

Autumn Term Overview

Tutor Group: 9S

Subject and Teacher	Subject Overview	How you can help at home	Subject specific key words to practise with your child
English Miss O'Shea	This term, pupils will explore the topic of 'friendship' through a range of texts, beginning with 'Rabbit and Bear', in which an unlikely friendship is formed. We will be practising a range of reading skills including decoding and a range of comprehension skills such as vocabulary, information retrieval and simple inference. We will also explore characters, plot and narrative to develop our writing skills. Alongside this, pupils will have frequent opportunities to practise their phonics skills, as well as regular speaking and listening sessions.	Read stories with your child, talk about the characters and ask who/what/where/when/why questions. Provide writing opportunities at home such as cards, labels, notes etc. Encourage your child in conversation to develop their speaking and listening skills.	Friendship Character Plot Adjective Noun
Maths Mrs Webb	This term, our maths learning will begin with a focus on <i>Number and the Number System</i> . Pupils will work at their own level to deepen their understanding of place value, practise partitioning numbers, write numbers in words, and use number lines to support their learning. Next, we will move on to <i>Counting and Comparing</i> , where pupils will estimate, order, and compare numbers, while also developing their fluency in skip-counting. Following this, we will explore <i>Addition and Subtraction</i> , reinforcing key strategies for mental and written calculations. To round off the term, our focus will shift to <i>Geometry</i> , where pupils will identify and describe the properties of both 2D and 3D shapes, using mathematical language to discuss their features with increasing confidence.	Practise key skills such as counting, skip-counting, times tables, number bonds and estimating at home. Topmarks has some engaging maths games Topmarks: teaching resources, interactive resources, worksheets, homework, exam and revision help	Ones, tens, hundreds, thousands Compare Add/subtract Order Partition

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Science Miss O'Shea	This term, our chemistry focus is on <i>Polymers, Carbon, Metals, and Their Reactivity</i>. Through this unit, pupils will explore a wide range of materials and investigate their properties. Pupils will take part in hands-on experiments designed to develop their scientific thinking and practical skills. We will examine how the properties of materials make them suitable for specific purposes, explore natural minerals and their applications, and gain a foundational understanding of atoms and elements. As the unit progresses, we will investigate the forms and uses of carbon, the role and development of polymers and plastics, and learn about metals — including how they are extracted from the Earth. By the end of the unit, pupils will have a deeper understanding of how chemistry underpins the materials we use in everyday life.	BBC Bitesize has a range of useful activities and videos Play the Atomic Labs Science Game - Free Online KS3 Science Experiment Games - Year 7, 8 and 9 Virtual Lab - BBC Bitesize Describing materials – KS1 Science curriculum - BBC Bitesize Objects and materials – KS1 Science curriculum - BBC Bitesize Why is it made from that? – KS1 Science curriculum - BBC Bitesize Polymers - Materials - KS3 Chemistry - BBC Bitesize What is carbon guide for KS3 chemistry students - BBC Bitesize	Material Metal/Non-metal Carbon Conductor Polymer
	After half term, we will begin a new topic: <i>Reproduction, Hormones, Fertility and Reflexes</i>. This unit has been carefully adapted to suit the learning needs of our pupils, with a focus on clear, simple language and practical understanding. We will start by learning about parts of the body and the five senses, before moving on to the names and roles of some glands and hormones. Pupils will learn how the body responds through simple reflex actions, such as pulling away from something hot. We will cover the basic changes that happen during puberty in both males and females, including menstruation. Pupils will also learn about reproduction in humans, animals and plants. Where appropriate, we will also introduce simple information about contraception. This topic will be taught with sensitivity,	KS2 PSHE: Operation Ouch! How are babies made? Sperm, egg and reproductive organs - BBC Teach	Hormone Gland Reflex Puberty Reproduction

