this term and have so far made an excellent collective effort to keep our words and actions kind. This will be monitored by all staff using a class report to ensure we are all keeping it as a focus.

We have our trip to Duxford to enhance our History curriculum and I am delighted to hear that the trip to see Blood Brothers went so well - we will explore two more plays this term (Ms Jones's favourite part of English Literature!)

I would like to thank all the Year 9 class and Mrs Goodgame for managing so well and working so hard while I recovered from a horrible virus last Half Term - I am very happy to be back in school and taking the reins again.

English: The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time - This play is adapted from the Mark Haddon book and explores life through the eyes of a young man called

Christopher who is phenomenal at Maths! It discusses autism, family, adventure and crime. There is some swearing in the play, we will approach this maturely and nobody will be asked to read anything they are uncomfortable with. The language in the play is authentic to the characters and we will make sure that it is not glorified and is read in context. The play and book are included in the exam board specifications and are used across many secondary schools.

Maths: The students will be working in their specific Maths stage. They will be learning statistics, measures, and time and money.

Humanities: We will continue our study of World War Two, looking at the rise of Hitler, the Holocaust and the messages we can learn from it in our modern world. We will also look at Mountains and Earthquakes for Geography.

PSHE: This term is focusing on sex and healthy relationships. We will follow county guidance for this and ensure that the sensitive topic is taught appropriately and mindfully. If you would like ask more questions about this please let me know,

Personal Development - We will be learning all sorts of useful life skills this term, including a bit of car maintenance - so if you have any car issues over the Summer you will know who to ask for assistance!

PE: Year 9 students will be learning about outdoor adventurous activities and striking and fielding games, including a visit from Norfolk SEN cricket who will be delivering a session for us.

Science: We will be studying the topic Chemical Energetics and Resources. This Chemistry topic gives students the background knowledge to understand the issues arising from producing energy for Humans to use. The topic will combine opportunities for practical work completing chemical reactions and also independent projects around the issues of climate change which will connect well with previous Geography learning.

Music: In music this term we will be exploring pop music over the decades from the 1960s to the present day. We will listen to both British and American pop music and

compare styles, instruments, clothes, performance techniques and much more. We will also use the keyboards to explore pop music performance.

Computer Science:

Over the next few weeks we will be reviewing the importance of cyber security and learning more about the risks of malware along with the reinforcing the need to be cyber aware and mindful of data protection. We will then move into further topics linked to computer programming.

Philosophy and Ethics

We will be exploring the concepts of War and Peace looking at how this connects with what we know from our study in History and current world events.

Drama

In Drama we will be exploring different practitioners and physical theatre.

Catering

Students will continue to travel to College on a Tuesday and learn to prepare and cook different dishes. Please remember to send in a container to bring them home where possible.

Homework

As usual, there will be homework that connects to the curriculum content on Google Classroom each week. If you would like a printed version, please let us know. Mrs Goodgame will continue with handwriting intervention for those people who will benefit from it.

We have a well-stocked book box of books which connect to our curriculum - and will be encouraging students to take these home and read them. Please remember to record reading at home in planners so students can access the reward scheme.

Please do contact us if you have any concerns or to share successes at home, we love hearing them.

Ms Jones and Mrs Goodgame