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ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL

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

September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Just a quick note to provide you with some information about what the students will be studying in class this half term.

The Upper Juniors will be taught by Miss Wade. The Teaching Assistants supporting the Upper Juniors are Mrs. Wright, Miss Langley and Mr. Boughton, with Mrs. Urry also supporting on Tuesday afternoons. We are all very much looking forward to the year ahead with the Upper Juniors and sharing their experiences with you.

English

Students will work through a number of spelling, grammar and punctuation objectives which form part of the Year 6 English curriculum.

Our first unit of study will relate to finding examples of poetic imagery in classic and modern poems and then being able to create their own images for use in poems they write themselves.

We will then focus on the skill of letter writing in the correct format, using the appropriate form of language, which will support our work before Christmas on persuasive writing.

Drama

This term the Upper Juniors will be developing their drama skills to explore social skills and communication.

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. In the coming weeks, look out for an email explaining how students can be supported at home with the learning and development of their times tables.

Topic

The Upper Juniors will be studying a history-based unit this half term entitled “The Impact of World War 2 on Norfolk Life”. During this term we will be visiting Gressenhall to experience life as a child evacuee. We will be making ration books and gas mask boxes to take to Gressenhall as part of the experience. We will also be visiting the Time and Tide museum to look at the impact of World War Two on Great Yarmouth.

Science

Students will learn how to:

- describe the difference in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird
- describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals
- describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and difference, including micro-organisms, plants and animals
- give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics

Specifically in relation to plants, they will learn how to:

- identify and describe the functions of different parts of flowering plants: roots, stem-trunk, leaves and flowers
- explore the requirements of plants for life and growth (air, light, water, nutrients from soil, and room to grow) and how they vary from plant to plant
- investigate the way in which water is transported within plants
- explore the part that flowers play in the life cycle of flowering plants, including pollination, seed formation and seed dispersal

Computing

In this unit, learners develop their understanding of computer systems and how information is transferred between systems and devices. Learners consider small-scale systems as well as large-scale systems. They explain the input, output and process aspects of a variety of different real-world systems. Learners discover how information is found on the World Wide Web, through learning how search engines work (including how they select and rank results) and what influences searching, and through comparing different search engines.

RSHE/PSHE

Students will complete activities relating to Healthy Lifestyles/Physical Wellbeing, Mental Health, and Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco.

The students will begin the term looking at what makes a person healthy and what unhealthy life choices are. The students will be encouraged to discuss healthy life choices with their peers. At the end of the term the students will review their original thoughts and see if they still agree with them.

Interventions

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

Art

In art lessons, Upper Juniors will be exploring the formal elements in art of colour and shape through the use of paint, pattern and mark making. This unit introduces the formal elements of art and progresses from previous years to talk about tones of colour.

PE

In PE this half term upper junior students will be participating in a range of Real PE activities including: fundamental movement circuits and dance.

Music

In Music this term Upper Juniors will be exploring the music of British artist Elton John through Boomwhacker and tuned percussion performance.

Homework

It would be very beneficial if students could read regularly at home, both independently and with an adult.

We will have a weekly spelling test on Wednesday each week. Words for the next week's test will be given out each Wednesday. For the first few weeks, we will be assessing students' ability in spelling so that we can provide lists of words that are suitably challenging ongoing - for the first few weeks, don't be concerned if your child either finds the words too easy or too difficult. We're simply trying to find their individual baselines.

We will also be offering students two pieces of homework a week to support their learning with science, English or humanities (history or geography). Students will be given a week to complete their homework and will receive three house points for each piece they complete. Homework is completely optional and I will offer students the opportunity to complete their homework once a week at lunchtime - again this is optional.

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