

New Rush Hall School - Year 9: Autumn 1.2

English	Maths	Science
In English this half term pupils will study <i>Noughts and Crosses</i> and explore themes of prejudice, inequality, power and belonging. Through performance and discussion, pupils will develop their understanding of playscript conventions and analyse how relationships shape the events of the drama. They will examine the influence of historical events, including segregation and the Little Rock Nine, and consider how context deepens meaning. Pupils will produce a range of writing, including newspaper articles, diary entries and persuasive speeches, while strengthening their analytical skills through evidence-based responses. The unit encourages thoughtful discussion about justice, identity and responsibility.	In Maths this half term, pupils will explore key aspects of data handling and multiplicative reasoning. They will plan and conduct surveys, design questionnaires, and collect data, presenting findings using stem-and-leaf diagrams, scatter graphs and lines of best fit. Pupils will calculate averages, estimate the mean from grouped data, and analyse outliers. Alongside this, they will study enlargement using positive, negative and fractional scale factors, solve percentage change problems, and work with compound measures such as speed and density. They will also tackle best-buy and inverse proportion problems, applying proportional reasoning to everyday scenarios and multi-step problems.	In Science this half term pupils will study the structure of atoms and how our understanding of atomic models has developed. They will explore the nuclear model and consider how scientific discoveries have changed ideas over time. Pupils will learn about isotopes, relative atomic mass, and the arrangement of the periodic table, linking properties of elements to their electronic structures. They will investigate patterns and distinct properties within key groups, such as Group 1 and Group 7, and compare their reactivity. Pupils will also examine the historical development of the periodic table, focusing on Mendeleev’s contribution, and reflect on how scientific understanding continues to evolve as new evidence emerges.
PSHE	Art	PE
In PSHE this half term, pupils will explore Sikhism and develop their understanding of how Sikh beliefs, values and traditions influence everyday life. They will investigate the teachings of Guru Nanak, the significance of the Khalsa and the Five Ks, and explore Sikh worship, symbols and community life. Pupils will also learn about the contribution of Sikh communities to Britain and reflect on the values of equality, service and respect. This unit develops pupils' religious literacy while promoting appreciation of diversity and different faiths.	In Art this half term pupils will study ‘Surrealism’. We will explore the works of Salvador Dali and Rene Magritte in detail and learn how one of the most important and influential movements came about. Following this, pupils will learn how to use 1-point and 2-point perspective in order to be able to draw a room or a street scene. Finally, using the skills they have learnt pupils will create their own version of Magritte’s piece ‘Personal Values’ or an image based on a dream of their own.	In PE this half term pupils will concentrate on further developing their proficiency and strategic understanding in handball and athletics. In handball, they will refine passing, catching, and shooting skills while deepening their knowledge of advanced tactics and team dynamics. Athletics lesson will prioritize the refinement of running, jumping, and throwing techniques, with a focus on specialized event training and enhancing overall athletic performance. These activities aim to cultivate pupils’ physical capabilities, strategic thinking, and competitive edge, laying the groundwork for continued growth and success in both sports.
Geography	Food Technology	History
In Geography this half term pupils will continue their topic on Africa. They will identify the causes and consequences of desertification in the Sahel, along with possible solutions. They will examine the population distribution of Africa and identify the reasons for population change. Pupils will also consider the challenges and opportunities presented by these changes examining the scale of urbanisation in Africa and investigate the challenges and opportunities of life in a growing city. Finally, pupils will investigate the trading links between African countries and China, considering different viewpoints to identify reasons for this trade.	In Food Technology this half term, pupils will investigate how recipes can be adapted to suit different dietary requirements, lifestyles and consumer needs. They will explore how ingredients and cooking methods affect flavour, texture and nutritional value, while considering ways to improve sustainability and reduce costs. Pupils will examine how recipes can be modified for different target groups and develop a greater understanding of healthy eating. Practical lessons will focus on experimenting with alternative ingredients and adapting both savoury and sweet dishes. Through evaluation and sensory testing, pupils will develop confidence in creating successful and inclusive recipes.	In History this half term pupils will continue studying ‘The Great War’. Pupils will begin by exploring and explaining what kind of weapons were used in WW1 and why these weapons were so deadly. Pupils will use this knowledge to describe the impact of 'shell shock'. Following this, pupils will judge the contribution of soldiers from the British Empire that fought for Britain. Finally, pupils will describe how the Great War affected everyday life in Britain and why the 11 November is remembered today.
Computer Science	Enrichment	
In Computer Science this half term, pupils will design, construct, and program a functional 3D vehicle model, applying principles of engineering and event-driven programming. They will explore loops, conditionals, and algorithmic control to navigate obstacle courses, refining their code through iterative testing and debugging. Pupils will link their projects to real-world automation systems like self-driving cars and drones. Emphasis will be placed on teamwork, evaluation, and understanding the physical implications of digital commands. The unit ends with pupils presenting and reflecting on their work, linking design to industry innovation.	As part of the Enrichment Programme, pupils will be given the opportunity to experience: Lambourne End: In this half term pupils will continue to build on the progress made by engaging with activities that now demand greater independence, focus, and resilience. With increased confidence and skill, they take on more advanced versions of familiar challenges—such as climbing taller walls, abseiling from greater heights, completing more technical rope courses, and navigating deeper caving environments. At this stage, pupils are not only participating—they are applying what they’ve learned, showing leadership in group tasks, using problem-solving strategies under pressure, and maintaining emotional control during high-challenge activities. This half term plays an important role in preparing pupils for the next phase of enrichment in Key Stage 4. The strength, confidence, and self-reliance developed here will support them in taking on more specialised challenges such as skiing, climbing, assault courses, gym training, cycling, and water-based activities at Fairlop Waters. It ensures they are ready to make the most of future opportunities by providing a strong foundation of real-world, transferable skills. 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 12.5 x 5 meters pool and learn to develop their skills focusing on their Front Crawl, Front Crawl Breathing, Backstroke and Breaststroke.	