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	using correct scientific language, and in a way that supports pupils' understanding at their individual level.		
Art Miss O'Shea	<u>Pop Art Explosions</u> 9S will begin their topic of Cartoons, Comics and Big Bangs this term. We will study the work of a range of pop artists, particularly Roy Lichtenstein's 'explosion' paintings. We will work with a wide range of materials and explore different ways of layering and creating textures. Pupils will work towards creating their name as a relief sculpture exploding with bright colour, strong shapes and cartoon style graphics.	Have a look at these websites with your child. Tate Kids is a great resource with lots of information and fun ideas! Tate Kids Pop Art Tate Kids Who is Roy Lichtenstein? Tate Kids	Pop art Texture Layer Relief sculpture Cartoon
DT Miss O'Shea	During the autumn term, 9S will become entrepreneurs as they create a product to sell at the Christmas Cheer. We will be exploring a range of tools and media for decorating glass including glass pens and paint, stickers, ribbon and string, beads and other adornments. These Christmas-themed jars will be filled with bath salts to create the perfect Christmas gift. The proceeds will go to a charity chosen by the class.	Practise a range of arts and craft activities at home Hobbycraft have some lovely craft ideas 2800+ Craft Ideas Hobbycraft Or just encourage them to develop gross and fine motor skills through exercise, using pegs, cutlery, tracing etc.	Bath salts Glass Decorate Theme Glass pens/paints

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PE Mr. Stinton	This term pupils will learn about Hockey. Pupils will build on their dribbling, passing, movement off the ball, shooting and defending skills. Once pupils have built a secure foundation of each of these core skills, we will focus on some building towards attacking and defending skills. This will come in the form of small, conditioned, games and activities. Pupils will also learn about trampolining. They will develop their key movements such as a tuck, pencil and straddle jump. Once confident, pupils will begin to learn about more advanced skills such as twists and seat drops. Pupils will look to build these skills into a routine.	Pupils could be supported by watching videos about how to hold (and control) the stick as well as how to dribble the ball, both in space and in a tight situation. Holding the stick. Link here Dribbling the ball. Link here	Dribble Push pass Space Control Defence Attack

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History Miss O'Shea	This term, pupils will explore the fascinating Edwardian Era, spanning from 1901 to the outbreak of the First World War in 1914. Through this topic, we will investigate key aspects of Edwardian life, including fashion, daily lifestyles, groundbreaking inventions, and the stark contrast between the lives of the rich and the poor. Pupils will discover how innovations such as cinema, electric lighting, and the motor car began to shape modern life in the early 20th century. We will also learn about influential figures from the period, including author Beatrix Potter, scientist Marie Curie, composer Edward Elgar, and women's rights campaigner Emmeline Pankhurst. Towards the end of the unit, we will turn our attention to one of the most iconic events of the era — the story of the <i>Titanic</i> — exploring what life was like on board for passengers of different social classes.	Engage your child in family history, compare 'now' and 'then', look at photographs from the past. If possible, visit parks, houses, museums and attractions involving the early 20 th century.	Edwardian Fashion Edward VII and George V Suffragette Titanic
Geography Miss O'Shea	This term, pupils will study weather and climate, learning how weather is measured, why it varies, and how extreme weather events such as storms, floods, hurricanes, and droughts impact people and places. They will explore the world's major climate zones and develop important geographical skills, including map work, interpreting data, and creating weather forecasts. Building on this knowledge, pupils will investigate climate change, identify natural and human causes, and consider the global and UK impacts of a changing climate. They will take part in projects designed to raise awareness of these critical global challenges.	Watch or listen to the weather forecast at home, discuss the weather and climate change. Look at maps, atlases and weather data. Watch age-appropriate news items about climate change and the weather (Newsround on BBC is a good place to start).	Weather forecast Climate Extreme Hurricane Drought/flood

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Food Studies Mrs Webb	This term, pupils in 9S will explore the theme of 'Breakfast' through a variety of delicious and nutritious recipes. They will develop key practical skills such as chopping, combining ingredients, and using the oven to prepare homemade granola and overnight oats. Building on these techniques, pupils will enhance their baking abilities by making banana muffins and fluffy American-style pancakes, focusing on the accurate mixing of wet and dry ingredients. They will also learn how to safely scramble eggs using the hob and enjoy tasting their creations as part of the learning process. After the half-term break, the focus will shift to festive sweet and savoury dishes in preparation for the holiday season. Pupils will make a range of themed recipes, including turkey and cranberry pizza, gingerbread people, and crispy roast potatoes, developing both their cooking, confidence and creativity.	Involve your child as much as possible in cooking a range of dishes. Encourage your child to try a range of different foods. Have conversations about food and healthy eating. Give your child opportunities to make choices over their foods.	Breakfast Combine Scramble Bake Oven gloves

