



ART

This term your child will be focusing on a food project where they will focus on a selection of artists to help understand how different artists use different techniques to create a variety of outcomes and start to understand how artists work can be used for a variety of things such as advertisement. Their analysis of artists will help them to understand how to work in the artists' style before then applying what they have learnt to their own piece of artwork.

COMMUNITY & PERSONAL

Students in Year 9 will begin Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) topics this term. This topic will focus on students reflecting on safe relationships. Students will look at different types of relationships, with a focus on positive and healthy relationships. They will discuss consent and how it can be given but also how it cannot be given and understand what coercion is. They will learn about types of contraception, various STIs and teenage pregnancy.

The next topic this term will be Risks and Safety. The topic will focus on managing dangerous situations. Students will look at what Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is and breast ironing and why they are illegal. Students will also discuss human trafficking, extremism, terrorism and how people can be radicalised. They will learn about the dangers of drink spiking and forced marriage and how to keep themselves safe. Finally, students will learn about personal safety including CPR and first aid skills.

COMPUTING

This term your child will be completing their BTEC DIT and GCSE Computer Science taster lessons in preparation for their option choices. They will be designing and programming a text-based adventure game in Python. They will be focusing on the three pillars of programming; sequencing, selection and iteration. Pupils will also be introduced to the benefits of using subprograms and implement this into their text-based adventure game to improve the efficiency of their code.

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 knowledge and understanding of the process that designers follow when developing and manufacture new prototypes. They will learn about historical design movements and how these influence future design developments as well as using their designing and manufacturing skills acquired throughout year 7 and 8 to design and manufacture a wall clock.

Rotation 2 (Design and Technology)

Student will develop their knowledge and understanding of how fibres and processed from raw fibres into usable pieces of fabric as well as understanding a range of different fabric construction techniques. Students will manufacture a cushion themed around the iconic Eames Elephant using a range of textile techniques.

In addition to this students will build on their 3D drawing skills developed in year 7 and will use the two point perspective drawing technique to develop a drawing of a street scene which they will then render to add depth and detail.

Rotation 3 (Food Preparation and Nutrition)

Building upon their knowledge of nutrition and health, healthy eating and macronutrients students are introduced to micronutrients, their sources and functions. Students learn about special diets, including allergens and reasons for food choice. Students build upon their knowledge of food ingredients, considering their functional properties and how these are used in cookery. Students learn about and apply their knowledge of gelatinisation and caramelisation.

Students continue to combine a range of food preparation skills they have developed in year 7 and 8 to make more complex dishes using electrical equipment and high-risk foods including enchiladas, chicken goujons and calzone pizza. Students are encouraged to adapt and develop recipes taking into consideration the nutritional profile of the dish and dietary needs of those that are eating it.

DRAMA

Year 9 will be examining the work of a physical theatre company called Frantic Assembly. They will learn strategies used by Frantic Assembly to devise performance work, eventually developing their own pieces that are inspired by protests and riots. Pupils will explore case studies from contemporary society and consider how drama can be used to communicate opinion.

ENGLISH

In term 2, our pupils study the historical fiction novel 'The Book Thief' set during WWII. They will explore how writer's use historical events to convey a particular message to a modern audience. They will also analyse the way in which language and structure is used purposefully to support their analytical skills in preparation for their GCSE work in Year 10 and 11.

Alongside reading 'The Book Thief', our students will read a selection of war poetry to develop their confidence with reading, understanding and analysing a poet's choices. They will also read some non-fiction accounts from those that have experienced war and use these accounts to inspire their own creative historical fiction pieces.

GEOGRAPHY

In Year 9 pupils will be studying health issues around the world. They will look at different diseases affecting countries around the world and consider why developing and developed countries face different challenges. Pupils will then begin studying tropical rainforests, looking at why they are so important for us. We will also look at the threats and challenges the rainforests are facing.

HISTORY

Year 9 will commence their in-depth study of the Holocaust, beginning with an exploration of Jewish communities in Europe before the 20th century. They will investigate the persecution of Jewish people and other groups, learning how their rights were systematically eroded by the Nazi state. Key turning points, such as the expansion of Germany. Kristallnacht, and the Second World War, will be studied in detail. Students will examine how the Nazi regime transitioned from persecution to the Final Solution, uncover stories of resistance, and learn about the Holocaust's end and legacy.

MATHS

Pupils in year 9 will begin the Spring term learning about Pythagoras' Theorem and they will begin to apply this to right-angled triangles to find the length of unknown sides. Later on in the unit, pupils will study Trigonometry in right-angled triangles to find unknown angles and sides, using the trigonometric functions Sine, Cosine and Tangent. Following this unit of work, year 9 pupils will further develop their knowledge of fractions, decimals and percentages.

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

In languages students will learn vocabulary and structures about the environment and where we live.

MUSIC

Year 9 will explore a range of exciting genres of music this term including classical, pop, rock and blues. We will explore instrumental techniques on instruments including percussion, guitar, ukulele and keyboard. Composers and songwriters such as Mozart, The Beatles, Queen and many more!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

In Year 9, students will refine their skills and take on more advanced roles within each sport, focusing on tactics and decision-making. New sports like Volleyball and Handball will be introduced to give students experience with activities featured in the GCSE specification. Students will be assessed on a 1-9 grading scale, which prepares them for GCSE evaluations. Year 9 students will also have the chance to attend a GCSE Open Evening, where they can explore options for GCSE PE or Cambridge National courses in Year 10. In October, students will have the opportunity to participate in a sports tour, where they will improve their skills, embrace different cultures, and gain experience playing in teams abroad.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

In year 9 RS, students will begin a topic called "Is it ever right to take life?" It will focus on the sanctity of life and whether all life is sacred. It will discuss ethical and moral issues including abortion and euthanasia and religious perspectives.

Next students will be looking at the topic "Who is right?" which considers philosophical theory. Exploring these ethical theories and applying it to IVF, cloning, genetic engineering and saviour siblings.

SCIENCE

In Biology, students will be learning about the principles of organisation, blood vessels, the lungs and the heart before starting to look at infections and the responses the human body has to infections.

In Chemistry, students will be learning about the structure of the atom and how this has changed over time. Students will then be learning about the different areas of the Periodic Table.

In Physics, students will be finishing their topic of forces learning about speed and acceleration before moving on to the new topic of Electricity. In electricity, students will be learning about different types of circuits, power and Ohm's law.