



Welcome to our Spring term Curriculum Letter. There are plenty of [extra-curricular](#) activities for students to get involved in this half term and many departments will be running exciting activities.

More general information about the curriculum can be found [here](#).

We have our 2nd Challenge Day on 31st January. Year 7 will be taking a Geography Trip to The National Marine Aquarium in Plymouth.

The departments that teach your child have contributed below to let you know what students will be studying this term.

## ART

Pupils are still in the process of producing a final piece on Egyptian Art from last term (Cartouche) using further methods of ensuring accuracy in measuring (rulers, set square, compass). After this, pupils will be producing design based on Ancient Greek and Roman Artwork of a 'Mythological Creature'. This will further enhance their skills in the use of design work (for a given circular space of a plate) and paintbrush control within the design itself.

## COMPUTER SCIENCE

Students will develop an understanding of how computer systems work, then will undertake some programming in Python using Edublocks (BlockPy - as a bridge between Block coding and Written coding) and will then start on solving more complex problems using Flowol.

## CAREERS

As part of their PSHE lessons where they will have an introduction to the World of Work.

## DRAMA

Characterisation and Realism - Devising from photographic stimuli.

## ENGLISH

Pupils have begun their study of their class novel, Philip Pullman's *The Ruby In The Smoke*. They will immerse themselves in the dark and dangerous underworld of Victorian London and, through creative and analytical tasks, solve the mystery of the missing ruby. Through their study, they will explore how the author crafts effective characters, creates atmospheric settings and builds tension throughout the novel.

## FOOD & NUTRITION

Macro-nutrients: Protein, carbohydrates and fats and their functions and sources.

Making sweet and savoury dishes.

## GEOGRAPHY

Threatened Oceans.

Who do you think you are? - Population and Migration.

## HISTORY

Students will be moving on from their work on the Normans and looking at the later Medieval period, including: aspects of Medieval Society such as the Black Death and Peasants Revolt, Political History with Medieval Monarchy, the Wars of the Roses, and Murder of the Princes in the Tower etc.

## MATHEMATICS

Equations - solving one-step, two-step and involving fractions.

Probability - The language of probability, calculating probabilities, experimental probability vs theoretical probability, expected outcomes.

## MFL: FRENCH

Students continue to learn about 'les vedettes francophones' (French speaking celebrities) and then begin a topic called 'Bienvenue chez moi et dans ma région', in which they will:

Describe their house and home.

Describe their local area.

Give their opinion on where they live.

Use key verbs in the present tense.

## MFL: GERMAN

[Meine Familie / Mein Lieblingsstar:](#)

Family members.

Physical descriptions including hair and eyes.

Describing personality.

Describing celebrities.

## MFL: SPANISH

[Un artista español:](#)

Learning about the paintings of the Spanish artist Joan Miró.

Describing paintings using nouns and adjectives.

Giving your opinion about the paintings and giving reasons.

Using key verbs in the present tense.

## MUSIC

Instruments of the Orchestra - including developing keyboard skills, Ukulele skills.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students in Year 7 rotate every 3 weeks which gives them 6 lessons per activity. So each group will take part in 2 of the following:

[Dance](#) - students will continue to explore a range of dance movements using steps, gestures, formations, body shapes, contact work, and contrasts in dynamic and rhythmic patterning. Students will demonstrate creativity by exploring dance ideas of *The Cog* or *Cartoon Capers*.

[Hockey](#) - students will further develop their skills through small-sided games, developing tactical awareness, positions and positional play. They will also develop their understanding of the rules and set play.

[Netball](#) - students will further develop their netball skills in the game situation. They will learn positions and rules and how to implement all learnt skills within the game. They will also learn tactics and set play.

[Gymnastics](#) - students will focus on developing stability when holding their own body position and when supporting a partner. Pupils incorporate control, precision and aesthetics into sequences showing creativity. Students will specifically focus on locomotion, transference of weight and balance.

## PSHE

PSHE is taught as part of the rotation. If students are being taught PSHE this half-term they will cover a range of topics including:

Personal and British Values, Mental Well-Being, Basic First Aid, Personal Hygiene, Puberty, The Importance of Sleep, Body Image and the Media, and Bullying.

## RELIGION, PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS

What might it mean to be a British Sikh?

Many students will not have learnt about Sikhi before and so this unit this will be an introduction to some key beliefs, concepts, and values. The emphasis throughout is on how these beliefs and values might impact on the actions of Sikhs in Britain and on why there is diversity within Sikhi. Students will revisit Sikhi in the Year 8 unit "Good, bad, right, wrong? How do I decide?"

## SCIENCE

### Biology:

Students will study: Cells, Reproduction, movement and breathing, interdependence and evolution.

### Chemistry:

Acids and alkalis: acids and alkalis; indicators and pH; neutralisation and making salts.

### Physics:

P2 Thermal energy transfers and P3 Forces 1.

## TEXTILES

Students are working as designers to explore the design brief, understand their target customers and complete product analysis to guide them to design a unique fabric case for glasses or phones.

