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



9th January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back after the holiday!

English

This half term we will be exploring Mediaeval literature, reading 'A Knight's Tale' by Chaucer as well as reading and writing ballads. Students will continue to go to their writing classes and Fresh Start groups as usual.

https://kids.kiddle.co/The Canterbury Tales

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=deRyhTuny3w

History

Following on from our Tudors unit, we will be learning about The Stuarts including:

- significant events that took place during this time, such as the English Civil War, the Gunpowder Plot and the Great Fire of London.
- how historians use a range of sources to interpret what happened in the past, and use evidence to discuss possible causes, and consequences, of significant events
- the lives of the monarchs and leaders during this period
- Oliver Cromwell, looking at different historical perspectives of him and his time in power
- the political and religious impact that each person had on Britain

As part of our topic this half term, we will be visiting Westminster Abbey in London on 14.2.24. Watch out for the trip letter which will be out soon...

https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p01wb3tq/clips

PSHE

We will be looking at what healthy / unhealthy relationships look like in person and online, discussing issues of trust and where to seek help should we have any concerns. <u>https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/healthy-and-unhealthy-relationships</u>

Drama

This half term we will be developing our social and communication skills through characterisation.

Interventions

Literacy/ Fine motor skills - letter formation, handwriting, touch typing Speech and Language - 'Theft at Cipher Mansion' - using visual clues, logic and deduction to solve a mystery

SPAG - paragraphs, pronouns, nouns

Independent living - We are continuing with household task skills, including;

being able to understand the difference between a debit and credit card, being able to send an email or letter using appropriate methods, knowing basic electronics e.g. batteries, how to change a light bulb, fuse boxes and locate in a house /building, as well as knowing how to undertake basic painting and decorating tasks.

Maths

In Maths we will be looking at the topics of Addition and Subtraction as well as Multiplication and Division. 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://ttrockstars.com/

Science

In Science this half-term Year 7 will be studying the topic Energy Changes. This Physics topic gives an introduction to the different ways energy is stored and how it can be transferred and used.

Computer Science

This term, students will be looking at using media to gain support for a cause. Do we want our learners to change the world? Here's a good place to start. They will develop a deeper understanding of information technology and digital literacy by using their skills across the unit to create a blog post about a real world cause that they are passionate about and would like to gain support for.

The Arts and PE

Art - In art lessons, year 7 students will be exploring 'still-life'. This project will include observational drawing and symbolism art. Pupils will experiment with different media such as pencil and watercolour, while considering the work of artists who use still-life/symbolism in their work, including van Gogh and Cezanne.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zkbkmbk

Music- In music this year we are exploring music technology to create our own compositions. We will use software such as Chrome Music Lab to explore melody, rhythm, harmony and texture.

Practical PE- During Spring term one, the year 7 will be continuing with Gymnastics for 2 weeks. Year 7 will use the skills developed from Fundamental Movements (FUNs) during gymnastics to play games such as seated volleyball, jump ball and dodgeball.

Homework

In response to parent/carer feedback from the recent survey, from January weekly homework will be provided to all students from Year 7 upwards. This will be set in core subjects, including English, Maths and Science. This will be set on a Friday and can be handed in on the following Friday morning. Homework will be based upon work carried out in the classroom, but please get in touch if you have any questions about the task set.

Homework books will be provided and for convenience the tasks will also be put onto Google Classroom.

https://classroom.google.com/c/NzQzODYwNDY5Njc1?cjc=c36oojd Classroom code: c36oojd

If you feel weekly homework is not right for your child, please contact us and we can work together to support them.

Getting in touch

We all want to make sure that your child's time in Year 7 is as positive as it can be so please get in touch with us if you have any worries or concerns. We also love to find out about achievements from outside school, so please let us know!

Your child will have a planner which they are expected to bring in and take home every day. You can write any notes here for us.

It is quickest to use email or, if urgent, to phone the school and ask that we phone back:

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