



Parents Curriculum Information

Year 8

Half Term 2 2021-22






Art

Still- Life


This term our Y8 students will build on their considerable progress since September and now be challenged to draw glass and metal objects. They will expand their repertoire of materials and techniques to use for observational work and learn about the principles of composition through the work of artist Michael Craig Martin and experiment with scale and collage.

They will have the opportunity to design their own composition which will be produced in assessment lessons in the final 2 weeks of this term.



Citizenship

In this unit students will study the public dangers that exist in the wider world. Looking at crime rates in the UK and other criminal offences. Students will also look at how the legal system works in the UK, including looking at the court and appeal systems. This unit meets the statutory requirements of Personal development focusing on the British Value of the Rule of Law.





Computing

This half term students are coding BBC Micro:bits. They are coding with blocks in 'makecode' and are producing a wide range of retro style games including a magic 8 ball, coin toss, hot potato and many more.

In this project they will further develop their data representation knowledge, problem solving and logical thinking skills.



Dance

This half term students will be studying the Stimulus of Ancient Egypt with a focused study on the professional music video choreography for "Remember the Time" by Michael Jackson. Students will analyse the stylistic features of the music video and will discuss how the choreography, set and costumes were developed from the stimulus of Ancient Egypt. Students a range of Stimuli based on Ancient Egypt to create performance work of their own in the style of the music video in response to a real life vocational scenario or "brief". Students will be set an assignment on teams that they will complete on a weekly basis and this will form part of their ongoing assessment for the appreciation strand.

Students will also be graded on their choreography and their performance in their Summative Assessment w/c 22nd November.





Design & Technology

This half term, students will complete their current projects in a particular Design & Technology specialist subject. They will then move on in the carousel to either be working in Engineering, Textiles, Graphics or Cooking & Nutrition.

- Engineering – Students will be learning about materials and tools & equipment we use in Engineering and making a mobile phone holder. They will also learn a range of presentation techniques in order to produce an Engineering drawing.
- Textiles – Student will be learning about the materials, techniques and equipment we use in Textiles and using this knowledge to design & make a cushion inspired by the work of Holly Levell.
- Graphics – Students will be learning about the theory of graphic design in order to design and make a Paper Dude desk character. They will also learn the basics of soldering in order to add a night light to their character.
- Cooking & Nutrition – Students will be learning the theory of cooking and nutrition. This will involve looking closely at the macro and micronutrients and associated recipes. Students will go on to design their own healthy main meal.



Drama

This half term our Drama students are studying the play Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare. Whilst exploring this piece they will be involved in the following tasks:

- Watching extracts from the Baz Luhrmann film version and using the PIE technique writing framework to analyse their response to it.
- Learning about the complexities of using the Shakespearean language and how director Baz Luhrmann has applied his own unique style to the piece.
- Reading, and rehearsing script extracts from the play, using skills in team work.
- Learning how to apply techniques in vocal and physical acting skills.
- Performing scenes from the play for assessment, demonstrating acting skills.
- Using a range of dramatic conventions to improvise and devise their own scenes.
- Evaluating performance work by themselves and their peers and setting targets for improvement.



English

This half term, students will first complete their study of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*, reading and analysing the novel by Mark Haddon, analysing the themes of honesty, trust and social interaction.

Once they have completed this scheme, students will look at Media and Layout, and whilst looking at text structure and conventions within this area, students will explore and apply a range of linguistic techniques for a specific audience and purpose.

Students will complete a Summative Assessment of both the textual analysis and communication skills they have developed during the Curious Incident scheme, answering a combination of short and longer response questions in the w/c 29th November.



French

Students continue the topic of 'Home' and what they like to do there. Students are also introduced to describing their TV and film preferences. This topic will be revisited to support retrieval at the end of Year 8 when the conditional tense is introduced enabling students to build upon this half term to describe their dream home.

To support retrieval, Year 8 will then return to the vocabulary from the first half term of town, but now using the grammar they have learnt through the topic of 'Home', they are able to explain what you can do in the town. Weather will be revised to add greater depth to explanations and students will get the opportunity to learn about the traditions of a French high-street, for example, learning about the patisseries, boulangeries and épiceries.

Students will sit their Summative Assessment covering the topics of, Home & Town, School, Self & Family. This will encompass the same skills as their first Progress Check; photocard, listening, reading, writing and translation. (w/c 13th December).





