

What will my Year 9 child learn this term?



A summary of learning for the Spring Term 2024

Art

Last terms pupils worked on developing their visual language of line, shape, form, colour by using a range of materials. The pupils explored the magical world of birds. The drawing skills and use of materials will now be applied to a new theme of 'Surrealism.' This requires the pupils to research the surrealist art movement to create their own personal response in the form of a painting.

Computing

In the previous half term, our students engaged in introductory units for BTEC IT and Creative iMedia. These taster sessions were designed to give pupils a comprehensive preview of the subjects, aiding them in making informed choices for their option selections. This term, we are introducing Computer Science and GCSE Business taster lessons. The Computer Science sessions will provide insights into the world of programming, problem-solving, and digital technology, while the GCSE Business lessons will introduce the basics of business studies, covering fundamental concepts and practical business scenarios. These taster lessons are aimed at broadening students' understanding of these fields, helping them to discover their interests and potential career paths in both technology and business domains.

Design & Technology

In Year 9 Design & Technology our pupils rotate through a range of topic areas, allowing them to experience a variety of hands-on learning to support their developing theory knowledge. Throughout the year pupils will cover: Food, Textiles, Smart and Modern Materials, Paper and Board, and Iterative Design and Manufacturing.

Drama

Last term year 9 developed their understanding of the script and naturalism when reading and exploring the play DNA. This term they will apply and expand that knowledge through developing their devising skills to create an original piece of Drama. They will explore the topic of the 2011 riots to develop captivating pieces of Drama.

English

This term pupils will be interleaving their reading and writing skills through exploring creative use of structure in their writing and using moving images as a stimulus. Pupils will also be covering a War Poetry unit to enhance their knowledge and understanding of poetic forms and consider the significance of a writer's intentions when analysing a variety of poems.

Geography

As pupils progress through the Geography curriculum, they will explore a range of topics which are connected through our core themes of interdependence, physical and human processes, environmental impact, sustainable development, cultural awareness and diversity. During the Spring Term, pupils will complete their Human Geography unit investigating global population and health challenges. Pupils will then build on the key KS3 Physical Geography theme of understanding the challenges of different ecosystems, comparing hot deserts to the tropical rainforests.

History

Throughout KS3, we focus on the unfolding narrative of History through the key themes of power and control; lives of ordinary people; the significance of Hull through time and Britain's place in the wider world. Our Y9 curriculum throughout the Spring Term allows pupils to build on their understanding of the collapse of democracy in Germany by 1934, and the context in which the Nazi Party were able to carry out the atrocities of the Holocaust. In collaboration with University College London, as part of Malet Lambert's Holocaust Beacon School status, pupils will have access to excellent resources which will enable them to explore the significant changes to the lives of millions of German Jews under Nazi rule between 1933-39. Pupils will also consider the impact of the Second World War on the escalation of Nazi's anti-Jewish policy across occupied European countries, and will examine the responses to the Holocaust by the international community, and the legacy of the Holocaust in the present day.

Maths

Pupils will continue with the next two units of their GCSE course this term. They will be expanding their skills and understanding in Maths, continuing with unit 3 on Geometry Triangles, which looks into the world of Pythagoras' Theorem and Trigonometry and the varying ways in which you will use them. Following on will be Unit 2 relating to Fractions, Decimals and Percentages and expanding further on their prior knowledge on the topic.

MFL

French: Pupils in Year 9 are currently studying the unit of jobs and the world of work. Pupils will learn how to describe what their family members do for work and give their opinions on different types of jobs. Pupils will develop more complex sentence structures and will do so in three tenses, the past, present and future. They will describe what job they would like to do in the future as well as their dream job. Pupils will develop all 4 skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing whilst covering this unit of work.

Spanish: Pupils in Year 9 are currently studying the topic of local area and town. Pupils will be able to describe their local area and give a description of their town. Pupils will develop how to give their opinion about where they live and justify this with a range of adjectives. Pupils will learn how to develop more complex sentence structures and will do so in three tenses, the past, present and future. Pupils will broaden their range of vocabulary as they learn how to compare rural and urban locations. Pupils will also use the immediate future to discuss upcoming plans in their local area. Pupils will develop all 4 skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing whilst covering this unit of work.

Music

Pupils are learning about Minimalism this term. They will find out what prompted the development of this musical genre, and the key musical characteristics that underpin it. Pupils will learn about and then apply a range of minimalist composition techniques, including layering, addition and subtraction, phase shifting, inversion and retrograde, and use of static harmony such as pedal notes. Pupils will explore the music of Steve Reich, Terry Riley, and Phillip Glass, as these composers were particularly influential in the development of the Minimalist genre.

PE

In Year 9 pupils complete 4 week units of work in a wide range of sporting activities. Pupils learn advanced skills and techniques to improve their performance in competitive matches. Pupils develop an advanced knowledge of the key rules and tactics needed in each sporting activity and use their knowledge of the rules / tactics to improve their performances.

PSHE

This half term, students will study a unit on Relationships and Sex Education. This includes discussions around consent, safety and contraceptives in sexual relationships. Students will also study sexual harm and harassment and engage in national debates surrounding a number of high profile cases. Students will also evaluate the most appropriate language to use concerning emotional and sexual relationships, and why some language may be considered inappropriate.

Religious Studies

In Year 9, pupils will be focusing on the philosophy lens of the course. They will explore morality and the different situations in which ethical decisions can become complex. They will look at a range of scenarios showing how it can be difficult to make moral decisions. They will also look at the philosopher Kant and his theories around philosophy.

Science

In biology the pupils will be moving on to study the topic of Organisation, which includes blood and blood vessels, the heart and the cardiac cycle. In chemistry the pupils will be moving on to atomic structure and the modern periodic table. In physics students will learn about forces and motion, including how to calculate acceleration.