

New Rush Hall School - Year 8: Summer 3.2

English	Maths	Science
In English This half term pupils will study <i>Stone Cold</i> by Robert Swindells and explore themes surrounding homelessness, identity and society's attitudes towards vulnerable people. Through the experiences of the novel's characters, pupils will consider how different perspectives shape the reader's understanding and investigate how voice and narrative structure create tension. They will analyse character development, relationships and setting, while discussing important social issues in a respectful and thoughtful way. Pupils will produce a variety of writing forms, including letters, newspaper articles and reviews, and will develop their ability to support opinions with evidence from the text.	In Maths this half term pupils will recall equivalent fractions and decimals and be able to recognise recurring and terminating decimals. Pupils will learn to use different methods to change between fractions and decimals. Once confident in this they will then express one quantity as a percentage of another number and interpret percentages and percentage changes as a fraction or a decimal. Finally, pupils will use mental strategies to solve percentage problems including using a multiplier to calculate percentage increase or decrease.	In Science this half term pupils will explore how light and electricity behave. They will investigate how light travels and study the differences between transparent, translucent, and opaque materials. Pupils will apply the law of reflection, draw ray diagrams, and explore refraction through different media. They will compare concave and convex lenses, linking their properties to the human eye, and study how white light is made of different colours. The focus then shifts to electricity, where pupils will investigate current, voltage, and resistance. They will apply Ohm's Law to solve problems, calculate resistance in series and parallel circuits, and explore the use of fixed and variable resistors, thermistors, and LDRs.
PSHE	Art	PE
In PSHE this half term, pupils will explore the online world and develop the skills needed to stay safe, informed and responsible when using digital technology. They will investigate how algorithms, social media and online content can influence beliefs, opinions and behaviour, while learning to identify misinformation and protect their personal information. Pupils will also explore respectful online communication, digital footprints and the opportunities and challenges presented by technology. This unit helps pupils become safe, critical and responsible digital citizens.	In Art this half term pupils will spend the term researching and learning about Mandalas and their purpose within Hindu and Buddhist religions. Pupils will learn about motifs with a focus on the symmetry and repetition within their designs. They will select a range of natural objects, using a view finder they will choose a composition and draw the view establishing their motif. The motif will be repeated and reflected across their design to create a symmetrical Mandala demonstrating their understanding of symmetry and reflection when drawing. Finally, pupils will select an appropriate colour pallet and practise blending tones when painting their design.	In PE this half term pupils will focus on kwik cricket, rounders, and athletics. They will begin by mastering all core skills and some advance skills along with the rules of each sport, focusing on techniques such as batting, bowling, and fielding in cricket, batting, fielding, and base running in rounders, and various track and field events in athletics such as the triple jump, hurdles and javelin. Through structured activities, practice matches, and competitive races, pupils will deepen their understanding of game tactics, teamwork dynamics, and sportsmanship principles in each discipline. By fully immersing themselves in these activities, pupils will not only enhance their physical abilities but also develop crucial communication, co-ordination, and strategic thinking skills essential for success in a variety of sports.
Geography	Food Technology	History
In Geography this half term the pupils will continue studying 'The Coast'. They will define deposition and explain how deposition creates landforms. Pupils will explore how people are affected by coastal processes, such as cliff erosion. Finally, pupils will investigate what is meant by 'coastal management' and identify different types of sea defences.	In Food Technology this half term, pupils will investigate the factors that influence food choices, including advertising, social media, lifestyle and convenience. They will explore modern food trends and consider how technology is shaping the future of food production. Pupils will examine plant-based alternatives, sustainable food products and innovations designed to meet changing consumer needs. Practical lessons will focus on preparing healthier dishes and adapting recipes to reflect modern eating habits. Through evaluation and discussion, pupils will develop an understanding of how society, technology and sustainability influence the foods we eat today and in the future.	In History this half term pupils will explore the experiences and contributions of Black communities in Britain and beyond. They will investigate the Windrush Generation and examine how migration after the Second World War shaped modern Britain. Pupils will study racial segregation and discrimination in the United States and investigate key events within the Civil Rights Movement, including the Montgomery Bus Boycott and the experiences of the Little Rock Nine. Through the study of individuals such as Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X, pupils will evaluate how campaigns for equality have influenced society and continue to shape the world today.
Music	Enrichment	
In Music this half term pupils will explore how composers use music to represent characters, emotions and ideas through leitmotifs. By analysing themes from film, television and video games, pupils will investigate how melody, rhythm, dynamics and instrumentation can communicate mood and personality. Using GarageBand, they will compose their own character themes, developing ideas through layering, variation and structure. Pupils will refine their compositions through feedback and evaluation, using musical terminology to explain their creative decisions. The unit concludes with pupils presenting completed compositions that demonstrate how music can tell a story and create atmosphere.	As part of the Enrichment Programme, pupils will be given the opportunity to experience: Lambourne End: In this half term pupils return to Lambourne End ready to face more challenging activities. They revisit core tasks like ropes, bushcraft, and caving, this time with greater independence. The challenges increase - for example, a longer zip wire or more demanding raft course - pushing pupils to draw on skills they began developing earlier in the term. This second phase encourages deeper reflection, personal leadership, and greater physical and emotional control. It prepares pupils for their extended Lambourne End experience in Year 9, showing them how far they've already come and what they're capable of achieving next. Swimming: In this half term pupils will be taught based on their swimming ability. More experienced swimmers will work on developing their Front Crawl, Head surface dives, backstroke, pre diving skills and butterfly. Lessons will take place in 25 x 12.5-meter pool. Less experienced swimmers will swim in a smaller pool 12.5 x 5 meters and learn to develop their skills focusing on their Front Crawl, Front Crawl Breathing, Backstroke and Breaststroke.	