

Year 8 Spring 2:1

English

Within this term, pupils will be working on developing their speaking and listening skills. This will involve studying and performing plays using a wide range of vocabulary. Pupils be given the option of deciding what play they want to study and perform.

The key skills that will be developed during this term will consist of: communicating, presenting and reading.

Pupils will be reading playscripts such as: The Face, Romeo and Juliet. The reading sessions will focus on retrieval, inference and clarifying.

Maths

Pupils look at where decimals are positioned on number lines, how to round to decimal places and how to solve multiplication and division problems involving large numbers. Three-letter angle notation is introduced and pupils develop their geometrical reasoning using proper notation for lines and polygons. Rotation symmetry is also studied. After first looking at the different properties of common solids; pupils will look at various ways of representing them including isometric drawings and nets. Pupils will revisit and consolidate angle rules involving straight lines, vertically opposite, around a point and in a triangle; they are then taught to solve angle problems involving interior and exterior angles.

Science

Pupils will describe changes during simple chemical reactions, carrying out a test for hydrogen gas and carbon dioxide. Pupils will be introduced to the fire triangle and explain why oxygen is needed for burning, describing how oxides are made during burning. Pupils will identify fossil fuels, defining fuels and explaining how energy is released when fuels burn. Pupils will explain that many common materials are mixtures, know that mixtures can be separated. Pupils will explain different methods for the separation of mixtures; distillation, chromatography and heating/evaporation.

Geography

By means of the topic "One planet, many people: how are populations changing?" pupils will investigate what is meant by population and how it is measured. They will describe population distribution and identify where the biggest populations are to be found. They will analyse population patterns and explore how a country's population changes as it develops. They will interpret population data to predict change and investigate how countries attempt population control. Finally, they will explore what is meant by migration.

History

In this term, pupils will be studying the period 'From the Tudors to the Stuarts'. This will involve understanding of the reasons why the throne of England passed to the Scottish royal family. Pupils will explain the significance of key explorers. They will identify the role of key individuals in the story of the Gunpowder Plot. After this, pupils will examine why King Charles I had become so unpopular. They will compare the two sides fighting the English Civil War. They will then explore how and why King Charles was put on trial and finally they will evaluate some sources relating to the execution.

PSHE/RE

In PSHE this term we will be exploring the different places of worship in regards to faith and religion. We will also be exploring religious beliefs around different environmental issues, people and animals and what they stand for. Also, this term we will be looking at exercise with the benefits and identifying the choices we make to keep us healthy. We will be analysing how we spend our free time with others, family or friends and exploring how we could do an activity as well. We will be studying how much excise is recommended for us and analysing how much we are doing ourselves.

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Art/DT	PE	Horticulture	Food Technology
<p>This term pupils will be studying Mexican Day of The Dead. Pupils will learn about the Mexican celebration and sugar skulls. Pupils will then spend time exploring clay making skills. Pupils will construct a clay pot and then model the vessel to reflect their design. Pupils will conclude by firing and painting their pots.</p>	<p>In the first part of the Spring term, we will focus on basketball invasion games, developing our skills, resilience and teamwork. In the second half of the Spring term, we will focus on football skills games, developing our striking, fielding, attacking and defending skills.</p>	<p>In Horticulture this term we will re-cap the allotment rules. We will learn how to care for vegetable beds during the winter including how to use horticultural fleece and cloches. We will learn how to clean garden tools and safety equipment including how to oil and sharpen a selected gardening tool e.g., garden hoe. We will prepare for and take part in the RSPB Big School Bird Watch, sow early seeds in heated propagators and prepare for a potato crop on the allotment.</p>	<p>In Food Technology this half term we will be exploring the links between illness and a poor diet throughout life. The key areas we will be looking into are obesity, coronary heart disease (CHD), diabetes, anorexia and tooth decay. As well as looking at these areas we will be cooking a range of products including stir-fry, vegetarian meals and pizzas.</p>