

Autumn Term Overview

Tutor Group: 8T

Subject and Teacher	Subject Overview	How you can help at home	Subject specific key words to practise with your child
English Mrs Fisher	This term, Mrs Fisher's class will be studying 'Talking to Alaska' by Anna Woltz. We will be exploring relationships and the challenges linked to overcoming adversity. Pupils will be using their retrieval and inference skills to find key information from the text. We will also be exploring poetry and examining the language, images and techniques used within them. Pupils will be using their writing skills to produce their own poems and creative writing based on the texts and ideas we are studying.	Regularly reading a variety of texts with your child, including both fiction and non-fiction, will help them to develop their vocabulary and understanding, as well as provide them with ideas to use in their own writing.	Disability Epilepsy Dual narrative Themes Metaphor Identity
English Miss Barrow	This term Miss Barrow's class will be studying 'Private Peaceful' by Michael Morpurgo. We will be learning about World War One and what was happening at the time the book was set using a variety of sources. We will be researching what happened during the war and what conditions were like for the soldiers involved. Pupils will be using their retrieval and inference skills to find key information from the text. We will be exploring war poetry and examining the language, images and techniques used within them. Pupils will also be using their writing skills to produce their own poems and creative writing based on the texts and ideas we are studying.	Please help the pupils to learn more about the context of their learning by watching relevant 'Horrible Histories' episodes through YouTube or BBC iPlayer. Further research on World War One can be explored using websites such as BBC Bitesize to find out about the causes of WW1: Causes of World War One - World War One - KS3 History - homework help for year 7, 8 and 9. - BBC Bitesize and what life was like on the front line for soldiers What was life like on the front line in World War One? - World War One - KS3 History - homework help for year 7, 8 and 9. - BBC Bitesize Regularly reading a variety of texts, including both fiction and non-fiction, with your child will help them to develop their vocabulary and understanding as well as provide them with ideas to use in their own writing.	Sacrifice Cowardice Emotive language Themes Metaphor Symbolism

Autumn Term Overview

Tutor Group: 8T

Subject and Teacher	Subject Overview	How you can help at home	Subject specific key words to practise with your child
Maths Mrs Sipek	Number Pupils will continue to develop their understanding of place value progressing up to millions as well as working back through zero with negative numbers. Within this they will practise comparing, ordering, rounding and estimating numbers. Higher ability levels will work with factors, multiples, prime numbers, squared and cubed notation. Both mental and written addition and subtraction skills will be practised with pupils also developing their problem-solving strategies. Geometry Pupils will work with both 2D and 3D shapes to recognise and describe properties confidently through drawing and construction. They will also learn about different types of lines and work with the concept of symmetry.	Please support pupils with their understanding of place value, looking at big numbers around them eg meter readings, car mileage, newspaper reports. Encourage regular practise of mental arithmetic skills including multiplication tables. Practise relating to topics can be done on Maths Pad using pupils school logins and pupils can do independent study using https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize Encourage and support weekly set homework.	Digit Estimate Positive Negative Factor Prime Squared Horizontal Vertical Parallel

Autumn Term Overview

Tutor Group: 8T

Subject and Teacher	Subject Overview	How you can help at home	Subject specific key words to practise with your child
Science Mr Bentley	This term our topic is Forces, Speed and Motion. Pupils are learning about contact and non-contact forces, including gravity, friction, and electrostatic forces. They are carrying out a range of experiments, such as measuring the breaking force of sweets in Newtons and using data loggers to record speed. Pupils will also be learning about the movement of the planets in the solar system, relative to the sun, and explain night and day. Pupils carry out practical experiments and learn about levers and pulleys and gears. Next term our topic will be acids, alkalis and rates of reaction. Pupils will learn about reversible and irreversible reactions, and physical and chemical changes. We will be learning how to write word equations for chemical reactions and describe what happens in exothermic and endothermic reactions. They will also learn how to measure the rate of reaction.	Term 1 - Use BBC Bitesize resources about Forces for the first half-term: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zs3896f#zb92qfr Term 2 - Please use these BBC Bitesize resources about Acids and Alkalis: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zn6hvcw	Contact force Non-contact force Friction Relative motion Speed Acid Alkali PH Neutralise Catalyst

