

What is my child learning and how can I support them?  
Year 8 Summer Term

BOA Digital Technologies Termly Curriculum Map – Parents and children

Subject	What we learn	Outside the curriculum
English	<p>After Easter, Students will be studying <i>Lord of the Flies</i> by William Golding. This will round off their studies on society and war, by exploring a world of civilisation and immorality. They will develop several key skills, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Novel conventions</li> <li>•Character analysis</li> <li>•Creative writing opportunities</li> <li>•Intonation</li> <li>•Authorial intent</li> <li>•Contextual importance</li> <li>•Spelling, punctuation, and grammar</li> <li>•Non-fiction extracts</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Seneca</u></b> students can use this online platform to complete modules relating to their learning.</p> <p><b><u>Revision guides</u></b> We like to challenge our students to strive to be high achievers, as such both <i>Blood Brothers</i> and <i>Lord of the Flies</i> are GCSE texts. This means there are a plethora of revision guides available, should you wish to provide any additional support for students at home.</p> <p><b><u>Writing competitions</u></b> Enter this creative writing competition! It is targeted at 11–18-year-olds and the deadline is 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024, so students have the rest of the year to get their writing hats on.</p> <p>We believe this initiative will not only foster a love for literature but also provide a splendid opportunity for some of our budding authors to see their work in print. With every stroke of their pens and every whirl of their imaginations, our students are bound to create literary wonders that will leave us all in awe. And who knows? With a sprinkle of luck and a dash of talent, they might even clinch some awards along the way! <a href="https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/competitions/secondary-11-18/ghost-stories-12plus">https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/competitions/secondary-11-18/ghost-stories-12plus</a></p>
Humanities	<p>Pupils will begin the term by looking at the history of Ireland and the Home Rule Movement. They will study how the movement campaigned for self-government (or "home rule") for Ireland within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. They will look at case studies of the Potato Famine and how Irish families were treated in England.</p> <p>They will then move on to Religious Studies, looking at the different denominations of Christianity. Specifically, the different beliefs between Catholicism and Protestantism linking back to the history of Ireland.</p> <p>In Geography, students will extend their locational knowledge and deepen their spatial awareness of the world's countries using maps of the world to focus on Asia (including China and India). They will understand geographical similarities, differences, and links between places through the study of human and physical geography of a region.</p>	<p><b><u>Religious Studies</u></b> Students could visit their local church to learn more about the Christian faith and how protestants or Catholics worship. They could also visit BBC bitesize to read about the different denominations in with Christianity and how they were formed. <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zbj48mn/revision/8">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zbj48mn/revision/8</a></p> <p><b><u>Geography</u></b> Students could use sites such as GeoGuessr to practice their place and location knowledge. <a href="https://www.geoguessr.com/vgp/3069">https://www.geoguessr.com/vgp/3069</a></p>

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Art	<p>Pupils will continue to develop their skills in drawing and painting through the theme of portraiture. We will explore how to communicate ideas through images and also discuss what constitutes a portrait. Pupils will work to create their own portraits of someone of importance to them or themselves. Pupils will continue to develop their knowledge and application of the visual elements: line, colour, value, pattern, texture and form.</p>	<p>Research and explore the work of different portrait artists such as Kehinde Wiley and Barbara Walker and photographer Maryam Wahid.</p> <p>Visit or explore online, local galleries and exhibitions such as:  <a href="https://www.ikon-gallery.org/">https://www.ikon-gallery.org/</a>  <a href="https://eastsideprojects.org/">https://eastsideprojects.org/</a>  <a href="https://www.birminghammuseums.org.uk/birmingham-museum-and-art-gallery">https://www.birminghammuseums.org.uk/birmingham-museum-and-art-gallery</a>  <a href="#">The New Art Gallery Walsall</a></p>
Maths	<p><b>Angles in parallel lines and polygons:</b> reviewing angle facts and how to calculate and identify different angles in a range of questions, as well as some construction skills in drawing angles, triangles and some polygons.</p> <p><b>Area of trapezia and Circles:</b> students will learn and apply the formula for calculating the area of trapezia and circles.</p> <p><b>Line Symmetry and Reflection:</b> students will explore line symmetry for 2D shapes and apply skills in reflecting shapes in Cartesian Planes.</p> <p><b>The Data Handling cycle &amp; Measures of Location:</b> students will describe, interpret and compare data in a range of charts, look at key properties of graphs and charts, and form conclusions and comparisons using averages to make statements.</p>	<p>Pupils have a Desmos account with their school e-mail, with a range of tasks that accompany lessons. Students will often be directed to this to complete tasks as homework, and there are links within this to Transum – a great Mathematics tool that has a huge range of topics and students can get instant feedback and look at examples to help them practice skills. They do not need a log in for Transum.</p> <p>Year 8 students have access to EEDI – a free resource where they can have support in overcoming misconceptions and there is a function where students can get help from a tutor on specific topics. Work is set in line with the lessons, but they can also search for specific areas to practice skills further.</p>
Science	<p><b>Metals and acids:</b> Students learn about the reactions of metals with acids, with oxygen, and with water, and write word equations of these reactions. They describe the reactivity series and use this to predict the reactivity of metals with acids, oxygen and with water. Displacement reactions are explored, including the displacement reaction between a metal compound and carbon as a method for extracting the metal from its ore. Students look at the properties of ceramics, some polymers, and some composites, and explain how the properties of these materials can make them suitable for their uses.</p> <p><b>Motion and pressure:</b> Students are introduced to speed, pressure and turning forces. Students will at how motion can be described using distance-time graphs. They will be introduced to pressure in gases. In liquids and on solids. Students will also look at the turning effect of forces.</p> <p><b>Inheritance:</b> Students will look at the variation in characteristics in organisms within a species and determine whether these are a result of inherited, environmental variation or both. They will categorise characteristics as showing discontinuous or continuous variation. Students will then study how characteristics are inherited. Finally, students look at evolution through the process of natural selection, why some organisms become extinct and the role of gene banks.</p>	<p>Students have access to the Activate digital text book. All students have been given their log in. If your child does not know their log in, please contact their science teacher.</p> <p>All students have used Seneca in lessons, a digital learning platform. All students have accessed Seneca in lessons. Students can work through units related to their science lesson.</p> <p>On 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> June, year 8 students will be attending ‘The Big Bang’ fair at the NEC.</p>

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Spanish	<p>I term 1 the topic is called "Let's eat". They will learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What do you like to eat?</li><li>• Breakfast in UK, Spain and Mexico</li><li>• In the restaurant</li><li>• What will you buy?</li><li>• Spanish festivals</li></ul> <p>We will have a project about Spanish food including cooking, bringing or sharing food considering food allergies.</p> <p>In term 2 the goal is to enable them to speak more in detail about free time activities. The topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The conditional form of verbs</li><li>• Going out</li><li>• Clothes</li><li>• Football teams of the Spanish speaking world</li></ul> <p>There will be a special focus on writing in this half term.</p>	<p>With the Viva books on Pearson Active learn students can access the vocab pages which are in the end of every book chapter and to learn the vocab for tests. Every half term has an End-Of-Topic-Assessment which contains all the vocab learned in the term (one double page).</p> <p>Apart from accessing the vocab online students are free to take their books home and use it to learn the vocabulary.</p> <p>Students are advised to learn vocab regularly and systematically e.g. by writing them on A-8-cards and using a vocab box or by writing the vocab into Quizlet <a href="https://quizlet.com/">https://quizlet.com/</a> to practise.</p>
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