

**Your child will be studying the following topics:**

## **English**

### **First half term.**

Pupils are working towards Theatre Week.

Devising and writing for a live audience. Pupils are using the theme of 'dream and night time' to devise their own performance and scripts.

We are using surrealist stimulus and The Odyssey to explore different realms and worlds.

Whilst imagination is the main focus over all, sentence structure is the main grammatical focus.

I ask that all pupils read aloud to a family member twice a week (at least) to improve their English levels generally.

### **Second half term.**

Students are focusing on factual writing.

Recognising the different forms and grammatical styles that each form require.

They will each produce a magazine that they will pitch towards a 'Dragons Den' style assessment.

Students are encouraged to read magazines and newspapers, blogs and tweets to analyse how the modern use of factual writing and form is constantly evolving

## **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 depend 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.

As this is a comparatively short term, only three topics will be covered this term:

Geometry: properties of shapes and angles

Geometry: using position and directions

Statistics: graphs and charts

## **Science**

This term, pupils will complete their studies on forces and motion by learning how to calculate speed and manipulate the speed formula to find distance, speed and time.

Pupils will learn about photosynthesis and then explore chemical reactions such as combustion, oxidation and displacement reactions.

## **Art**

This term pupils will be starting a graphic communication project. The theme will be food and drink. Pupils will look at the work of artists and crafts people, select a target audience and design a large poster for production. This will be produced by hand. All materials will be provided but if pupils want to bring in additional resources then they may do so.

## **Art Monks Walk School**

The pupils will first complete their exploration of the work of Sue Beyer and Mark Bradford through drawing and abstraction. They will then move on to looking at natural forms through drawing.

## **Design Technology**

This term pupils will complete two projects these will include food storage and adding colour to textile products.

Pupils will be expected to bring in some ingredients as well as a suitable container to take food home in. Aprons are provided by the school.

Pupils may be asked to supply some materials for textiles work but these could be recycled or reclaimed from unwanted fabrics at home.

## **Drama Monks Walk School**

Pupils will further explore physical theatre by working on a play based on the story "Alice in Wonderland".

## **Geography**

Global Climatic and Environmental Issues - Pupils will study the main climatic zones of the world and investigate links and patterns between locations and climatic and environmental issues. Pupils will be encouraged to gain a wide understanding of world affairs by this data collection.

## **German**

### **Education and Work**

This is the final Entry Level topic. Pupils will learn how to describe their school in German and their journey to get there. They will talk about the timetable and say how much homework they get, as well as learn how to express their opinion on different school subjects.

Pupils will also talk about part-time jobs, hours, pay and their plans for the future.

## **History**

Pupils will be continuing their study of the Twentieth Century by evaluating the impact of the end of the Second World War, the creation of the Welfare State, Indian independence and end of Empire. They will also investigate the social, cultural and technological change in post-war British society and Britain's place in the world since 1945.

## **Information Communication Technology**

### **Storytelling with a comic strip:**

This project will count towards pupil's qualification for their OCR Creative iMedia GCSE course.

Pupils will create a multipage comic strip.

This term pupils will prepare their comic book by planning and designing what they are going to do.

They will create a work plan in order to organise their time, draw storyboards, write a script and draw any characters that they will use. They will also collect any pictures they may use for their comic book, however bearing in mind that copyright laws exists.

## **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 spring term:

Sensory and physical needs lessons, issues with - Environmental listening

Emotional and mental health lessons - Art therapy.

Cognition and learning lessons - Reasoning - Living graphs / audience and purpose.

Communication and interaction lessons - Lego therapy and auditory memory.

## **Music**

This half term, students in Year 9 will take part in a composition project alongside Year 7 and 8. They are creating music which will accompany a short film: 'Metropolis'. The sounds Year 9 create will form part of the musical accompaniment to the film and this work, which involves three year groups is an excellent way to develop collaboration as a collective. Year 9 are also developing understanding of legato and staccato sounds in music through composition with graphic scores and performing on instruments/with their voices. This will enhance the work done for the film composition project. After half term, we will focus on Samba music, through exploration of the history and culture surrounding this kind of music as well as inventions of patterns that could be part of a composition for Samba musicians. My favourite part of Samba music is the connection to the show Stomp. The class can show off their design and art skills by making a start to designing and building musical instruments

## **Personal Social and Health Education**

Pupils will develop their listening and observational skills and oral and written communication skills, through units of work which are related to relevant areas of personal and social activity.

Pupils will further develop these skills within the PSHCE (Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship and Education) framework, where students will be encouraged to become independent enquirers, creative thinkers, reflective learners, team workers and self-managers.

The topic will be about the media world. Pupils will develop awareness of how the media can manipulate information and image and how it can affect or ones belief.

## **Physical Education Monks Walk School**

In the autumn term the girls will start with five weeks of football before moving onto a six week block of hockey (or rugby). The boys' group will start with trampolining (or table tennis), followed by basketball (or netball).

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

## **Religious Education**

Questions of Meaning and Purpose - this unit of work poses the questions, "Where did the Universe come from?" and "Is there a conflict between religion and science?" There are opportunities for pupils to respond to questions about the purpose of human existence and to reflect upon the uniqueness of human life. Creation stories of the main religions of Britain are also examined and compared. Ethical questions are also considered.