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**ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL**

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## **Year 9 Curriculum Newsletter - Summer 2026**

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 our trip to Duxford which has a history focus and will support the learning on WW1 and WW2.

### **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 algebra (for those students in Stage F).

During the Summer term Year 9 students will be introduced to the ARC App, which is a Maths App that students are able to use at home to support their recall of topics. The ARC App will be especially helpful in supporting students' revision as they move into Year 10 and begin working towards GCSE Maths. We are introducing the ARC App to students this term so they become familiar with using it.

Over the course of the next few weeks students will set up their ARC school account during the Maths lessons. Once they have their login details they will be able to download the App on their own mobile device at home (either phone or tablet - it does need to be a touch screen device). Students will then be

able to begin using the ARC App for their own revision. If you have any questions regarding the ARC App please contact Clare van Gulp (Maths teacher) at the school on [cvangulp@allsaintslessingham.co.uk](mailto:cvangulp@allsaintslessingham.co.uk).

## History

We will conclude our study of World War I by looking at some of the weapons used in WWI which we can explore on our visit to Duxford. We will then start to look at World War II. This includes describing the events that led up to WWII and looking at the rise of Hitler. This includes some of Hitler's key characteristics and the impact he had on Europe. We will also look at the Holocaust and the messages we can learn from it in our modern world.

## Geography

We will continue our learning about the continent of Africa and finish the topic looking at Kenya. This will include an in-depth study looking at the opportunities and challenges the country faces including tourism and sustainability. We will then be moving on to our 'Spatial Sense' unit for the final part of the summer term with a focus on tourism and sustainability - focusing on the local area.

Useful links: [Development in Kenya](#), [Tourism in Kenya](#), [Where is Africa RECAP](#)

## PSHE

We will be exploring and discussing the following topics: healthy relationships, Consent, Pornography, Media and Online safety (Including deep fakes), Contraception and STIs and where to go for help. Mrs Jones and Ms Wade have attended training on the latest RSHE guidance from DofE and so we will be implementing changes from this term. We will follow county guidance and Pol-ed (Police) and PHSE association resources for this and ensure that the sensitive topic is taught appropriately and mindfully.

Parents and carers have the right to request that their child is withdrawn **from the Sex Education elements of RSHE** (other than the statutory science curriculum). As mentioned in the Newsletter, we are hosting a parent consultation about RSHE on **27th April at 7 pm**. You will receive a link for this prior to the event and this will be a chance to ask any questions and feed your thoughts back to us.

## 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!

## Art

In art lessons, students will develop self-study skills, through exploring the theme of 'Power' in art. Students will create a mindmap of ideas, before exploring artists work, creating photography and designing a final piece from their studies that links to the theme.

<https://artsandculture.google.com/usergallery/bwliA6fef89IJA>

## 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 Plants, Photosynthesis and Food. This topic recaps and builds on students' previous knowledge of plants and cells to understand how plants produce their own food and form the basis of all food chains.

## **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**

This half term, 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.

## **Philosophy and Ethics**

We will be exploring Christianity, including common misconceptions. We examine religious texts and apply these to the beliefs Christians hold and look how these influence religious practices.

## **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.

We would also encourage all students who have an account to engage with Reading Plus at home; those who did last half term have made remarkable progress and it really makes a difference and helps students to build reading resilience and accuracy (essential skills for the Key Stage 4) We have a well-stocked book box of books in our classroom which connect to our curriculum - and will be encouraging students to take these home and read them. It is good to see so many students engaging with E readers at home, this is an excellent alternative way to access literature. Please remember to record any 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, Mr Slater, Mrs Upton and Mr Booker.