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Computing Mrs Webb	In this Computing unit, pupils will learn how to stay safe when using the internet. They will explore what the internet is, who they might talk to online, and how to make good choices when using technology. The lessons will help pupils understand the importance of keeping personal information private, using kind and respectful language online, and knowing what to do if something they see or hear online makes them feel worried or upset. Pupils will also be introduced to the idea of cyberbullying and how to ask for help if they experience or witness unkind behaviour. Through practical activities, role-play, videos and supported discussion, pupils will develop their understanding of how to use the internet safely, both in school and at home.	Talk to your child about what they do online, what sites they are going to, who they are talking to. Keeping children safe online NSPCC is a helpful website to support keeping your child safe online	Safe Identity Avatar Internet Cyberbullying
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

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PSD Miss O'Shea	This term in PSD, our topic is 'Healthy Living and Lifestyles'. Pupils will explore the five ways to wellbeing as a way to support their mental health, and they will learn how to recognise when they might need help and what they can do to seek support. The unit will also focus on key areas of physical health, including the importance of sleep, healthy eating, dental hygiene, and personal hygiene. In addition, pupils will learn about the effects and risks of medicines, alcohol, tobacco, and vaping, helping them make informed and safe choices.	Please encourage your child to increase their independence in personal hygiene by creating a routine for when they bathe/shower and form healthy habits around when they clean their teeth after breakfast and before bed. Talk with your child about any concerns relating to social media and body image.	5 ways to wellbeing Mental health Healthy eating Personal hygiene Medicine
R&W Miss O'Shea	This term in Religion and Worldviews, pupils will be learning about Eastern religions, including Buddhism, Sikhism, and Hinduism. They will explore the key beliefs, practices, and holy books of each religion through a range of engaging and accessible activities. Learning will be brought to life through the use of religious artefacts, storytelling, music, role-play, and multi-sensory exploration, helping pupils to experience and understand different ways people express their faith. The aim is to help pupils develop respect for different beliefs and an awareness of the rich variety of world religions.	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 belief in our society. With your support, they will soon be able to name the main 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 lovely, appropriate videos, including this one Who is Jesus and how did he help people? - BBC Bitesize	Buddhism Meditation Sikhism Hinduism Prayer

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Drama Miss Price	During terms 1 and 2, pupils will be learning about movement used in different theatre shows, films and television programmes, including slow motion, dance, body language and facial expressions. Pupils will take part in a range of different drama activities designed to use their movement skills and to continue developing their key drama skills.	Ask pupils what type of movement has been used in any movement pieces they may watch.	Movement Slow motion Gestures Body language Facial expressions Dance Mime
Outdoor Learning Mrs Barlow	This term, Year 9 pupils will explore George's Farm, the Sensory Garden, and the Forest School. They will investigate which plants can be grown during the autumn term and take an active role in planting, managing, and documenting their progress over the coming months. The aim is to enhance the Sensory Garden with added fragrance and colour, while producing a varied mix of vegetables in George's Farm. Pupils will also learn to use specific tools safely while pruning, coppicing, and thinning woodland areas, following our three-year environmental plan. They will understand the ecological and practical benefits of these activities for maintaining healthy outdoor spaces.	How you can support at home: Encourage your child to explore your garden or a nearby park or woodland. Ask them to look closely at plants and take photos using a phone (Google Lens or the iPhone photo tool are useful for identification). This hands-on exploration helps pupils connect classroom knowledge with real-world experiences and develop observational skills.	Observation Documentation Autumn planting Sensory garden Pruning Coppicing Tool safety Soil health Sustainable gardening Biodiversity