Autumn Term Overview

Tutor Group: 8T

Subject and Teacher	Subject Overview	How you can help at home	Subject specific key words to practise with your child
PSD Ms Tyler	During the autumn term pupils will focus on learning how to make healthy lifestyle choices and begin to develop their understanding of citizenship and self-awareness. In Autumn 1, pupils will revisit the 5 Ways to Wellbeing in more detail, thinking about how to look after their physical and mental health through connecting with others, being active, noticing the world around them, learning new skills and giving to others. They will also learn about the influences on diet and exercise, how to maintain physical health, and the risks and consequences linked to drugs, alcohol and other substances. Pupils will consider the pressures that young people may face around these issues and practise strategies for making positive choices. In Autumn 2, we will revisit their learning about Parliament, adding more knowledge to last year. They will get the chance to debate and discuss issues that matter to them. Following this, lessons will focus on self-awareness, including building confidence, recognising personal strengths, managing emotions, and developing resilience. Throughout both terms, pupils will be encouraged to reflect on their own wellbeing, their role as responsible citizens, and the importance of making informed, positive choices for their futures.	You can help your child at home by talking to them about healthy lifestyle habits, encouraging open discussions about pressures they may face, and exploring current events together to build their awareness of democracy.	Wellbeing Resilience Influence Pressure Strategies healthy choices

Autumn Term Overview

Tutor Group: 8T

Subject and Teacher	Subject Overview	How you can help at home	Subject specific key words to practise with your child
R&W Miss Jackson	During the autumn term we will be introducing pupils to three Eastern religions: Buddhism, Hinduism and Sikhism. Pupils will begin by reflecting on the importance of learning about different beliefs and worldviews in an inclusive, respectful, and empathetic way. They will then explore the core stories, beliefs, practices, and festivals of each religion. Through Buddhism, pupils will learn about the life of the Buddha, the Four Noble Truths, and the practice of meditation. They will consider how festivals such as Wesak are celebrated. In Hinduism, pupils will explore ideas about Brahman, different deities, karma and reincarnation, before focusing on the festival of Diwali and its symbolism of light over darkness. Within Sikhism, pupils will learn about Guru Nanak and the Ten Gurus, Sikhism beliefs about equality and service, and the practices of langar and worship in the Gurdwara (the Sikhism place of worship). R&W lessons will always provide an opportunity to consider a range of religious and worldviews, and in this unit, pupils will also be supported to reflect on similarities and differences between these traditions, as well as their impact on British society today.	You can help your child at home by asking about the stories and beliefs they are learning about in class and by encouraging them to value the diversity of beliefs in our society. With your support, they will soon be able to name and explain some key worldviews and religions in the UK. BBC bitesize is a lovely resource for going into a little more depth at home and there are some age-appropriate videos on Buddhism, Hinduism and Sikhism which can help support their learning. Buddhism: Facts about Buddhism – KS3 Religious Studies – BBC Bitesize Hinduism: Facts about Hinduism – KS3 Religious Studies – BBC Bitesize Sikhism: Key facts about Sikhism – KS3 Religious Studies – BBC Bitesize	Words: Buddha Four Noble Truths Meditation Wesak Brahman Karma Reincarnation Diwali Guru Nanak Gurdwara Langar Khanda

Autumn Term Overview

Tutor Group: 8T

Subject and Teacher	Subject Overview	How you can help at home	Subject specific key words to practise with your child
PE Mr Altman & Mr Stinton	This term, we are focusing on health-related fitness and exploring different types of training. Our aim is to improve overall fitness through circuit training activities tailored to various training methods. Pupils will learn a wide range of exercises, including free-weight movements, bodyweight exercises, and cardio-based activities. In the first few lessons, we will conduct fitness tests to establish a baseline, allowing us to measure progress by the end of the term. Throughout the term, we will discuss key components of fitness—such as muscular strength and cardiovascular endurance—and identify exercises and circuits that target these areas effectively. We will also apply this knowledge to real-life sports scenarios, examining which components of fitness are most important for different types of athletes. The overarching goal is to develop pupils' understanding of how to lead a healthy, active lifestyle	To help your child you can: Complete research around the components of fitness. Watch YouTube Videos of athletes from across a variety of sports such as: • Football • Rugby • Tennis • Olympic Lifting • Rowing	Exercise Fitness Co-ordination Balance Movement Cardio Muscles Healthy Unhealthy

Autumn Term Overview

Tutor Group: 8T

Subject and Teacher	Subject Overview	How you can help at home	Subject specific key words to practise with your child
Food Studies Mrs Goss	This term, pupils will explore the bold and flavourful cuisine of Spain, learning how to safely handle meat, sauté vegetables, shape and seal pastries, and add sensible amounts of herbs and spices into their cooking for subtle flavour. Pupils will build confidence working with different types of rice and explore Spanish and Portuguese influences through dishes like empanadas, Spanish meatballs, and paella. In Autumn 2, pupils transition into Seasonal Christmas Baking. Pupils will explore shaping and portioning doughs, use festive spices and create quick no-bake treats for the family to share. Pupils become familiar again with the food room, embedding hygiene and safety rules as they cook throughout the term, supporting their futures and preparation for adulthood.	Talk through the recipe sheet which pupils bring home and discuss the steps which they have completed – ask pupils which steps in the recipe they enjoyed and which parts they found tricky. If there are any opportunities at home where you re-create dishes or baked goods, please send in photographic evidence via Weduc.	Baking Boiling Crimping Filling Flavour infusion Grating Grilling Layering Mixing
Computing Mr Naylor	This term we will be refreshing our presentation skills using Microsoft Power Point. Pupils will revisit internet safety skills and construct an online safety guide using Microsoft Publisher and learn more about computer hardware for input, output and storage. In term 2 the pupils will explore networks and how they work, create a range of functional programs using Microbits and learn how a spreadsheet can be used to track sales items in Microsoft Excel.	When using online devices, ask and discuss what the dangers might be with the site being used, ask how these dangers could be minimised, and who could help if there was an issue or problem?	Slide Animation Transition SMART Input device Output device Storage Program Spreadsheet Formula

