

MTP Curriculum Notes

Year 8 - Summer 2016

English:

The term will begin with the continuation of the work on Shakespeare, focusing on Macbeth. Year 8 will re-construct animated dramatic scenes using Kar2ouche software. The boys will practise the skills required to complete the Common Entrance Examination. Poetry analysis will be revised for the final examination, as well as prose comprehension and composition. Research for the Author Matrix and contributions to the I-Saurus vocabulary project will also continue. The boys will compile visual presentations of an autobiographical retrospective combining words, images and sound through PowerPoint. They will also take part in extensive preparations for the production of the school play. Progress in the Accelerated Reader programme will also be expected.

Mathematics:

This term we will continue to prepare for the upcoming UKMT Mathematics Junior Challenge (JMC) competition. After this, the focus will be on developing problem solving skills and mathematical reasoning. The emphasis will be on applying problem solving strategies, with minimal new content covered. This will help prepare the boys for Year 9 Maths and provide them with solid foundations on which to build the skills required for the new Maths IGCSE examinations.

Science:

The boys will continue with some preliminary GCSE work in preparation for Year 9. They will complete their work on forces and motion in Physics, The Periodic Table and the atom in Chemistry and will look at Homeostasis in Biology. A revision programme for the summer C.E. exam this term will also be followed, focusing on all topics.

French:

Students will carry on with their foundation course in German and Spanish in order to help them with language options at their next school. They will be preparing for the summer exam i.e. a CE paper and a German test just before half-term, they will then tackle further preliminary GCSE language work by writing/singing songs in French in order to extend their knowledge of the general topics.

Geography:

This term the boys will be preparing for their final exam and looking at a range of smaller topics such as tourism.

History:

This term the boys will be learning about how World War One exists in British historical consciousness, participating in the School's EU referendum and looking at selected aspects of American history and culture. They will also be preparing for their final CE-style examination.

Classics:

In Classics, the entrance students will be finishing their course, *Alexia*. Greek 13+ examinees will complete their CEE 2 Greek in *Noe* and will then revise the Latin CAS constructions. All the boys will prepare for the summer CE examinations using past papers. After the examinations, the boys will study Roman history.

RS:

This term, the boys will revive their interpretation and evaluation skills in preparation for the end of term examination; they will research the key beliefs and practices of other religions. In anticipation of the Philosophy part of their future Religious Studies courses, they should develop their own opinions on moral issues, and challenge themselves to analyse the religious aspects of current affairs.

DT:

As part of an animation project with ICT, the boys will be constructing sets and characters and using photography to create a short Stop-Frame Animation.

IT:

We will work alongside the Art/DT department; this term, with the boys being introduced to the topic of Stop-Frame Animation. They will have the opportunity to work in small groups using the software 'I Can Animate' or Serif DrawPlus.

Music:

As well as working on any musical aspects of the Year 8 production, boys will also be further developing their composition knowledge.

Drama:

This term rehearsals will continue for the farewell production of 'Twelfth Night' by William Shakespeare which will be performed in The New Barn Theatre at the end of June.

PE:

In Physical Education, the boys will be given the opportunity to improve on the skills which they learnt in Year 7. We will be basing our athletics programme on a combination of the English Schools Athletics Award and the National PE and School Sport Programme (TOPS). Students will build on techniques previously introduced in both Track and Field events. After Sports Day this year the boys will be given a "Leavers' Choice" of P.E. activities.

Games:

The boys will be given the opportunity to improve their skills and tactical understanding of cricket by participating in a variety of games-based skills practices and small-sided games. Emphasis will be placed on recognising the strengths and limitations in the performance of others in the team with a view to boys using this information supportively in team play.