

Your child will be studying the following topics:

English

Ms Haydon Group

Students' study will be focused on 'Macbeth' this term. Pupils will be identifying the main themes and historical context of the play. Sections of the play will be analysed in full and students will be guided through analysis of literature.

One lesson a week will incorporate multi-sensory learning and Thursday will be a reading/book review day, where students are encouraged to read books that contain similar themes to Macbeth to aid comparative elements to essay writing.

Mathematics

Over the course of the term, pupils will work on a number of mathematical topics to help them prepare for their Key Stage 4 courses. They will work to improve and deepen their knowledge of topics they have already covered such as arithmetic, but will also begin to study topics they have not yet met such as statistics and algebra.

Number and place value: pupils will practice their basic understanding of number and the number system. They will investigate number relationships with times tables and how to investigate more complex problems. Pupils will also begin to develop strategies for mental arithmetic.

Addition and subtraction: pupils will practice their written arithmetic skills including use of the 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 numerical problems in context. Pupils will also begin to look at concepts such as equivalent fractions, improper and mixed fractions.

Measures: pupils will begin to consider the different types of measurement and their units and how to choose appropriate units of measurement. Pupils will look specifically at volume and area and how these two measurements are related.

Money: pupils will begin to look at money in terms of income and costs. Pupils will be looking at simple budgets and using their arithmetic skills to determine the answer to problems. This topic will also begin to introduce the concept of ratio.

Science

This term, pupils will study the topics of Genetics and Inheritance. They will start by exploring their own individual uniqueness and relate this to characteristics that have been passed down in family generations. Pupils will be able to recognise the difference between inherited and environmental features and explore how this originates from the fertilisation of an egg cell.

Pupils will then delve deeper into the topic of genetics to describe how features and genetic diseases are inherited by using genetic crosses. They will then learn about cloning and selective breeding.

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:

- Myself
- Food and Drink
- Advertising

Art Monks Walk School

Pupils will be exploring conceptual and abstract work by the contemporary artists, Mark Bradford and Sue Beyer. Pupils will work through the process of observational drawing to a more abstract piece influenced by their exploration and analysis of these artists. Pupils will explore the use of a range of materials and processes in producing this abstract piece of work.

Design Technology

Pupils will work on further units from the Entry Level course in design and technology. This will include a textiles unit and a food unit. Pupils will have to provide ingredients for practical food lessons and may need to provide some materials for textiles projects. These materials can be recycled from unwanted textiles at home.

Drama Monks Walk School

Pupils will be looking at scripted work, specifically, "Blood Brothers". They will be exploring ways into devising, by looking at the numerous ways you can create work from scratch, using a variety of stimuli.

Geography

Plate Tectonics - pupils will be studying the plate activity of the Earth, and looking at the effects that earthquakes and volcanoes have on people and where they live. They will find out where and how these phenomena happen, what triggers earthquakes and volcanoes and how scientists are trying to predict when they will happen. Pupils will also ask the question "Why do people live in earthquake and volcanic zones?" and "can buildings be made safer?" Pupils will use ICT, text, maps, diagrams and videos to obtain information.

German

Travel and the Wider World

In these topics pupils are going to describe holidays. This will include revision of countries, places in town, free time activities, transport and directions, as well as learning about basic environmental issues in Germany.

History

Twentieth Century World History - Pupils will begin by looking at the key events and people of the Twentieth Century. Pupils will then examine the role of the suffragette movement in gaining the votes for women. Pupils will also investigate the causes and effects of the First World War (including trench warfare, poetry, and propaganda).

Information Communication Technology

Storytelling with a comic strip:

This project will count towards pupils' qualification for their OCR Creative iMedia GCSE award. Pupils will create a multipage comic strip. Firstly, they will learn about the history and the origin of comics and look at the designs, audience and purpose. Pupils will be given a brief and will work towards this project to create a comic strip using Comic Life. Finally pupils will check and evaluate check their comics.

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 be exploring minor scales. They will perform tunes using the minor scale and create melodies with accompaniment. Listening tasks will focus on discriminating between the major and minor scales. Next half-term the topic will continue and pupils will move on to perform on pitched percussion.

Personal Social and Health Education

Pupils will cover the following topics:

Strengths and achievements - Pupils will recognise their worth by identifying positive things about themselves and their achievements.

Goals and action plans - Pupils will face new challenges positively by collecting information, looking for help and taking action.

Dealing with stress - Pupils will discuss what can be stress factors for them and the best way to deal with stress.

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 trampolining then netball. The boys' group will start with football, followed by rugby, fitness training and swimming.

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 Islam.

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 Islam? How and where did Islam begin? What is a Mosque? What is the Qur'an? What are the Muslim holy days and why are they important? What are the rites of passage?