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ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL

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Year 9 Curriculum Newsletter

The Year 9 Team are looking forward to this half term - which is packed full of interesting learning!

We will finish off World War One learning about the signing of the Treaty of Versailles and students have requested that we learn about World War Two, which will be covered in the Summer term and include some Local History. Our English lesson will explore some more War Poetry and we will continue to read Private Peaceful and draw connections between the fiction in the story and our understanding of WW1. BBC Bitesize has some interesting links <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z9cvf82> and any war films would be helpful for their understanding of context.

We are looking forward to Careers week and are just waiting for confirmation that we will be able to take our trip to 'The Festival of Knowledge' in early March.

Other subjects will cover:

Maths

In Maths we will be looking at the topic of Fractions, Decimals and Percentages. Students will continue to work on Maths in the groups that provide them with the right amount of challenge and support. Students are able to practice their times tables using TTRockstars (the link is included below)

<https://trockstars.com/>

Science

In Science this half-term Year 9 will be studying the topic Electricity and Magnetism. This Physics topic develops students' prior knowledge of the parts of a circuit and explores the relationship between current, voltage and resistance.

Geography

We will be continuing to study the continent of Africa in the second half of the Spring term. This includes a study of desertification and the causes and effects of this in the Sahel Region of Africa. We will then look in detail at the country of Madagascar and food insecurity found here. We will finish the topic looking at Kenya as a study of a country in detail. We will focus on the environment, the location and its geography alongside issues associated with tourism.

More information:

Useful videos from BBC Bitesize can be found here: [link](#)

Seneca also has a wealth of information if you can access this from home - you need the topic 17.1 Africa: [link](#)

History

This half term, students will continue their study of the First World War by exploring what life was like for soldiers on the front line, including the harsh realities of trench warfare. They will also examine how and why men were recruited to fight, considering the role of propaganda and patriotism. Students will then investigate the Battle of the Somme, analysing why it was fought and its impact on the war.

Following this, we will move on to the end of the conflict, focusing on how the war concluded and the terms of the Treaty of Versailles. Students will consider the key decisions made and reflect on their consequences for Germany and the wider world. **Useful information:** [BBC Bitesize](https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zmncdnb)

PSHE

Lessons will have a careers focus and explore : Choices and Pathways, Work and Career and Employment. We will have a trip to the Careers Festival on 6th March as a part of this learning.

Art

In art lessons, year 9s will continue exploring the art movement 'Cubism'. This half term they will combine what they have learnt about using colour, line and tone to create an abstract final piece.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zmncdnb>

Drama

Characterisation - using the book *Private Peaceful* and WW1 as stimuli.

Music

In music, we will be learning about the origins of the ukulele and beginning to play simple chord patterns starting firstly with 'Wherever you will go' by The Calling. Towards the end of the half term, we will look at how to play simple melodies and learning the basics of ukulele tab.

PE

Year 9 students will be learning about table tennis and volleyball.

Computing

Data representation -how computers represent pictures, colours, images and binary code linking to bits and bytes. Learners will focus on making digital media such as images and sounds and discover how media is stored as binary code. You will draw on familiar examples of composing images out of individual elements, mix elementary colours to produce new ones, take samples of analogue signals to illustrate these ideas, and then bring all these things together to form one coherent narrative. This will help you to understand how the underlying principles of digital representations are applied in real settings.

Philosophy and Ethics

We will be exploring the origins of Islam and some key beliefs and practices.

Catering

We will continue with our Tuesday trips to Great Yarmouth and hope you enjoy sampling their creations in the evenings!

Homework

Homework will be set on Google Classroom each week. We would love your support to help students develop the habit of working at home as they approach Key Stage 4 where it will become imperative if they are to achieve their potential.

As always, to help your child at home, please talk to them about what they have learned during the day or week. Keep encouraging them to read and record this in their planners so they can access the reward scheme (I know lots

of Y9s are reading a lot and are not always writing it down in planners.) We have a curriculum related book box in the classroom and they can visit the library regularly to choose books. You can also help with spelling by looking at the spelling pages in the planner and learning a few each week. Reading Plus has slowed down a little bit - so please encourage this whenever possible, even one 15-minute session a week will help over time. The students who are engaging more often are making excellent progress and we can see the impact across the curriculum.

If you would like to support their History during a family day out, a trip to the Imperial War Museum would be excellent. More locally, the Muckleburgh collection Museum opens daily from 28th March. We are planning a trip to Duxford early in the Summer Term.

We have had lots of conversations about kindness this term and are very keen to recognise and celebrate acts of kindness where they occur, if you have anything to add from home, please let us know!

If you have any questions or concerns, curriculum or otherwise, please do make contact.

sjones@allsaintslessingham.co.uk or via the school office.

Ms Jones, Mrs Upton, Mr Slater and Mr Booker.