

These are the exciting things I will be studying this half term...

English

This half term we will be looking at writing accurately at sentence level. Teaching of writing skills will follow the principles set out in 'The Writing Revolution' (2017) by Hochman and Wexler, building on the skills learnt in Autumn 1. These skills should be revised every lesson through 'retrieval' exercises, including explicit vocabulary teaching. Students will study transactional writing to prepare them Paper 2 of their GCSE qualifications by writing a speech on an interest of their choice. This can then be delivered as part of the non-exam, speaking, and listening assessment.

Options 1

ICT:
Creative iMedia: Students studying the Creative iMedia course will sit a Mock Exam in January which will assess their knowledge and understanding of the Media Industry. Students have started preparing for their second Controlled Assessment: R095 'Characters & Comics'. This is the final assignment students will complete as part of the iMedia course.

WJEC Pathways: Students are continuing to work through their modules as their coursework is being prepared for submission to the exam board. All modules need to be completed by February half term so the work can be marked and moderated.

Art GCSE 1: Students who have completed their sustained project will choose from one of 7 themes set by the exam board, they will then begin a 12 week project based around that theme. Students who are working on their sustained project will use artist research and different materials to explore their current theme.

History: This half term we will be finishing our topic on Medicine through time and starting our new topic of Elizabeth I.

Geography: This half term we will be finishing off our Geographical Applications topic with a fieldwork visit. We will then be looking at the Challenge of Natural Hazards.

Maths

Pupils working towards an Entry Level qualification in maths will be following component 4; Money. Pupils will be encouraged to appreciate the purchasing power of amounts of money and exchange notes for an equivalent value in coins. Decimal notation will be used and how to interpret calculator displays will be taught. The pupils will have the opportunity to solve real life money problems and to carry out investigations involving money. Adding amounts of money and giving change will be a focus. On completion of the money component we will be looking at component 5; The calendar and time. Pupils will be taught to understand and use 12 hour and 24 hour clock. Pupils will convert between hours, minutes and seconds.

Options 2

Duke of Edinburgh: This term in Duke of Edinburgh we will be focusing on Travel Training. Learning how to plan and make journeys on foot, bus, train and tram. This is to support the Expedition which will be an Urban Expedition.

Food Technology: Pupils will continue to develop home cooking skills; selecting and preparing ingredients, following a recipe and shopping for ingredients. Recipes will be based around stir fry and quick cook meats. Pupils will be encouraged to think about presentation skills and evaluating their own cooking. Food safety and hygiene will be promoted throughout. Pupils will learn about nutrition and the importance of a balanced diet. We will also be looking at the relationship between diet and various health issues. Pupils will learn how to cook economically.

Science

Pupils following the Entry Level Pathway will be covering Component 5 Physics where they will be learning about energy transfers and energy resources. This will include a range of practical activities linked to energy. Pupils studying GCSE biology will be learning about Bioenergetics and Ecology. Pupils studying GCSE Physics will be learning about the particle model and atomic structure.

Options 3

Forest School: Pupils will continue to develop a relationship to the outdoors by taking part in activities developing skills and knowledge of the forest environment. They will continue to pursue their own interests through tool use, campfire cooking and exploration.

Employability: we will be working on Enterprise Skills such as marketing research, making a pitch, marketing and creating quality goods for sale

Music: Pupils will continue to build their portfolio of work, working towards completion of the bronze level Arts Award. Each pupil will be working at a different stage and section of the award; some may be researching an artist who inspires them whilst others may be working on reviewing an area of the arts or developing their chosen skill.