

New Rush Hall School - Year 11: Autumn 1.2

English	Maths	Science
In English this half term pupils will focus on the reading section of GCSE English Language Paper 1. Using a range of engaging fiction extracts, they will develop skills in retrieval, inference, language analysis, structural analysis and evaluation. Pupils will learn how writers create atmosphere, tension and character, selecting precise evidence to support their ideas. Regular exam-style practice will help pupils become more confident in responding to unseen texts while continuing to strengthen their analytical writing, spelling, punctuation and grammar.	In Maths this half term pupils will convert between fractions, percentages and decimals to use the most appropriate method in any given question. Following this, pupils will expand double brackets to give quadratics of the form $ax^2 + bx + c$ and factorise quadratics of the form $x^2 + bx + c$, including difference of two squares. Finally, pupils will consider data sets with outliers and whether the outliers should be ignored or included and how they could affect measures of central tendency and range.	In Science this half term pupils will begin to appreciate the idea of purity and why it is so important in Chemistry. Different forms of chemical analysis will be used by pupils to purify substances, such as compounds and formulations. Pupils will also learn how to test for common gases, such as oxygen and carbon dioxide The importance of the Earth’s atmosphere will be evaluated and the story of how the atmosphere was formed will be discussed. But what happens when humans abuse the Earth’s resources? Pupils will consider the effects of polluting gases, greenhouse gases, on the atmosphere and the consequences of climate change. In conclusion, pupils will consider how to reduce their carbon footprint.
PSHE	Art	PE
In PSHE this half term pupils will explore Islam and develop their understanding of how Islamic beliefs, values and traditions influence the lives of Muslims around the world. They will investigate the importance of the Qur'an, the Five Pillars of Islam and the role of worship, community and charity within the faith. Pupils will also explore the diversity of Muslim communities and reflect on the importance of respect, inclusion and community cohesion. This unit develops religious literacy while encouraging appreciation of different beliefs, cultures and traditions.	In Art this half term pupils focus on completing and refining their GCSE portfolio. Using previous research, experimentation and feedback, they produce a series of resolved pieces that demonstrate the development of their personal investigation. Pupils regularly evaluate their work and use reflection to identify strengths and areas for improvement. Sketchbooks are reviewed to ensure annotations clearly show the progression of ideas and the creative process. Through continued refinement and thoughtful presentation, pupils produce a cohesive portfolio that demonstrates technical skill, creativity and sustained engagement with their chosen theme.	In PE this half term pupils will study football and basketball, developing core skills and tactical awareness through structured warm-ups, drills, and game play. In football, pupils will focus on attacking with width and speed, use of dummies and fakes, defensive formations, and passing and shooting techniques, emphasising agility and balance. In basketball, pupils will develop dribbling, shooting, screening, and defensive strategies including man-to-man and zone marking. Activities involve teacher modelling, group discussion, and small-sided games to enhance teamwork, communication, and strategic understanding.
Geography	Food Technology	History
In Geography this half term we will be learning about the UK's evolving physical landscape - an overview of the varied physical landscapes in the UK resulting from Geology, Geomorphic processes and Human activity over time. Pupils will spend time getting to know how physical features created and how they influence our day to day lives. They will look at some of the largest rivers and mountains scatter around the UK. Pupils will examine case studies of distinctive landscape, look at how the coastlines are constantly evolving which can lead to conflict. They will also visit a local river where pupils will be able to identify the physical features they have learned about.	In Food Technology this half term pupils will be looking at how setting agents work and the different types whether starch or egg. Following this, pupils will be making cakes in which we will be looking the ingredients that are used and the functions of the flour, fat, eggs, sugar, liquid and baking powder. Finally, pupils will also be looking at dough’s and evaluating our work. As pupils look at these areas, they will also be making a mixture of products from a range of products including baking cakes and festive foods.	In History this half term pupils will carry on studying 'Britain: Health and the people: c1000 to the Present Day'. They will explain beliefs about the causes of infection before the 1860s, summarising Pasteur's experiment They will then evaluate the contribution of Koch to medical progress and examine public health problems in industrial Britain. This knowledge will be used to explore the development of the pharmaceutical industry, outlining the development of penicillin. Pupils will examine the key developments in new knowledge about the body and disease, surgery and treatments since 1945. Finally, pupils will explore advances in healthcare and public health in the latter half of the twentieth century.
Business Studies	Music	Construction
In Business Studies this half term we will be covering Unit 2, Topic 9, ‘Making Human Resource Decisions’. Pupils will begin by explaining the difference between flat, hierarchical, centralised and decentralised organisational structures whilst considering the advantages and disadvantages of each. Following this, pupils will analyse the barriers to effective communication on business operations. Finally, pupils will explore the stages of the recruitment process and a range of training that may be offered to staff across an organisation, before evaluating the impact of target setting and performance reviews and other ways that employees can be motivated and other ways that employees can be motivated.	In Music this half term pupils continue to develop their chosen musical skills through rehearsal, composition, performance and music production activities. Building on targets set earlier in the year, they will refine practical outcomes and evaluate their progress through reflection and feedback. Pupils will collect and organise portfolio evidence, including recordings, screenshots and written reviews, while developing greater independence and professionalism. Throughout the unit, emphasis is placed on organisation, resilience and effective presentation of coursework. The unit concludes with pupils completing and submitting their Component 2 portfolio, providing a strong foundation for the final component of the qualification.	In Construction this half term pupils will explore how to mark Out and cut an L-Shaped Timber Frame. They will analyse different behaviours and attitudes that influence personal progression and role-play scenarios demonstrating these effects. Pupils will research local progression opportunities using a variety of sources and share their findings. Practically, they will learn to accurately mark out timber using rulers and setting out rods, cut and shape joints such as tenon and half lap, and assemble an L-shaped frame. Finally, pupils will apply finishing techniques including sanding and staining to complete their timber frame.
Sports Science		Performing Arts
In Sports Science this half term pupils will explore Training Methods. They will explore different fitness training techniques targeting physical and skill-related components, such as interval, circuit, resistance, plyometrics, and continuous training. Pupils will learn the principles of warm-up and cool-down, training effects on the body, and how to apply the FITT principle. They will investigate training provisions and identify facilities for fitness training. Practical activities include research, presentations, and mini-circuits to link methods to fitness components, enhancing understanding of how training improves athletic performance and supports sport-specific goals.		In Performing Arts this half term pupils explore the themes, characters, and atmosphere of <i>Edward Scissorhands</i> through practical workshops and rehearsals. They develop performance skills including movement, voice, facial expression, and physical theatre while learning how character and emotion can be communicated to an audience. Pupils work collaboratively throughout the rehearsal process, contributing to staging, costume, props, and other production elements. Through reflection and feedback, they refine their performances and develop greater confidence and independence. The unit culminates in a polished Christmas performance for a live audience, showcasing their creativity, teamwork, and expressive skills.

Enrichment

As part of the Enrichment Programme, pupils will be given the opportunity to experience:
Prepare for Work & Life Course or Cycling: In this half term, pupils continue their Prepare for Work and Life course or begin a practical cycling programme. In the course, pupils explore topics such as budgeting, careers advice, and how to gain their provisional driving licence, including support with the application process. They also begin working on CVs and developing interview confidence. Those in the cycling group take part in outdoor mountain biking, learning how to navigate varied terrain, assess risks, and develop road safety awareness. This builds on cycling and physical confidence developed in earlier years. Both activities prepare pupils for life after school—either through real-world life skills or renewed independence and wellbeing through physical challenge.