



## **ART**

This term your child will be focussing on creature concept. They will begin to understand what creature concept is, how artists develop their own creature concepts before starting to develop their own creature concept. This will be done through a range of media such as pencil, collage, coloured crayon and pen. Students will be encouraged to really push their own ideas linking to one of the artists they have focussed on.

### **COMMUNITY & PERSONAL**

Students in Year 8 will begin Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) topics this term. Students will look at different types of relationships include sexuality and attraction. They will discuss consent and how it can be given but also how it cannot be given. They will be made aware of the choices around sex including the age of consent and readiness. They will understand about the law on pornography, types of contraception and the stigma around HIV/AIDS.

The next topic this term will be Risks and Safety. The topic will focus on keeping safe online and in person. Students will look at the dangers of grooming and county lines. Students will also discuss the risks associated with knife crime and how to keep safe. They will learn about child sexual exploitation and how to report it. Finally, they will study lessons on the dangers of illegal drugs, smoking, vaping and drinking alcohol.

### COMPUTING

This term your child will start off with looking at website design. Pupils will look at key web design principles. They will then go on to design and create a website for a given scenario. The next unit pupils will look at is spreadsheets. In this, pupils are taught the fundamentals of spreadsheets in the form of formatting, formulas and functions.

# **DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY**

In Design and Technology students rotate each term of the year to a different specialist area and this term will study one of the following:

#### Rotation 1 (Design and Technology)

Students will develop their manufacturing skills from year 8 and will work with metals and timbers to manufacture functional prototypes. They will use CAD/CAM to design and laser cut a mould for a metal casting as well as using a range of different tools and pieces of equipment to manufacture a small jewellery box to store their casting.

#### Rotation 2 (Design and Technology)

Students will learn how sustainability influences the world of Design and Technology and how we can look at alternative energy sources to the traditional generation of electricity from finite resources. Students will design and manufacture an electronic postcard designed to promote the 6 Rs of sustainability to people.

#### Rotation 3 (Food Preparation and Nutrition)

Students further develop their knowledge of nutrition and health by learning about macronutrients (carbohydrates, proteins and fats), their structure, functions a sources and the effects of deficiency and excess of these in the diet. Students build upon their knowledge of staple food ingredients, considering the primary and secondary processing of milk and wheat and how these are used in food products as well as biological raising agents.

Students continue to develop their knowledge and understanding of safe working routines, further developing their knowledge of micro-organisms and temperature control. They apply this knowledge to their practical work as they begin to safely work with high-risk foods and combine skills, they have acquired in year 7 to make more complex food products such as garlic dough balls, savoury scones and cheesecake.

# **DRAMA**

During the first half term, Year 8 students are exploring Theatre of the Absurd. They will engage with a range of extracts of absurdist plays and consider how they can bring them to life in a way that feels strange and confusing to the audience which links to the aim of this particular style. During the second half term pupils will learn about the devising process and gradually work towards developing

their own performance that links to an image they are given as a stimulus.

### **ENGLISH**

In term 2 our pupils study the play-text of Lord of the Flies in their reading lessons, where they explore the art of characterisation and storytelling for the stage. In these lessons they develop their ability to discuss and debate the key concepts of power, morality, justice, law and democracy. They will also develop their analytical skills as they explore the decisions the playwright has made in their choice of both language and structure.

In their writing lessons they will be focusing on Dystopian writing, where they will read extracts from novels such as Orwell's 1984 and use the writer's use of ideas, language and structure as a springboard to create their own dystopian writing.

### **GEOGRAPHY**

Pupils will continue studying weather and climate; considering how we as humans use these environments and the challenges which we face. We will consider the growing impacts of sea level rise around the world and also modern day issues such as piracy and plastic pollution. Pupils will then move onto begin studying globalisation, why and how are world is interconnected and the benefits and challenges this brings for us.

#### **HISTORY**

Year 8 will begin studying the transformative Industrial Revolution of the 18th and 19th centuries. They will explore how technological innovations reshaped Britain, with a special emphasis on the causes of, and campaigns against, child labour in factories. Students will delve into how societal attitudes evolved during this time, examining Enlightenment thinking, advancements in medicine, and changes in crime and punishment. They will also learn about influential individuals such as Mary Wollstonecraft, Anne Lister, John Snow, and Louis Pasteur. The year concludes with an evaluation of how British society had changed by 1900.

# **MATHS**

Pupils in Year 8 will spend the Spring term continuing to learn about Angles and Constructions. They will learn how to find unknown angles in triangles, quadrilaterals and polygons and investigate angles on parallel lines. They will also learn how to construct perpendicular and angle bisectors using only a ruler, compass and pencil. Later this term, they will develop their algebraic skills by revisiting coordinates and through plotting graphs. This unit will also cover calculate a gradient from a linear graph and being able to interpret the equation of a line.

## **MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

In languages, students will learn vocabulary and structures about festivals and celebrities. They will use the present and past tenses.

# **MUSIC**

In this unit, Year 8 students will be exploring the exciting world of African drumming. They'll be discovering the cultural richness behind traditional rhythms and beats from various African regions. Your child will get hands-on experience, learning different drumming styles and techniques. This immersive journey will involve both playing and creating their own drumming pieces. Throughout this unit, Year 8 students will gain a deeper understanding and appreciation for the traditions that have shaped African music. It's a lively and engaging exploration that promises to be both educational and fun for your child. Students will get to use Djembe, Cajon, Shaker, DounDoun, Cowbel and a range of other world instrument percussion.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Year 8 students will continue to build on their PE/Games skills through various rotations. Activities will include Rock Badminton, Dance, Gymnastics, Fitness, Athletics, and Tennis, as well as team sports like Rugby, Football, Netball, Handball, Basketball, Cricket, Rounders, and Softball. In Year 8, students will focus on developing more advanced skills and taking on additional roles in each sport, demonstrating a thorough understanding of the games. Students may be nominated for sports awards at the annual rewards evening in June and could become a sports captain. In April, students will have the opportunity to attend the annual Ski Trip, where they will enhance their resilience, teamwork, and skiing abilities. Additionally, Year 8 students will participate in the Ribblesdale Trip, a three-day excursion to the Yorkshire Dales for the entire year group.

# **RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

Students will start the term considering 'How we should treat others'. Lessons will focus on sexism, homophobia, Islamophobia, Christian persecution and Anti-Semitism. It will include religious responses to these issues, as well as considering current/recent examples.

Next students will be looking at the ultimate question 'Is death the end?'. This will be explored through paranormal claims; considering if you can believe in life after death even if you are not religious; Christian and Islamic beliefs as well as the anthropological study of the Mexican festival of the Day of the Dead, considering how old beliefs and practices merge with new beliefs and practices.

# **SCIENCE**

With one of their teachers this term, students will be learning all about Space, before moving on to look at Acids and Alkalis and their reactions and then starting to learn about Genetics and Evolution.

With their second teacher, students will be continuing to learn about all different types of chemical reactions, including exothermic and endothermic reactions, where the temperature changes during these reactions. Students will also be learning about electricity and building on their knowledge from Year 7 electricity to look at the differences between series and parallel circuits.