

Your child will be studying the following topics:

English

Ms Haydon Group

Students will study the genre of 'Horror and Suspense', understanding the specific style of writing that it require. They will read classic examples of this genre, in all literature forms, as well as using their own imagination. One lesson a week will incorporate multi-sensory learning and Thursday will be a reading/analysis lesson; students are encouraged to read suspense fiction to aid deeper understanding of the genre.

Grammatical awareness, sentence structure and spelling will be taught according to individual need.

Mathematics

Over the course of the term, pupils will work on a number of mathematical topics to refresh, demonstrate and challenge their mathematical knowledge and understanding. As this year progresses, pupils will have opportunity to deepen their understanding of the general principles with which they are already familiar as well as challenge themselves through tackling increasingly complex problems.

Time: Pupils will begin to consider time and how to solve problems involving time in context.

Number and place value: pupils will practice their basic understanding of number and the number system. They will investigate simple number patterns and their relationships with times tables.

Addition and subtraction: pupils will practice their arithmetic skills including use of column method. Pupils will also look at contextual problems and being able to identify what operations are required.

Fractions: pupils will develop their knowledge of fractions and begin to use fractions to solve simple numerical problems in context.

Measures: pupils will begin to consider the different types of measurement and their units and how to choose appropriate units of measurement.

Science

Pupils will explore the topic of 'Food Glorious Food'. In this topic, pupils study the components of a healthy balanced diet and the role of each nutrient in the body. Pupils will test foods in the laboratory as well as assess their own dietary habits and develop an understanding of balanced and unbalanced diets. The process of digestion is studied in terms of what happens to food at each organ of the digestive system as well as links to blood sugar levels.

The topic of Elements will be studied together with a brief introduction to the periodic table.

Concepts of atoms, elements, compounds and mixtures will be taught to enable pupils to differentiate between them.

Art

This term pupils will undertake a range of projects that will include drawing, painting, collage, sculpture, photography and textiles. Tasks will concentrate on learning different techniques and developing skills, so as to build confidence and competence. Themes will include:

- Lines and Shapes
- Patterns and Textures

Art Monks Walk School

Pupils explore techniques and processes used in creating the illusion of depth and scale. This includes exploring the relationship between background, middle ground and foreground. Pupils will research and analyse the work of artists such as Monet and Hockney to support this term's work.

Design Technology

This term pupils will be studying food and nutrition. They will begin looking at food safety, storage and hygiene. Pupils will be expected to provide fresh ingredients and a suitable container to take food home in.

Homework will be linked to the topic but if pupils could be involved in shopping, weighing and measuring, preparing and cooking at home, then this will support them in their studies.

Drama Monks Walk School

Pupils will explore the poem, "Lulu", as a stimulus to generate performances. This poem tells the story of a teen runaway, which the pupils interpret using different techniques. Pupils will then work on melodrama and silent movies, looking in detail at timing, choreographed movement and reaction.

Geography

Ecosystems - Pupils will investigate and compare different ecosystems around the world. This will include looking at the differences and links between places through the study of human and physical geography of a region within Africa, and of a region within Asia. Environmental issues such as forest clearance, global warming and deforestation will also be studied.

German

'Home and Local Area'

Pupils will revise how to describe themselves in detail in preparation for the start of the Entry Level German course. They will learn how to say where they live, and what sort of house, town or village they live in. They will also learn the names of places in town. Pupils will describe the rooms in their house and learn the names of basic furniture. They will talk about routine jobs and activities in the home as well as learning how to give simple opinions in German.

History

Britain 1500 to 1750 - Pupils will study the Tudor and Stuart periods of British History. The work will be divided into three main sections to develop understanding of political, religious and social changes. Pupils will also develop their source analysis, research and essay writing skills throughout this topic.

Information Communication Technology

Internet Research:

Pupils will learn how to research and search specific keywords and information effectively and safely. Pupils will learn the benefits of using search engines and how to use them properly. Pupils will work towards a final project involving the investigation of certain search criteria.

Language and Listening

Language and listening lessons are taught in four parts. These relate to the four broad areas of need from the SEN code of practice: communication and interaction; cognition and learning; social, emotional and mental health and sensory and physical needs. Each term pupils will spend three weeks developing their skills in each area. Activities include presentations, discussions, observation, group work, thinking skills, and evaluations.

Pupils will cover a variety of topics in the autumn term. In sensory and physical needs lessons, pupils will refresh their understanding listening equipment maintenance and produce a deaf awareness films. In social emotional and mental health lessons, pupils will use the Steps de-escalation script and 'Roots and Fruits' tree (these can now be found at the back of their planner) to help resolve issues with others. In cognition and learning lessons will relate to collective memory. Finally, in communication and interaction lessons, pupils will be looking at social communications skills.

Music

This half-term pupils will explore the topic, 'Round and about'. They will perform rounds and echo songs and will develop their composition skills. Through listening, they will focus on performing whilst they hear two or more notes at the same time. Next half-term, pupils will explore major scales. They will perform on pitched percussion and compose a melody and accompaniment. Listening tasks will focus on discriminating between the major and minor scales.

Personal Social and Health Education

This term year 8 are going to concentrate on the following areas of study:

- Risk and Personal Safety
- Alcohol and Drugs

Physical Education Monks Walk School

In the autumn term the girls will start with four weeks of fitness training before moving onto a four week block of swimming. After half term pupils will participate in gym and dance then netball. The boys' group will start with rugby, followed by fitness training, swimming and gym.

Please be aware that there are often last minute changes in PE lessons due to weather, matches, staffing, etc. Pupils will need their PE kit and swimming kit in school for every PE lesson.

Religious Education

This term pupils will be learning about Sikhism.

RE is split into two main areas: AT1 - Learning about religion, for example, beliefs and teachings, religious practices and lifestyles, and ways of expressing meaning; AT2 - Learning from religion, will focus more on questions of meaning and purpose, values and commitments and human identity, personality and experience.

Units will include: What is Sikhism? How and where did Sikhism begin? What is a Gurdwara? What is the Guru Granth Sahib? What is the importance and relevance of the Amrit ceremony? What are the Sikh festivals? How do Sikhs help the community?