Geography

This half term Year 8 students will develop their understanding of natural hazards. This will include the formation and comparison of volcanoes, a range of extreme weather events including tropical storms and the distribution and cause of wildfires. Towards the end of this half term, they will start a new topic on population. Here, they will explore population growth and population pyramids.

Students will complete a Summative Assessment in the w/c 15th November.



History

This half term, Year 8 History students will be continuing with their work on the British Empire.

Students will study a timeline of the Empire, and learn how the British interacted with and then began to control different parts of the world. Students will see themes that repeat in various different locations, such as the British beginning as a trading nation before moving to conquest and control.

We will continue to develop students' expertise in constructing a historical narrative that explains the idea of significance, and understands the long term implications of imperialism.

- Ireland
- India and the Raj
- Slavery
- Africa
- Hong Kong and the Opium Wars





Maths

The students will be taught two further topics this half term. Before Christmas the students will have their first summative assessment. This will be in the form of two papers assessing the learning they have done so far in y8. This will be an opportunity for students to move sets based on their performance and attainment up until this point.

The two topics the students will cover prior to this assessment are:

Angles, Polygons and Parallel lines – students will build on their prior learning on finding missing angles in triangles and quadrilateral and learn how to calculate interior and exterior angle of any polygon. Tier 1 students will also be taught how to calculate angles between parallel lines.

Equations – for some students this will be their first experience of solving equations. They will all be taught how to solve linear equations and set up and solve their own equations from a written context.



Music

Students currently attending music as part of their performing arts rotation are learning to sing, play the keyboard and compose their own piece.

Students will start by learning how to read treble clef notation and apply this knowledge to learn to play Ode to Joy on the keyboard. They will then develop a variety of composition skills in GarageBand, creating a portfolio of short composition tasks to demonstrate their understanding. They will also sing as a class throughout this topic, which will be done alongside listening activities to help develop their understanding of key concepts.





Physical Education

This half term students will undertake a wide variety of activities on a rotation. The following activities that PE will be offering this half term include, Football, Netball, Rugby, Gymnastics, Vaulting, Basketball, Hockey, Trampolining and Fitness. The time spent on the wide variety of activities will allow students to gain a secure understanding and knowledge of skills and tactics. Taking part in each activity will also allow students to practice and perfect their skills to further underpin their performance. At the end of each rotation students will be assessed practically on the current activity they have undertaken. They will also be expected to complete a 10-question quiz allowing the students to demonstrate what they have learnt in terms of the knowledge of skills and tactics for the activity they have completed.



Religious Education

This half term students will study the topic of evil and suffering focusing on Christian, Hindu and atheist views. This will continue to strengthen their knowledge of Hinduism which they focused on in half term one. Students will use their knowledge to tackle big questions such as: The problem of evil, why do we suffer and the inconsistent triad.





Science

All students will be starting the half term with their first assessment in Science. This will take place in the WC 08/11/21. Students have been provided with checklists which they can be using a help them prepare for this assessment.

Sets 1-4

Students will then go on to look at photosynthesis in plants. Students will be able to test to see if plants have done the process of photosynthesis & use their findings to make a conclusion. Students will then go on to look at the process of respiration & the importance of it in the human body. They will also learn about how respiration is linked to exercise.

Sets 5-8

Students are going to start studying their first physics topic, electricity. Students will be able to identify the components of circuits in series & parallel circuits using their knowledge & understanding to build working circuits. Students will go on to look at how the resistance in a circuit can be changed. Students will then go on to look at magnetism & electromagnets. They will learn about some everyday examples including the earth.



Spanish

Students continue the topic of 'Home' and what they like to do there. Students are also introduced to describing their TV and film preferences. This topic will be revisited to support retrieval at the end of Year 8 when the conditional tense is introduced enabling students to build upon this half term to describe their dream home.

To support retrieval, Year 8 will then return to the vocabulary from the first half term of town, but now using the grammar they have learnt through the topic of 'Home', they are able to explain what you can do in the town. Weather will be revised to add greater depth to explanations and students will get the opportunity to learn about the traditions of a Spanish high-street, for example, learning about the tapas bars and markets with local delicacies and street performers in Barcelona.

Students will sit their Summative Assessment covering the topics of, Home & Town, School, Self & Family. This will encompass the same skills as their first Progress Check; photocard, listening, reading, writing and translation. (w/c 13th December).

If you have any further
queries please
get in touch with
Mr. T. Knowles,
Leader of QoE for
Curriculum.
tknowles2@horizoncc.co.uk