Autumn Term Overview

Tutor Group: 8T

Subject and Teacher	Subject Overview	How you can help at home	Subject specific key words to practise with your child
Music Mrs Lea	In Music this term we will be recapping pupils understanding of the key elements of music with a particular focus on rhythm. Pupils will be learning about rhythm using a variety of drums, such as djembe's and bongos. We will be learning about different cultures and playing rhythmic patterns as a group and in pairs. Pupils will learn about call and response and how to create their own.	Please encourage your child to listen to a wide variety of music at home including music from different cultures and countries and discuss the differences to Western music.	Rhythm Call and Response Texture Culture Timbre
Drama Miss Price	In term 1, pupils will be learning about miming and comedy. They will continue to develop key drama skills such as characterisation, body language, facial expressions, freeze frames, setting the scene, rehearsing and performing while developing their miming skills and learning about different comedy styles and silent movies. During term 2, pupils will move on to learn about the comedy style of Pantomimes. Pupils will learn about the different characters and theatrical conventions in Pantomime (audience participation etc) as well as developing their key drama skills. They will also have the opportunity to watch clips from different Pantomimes.	Encourage pupils to watch different silent movie clips, and mimed comedy shows such as Mr Bean, and discuss how the actor uses body language and facial expressions to play the character clearly. Ask pupils the different types of characters found in Pantomimes.	Silent movies Body language Plot Title cards Miming Slapstick comedy Facial expressions Characterisation Movement Pantomime

Autumn Term Overview

Tutor Group: 8T

Subject and Teacher	Subject Overview	How you can help at home	Subject specific key words to practise with your child
Geography Mrs Petrie	This term, pupils will be learning about the powerful natural forces that shape our planet, focusing on earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. They will discover how the Earth is structured, how it is divided into tectonic plates, and why these plates move to create such dramatic events. Pupils will explore the global distribution of volcanoes, earthquakes, and plate boundaries, while also studying specific examples of hazards around the world. They will consider why people continue to live in areas at risk, how communities prepare for these dangers, and what it is like to experience life near a volcano or during an earthquake. Through this, pupils will develop their geographical skills by using maps, atlases, and enquiry methods to describe and explain tectonic processes and their impacts on people and places.	Please talk about the environment with your child and support them to identify and classify human and physical geographical features. It can be helpful to encourage them to take an interest in environmental and geographical stories that appear in the news including newsworthy stories on weather, climate, volcanoes, earthquakes or any topics related to continents. In addition, news and sport provide good conversation starters to reinforce the names of cities, countries and continents. BBC Bitesize is very useful for Geography content. Link here Structure of the Earth - The Earth and atmosphere - KS3 Chemistry - BBC Bitesize	Core Mantel Earthquake Lava Tectonic plates Volcano Boundary
History Mrs Mitchell-Dyer	In Year 8, pupils will be studying the Tudors, a period in English history from 1485 to 1603. They will learn about key monarchs like Henry VIII and Elizabeth I, the Reformation and its impact on England, what life was like for rich and poor people, Tudor crime and punishment, and England's rise as a global power through exploration. This fascinating topic will help them understand how the Tudors influenced modern England.	There are great local History sites in this area, which would be good for your child to visit. You can also watch Horrible History videos on BBC iPlayer.	Tudor Henry VIII Elizabeth I Reformation Exploration Influence

Autumn Term Overview

Tutor Group: 8T

Subject and Teacher	Subject Overview	How you can help at home	Subject specific key words to practise with your child
Art & Design Mrs Berry	Beetles and Bug We are working on the topic Beetles and Bugs. Pupils are exploring the imaginative collage work of Peter Clark, who uses materials such as wrapping paper, graph paper, maps, and newspapers to bring his art to life. Inspired by his approach, they are creating their own insects – beetles, butterflies, and other bugs – both in sketchbooks and on a larger scale. They are experimenting with inks, collage, metallic pens, and watercolour pencils to produce richly detailed pieces.	Have a look at these websites with your child. Tate Kids is a great resource with lots of information and fun ideas! Tate Kids Peter clark collage	Peter Clark Collage Layer Emphasise Symmetry