

New Rush Hall School - Year 9: Spring 2.2

English	Maths	Science
In English this half term pupils will explore poetry inspired by conflict and investigate how writers present war, loss and human experience. Through poems by writers including Wilfred Owen and Siegfried Sassoon, pupils will examine contrasting attitudes towards patriotism and the realities of war. They will develop their understanding of poetic techniques, context and comparison while considering how propaganda influenced public opinion during the First World War. Pupils will produce analytical responses and creative writing inspired by the themes studied. The unit encourages empathy and critical thinking while helping pupils understand how poetry can communicate powerful messages about history and humanity.	In Maths this half term pupils will investigate the relationship between the circumference and diameter of circles before moving on to application of formulae to calculate the area and circumference of circles. Pupils will be introduced to the Theorem of Pythagoras and apply this theorem to find the unknown sides of right-angled triangles. This application will include solving real-life problems. Moving on pupils will then explore and use formulae to calculate the volume and surface area of prisms. Finally, pupils will find the lower and upper bounds for a measurement.	In Science this half term pupils will study how substances store and transfer energy. They will investigate internal energy and how it changes with heating. Pupils will compare conduction, convection, and radiation as methods of heat transfer and describe their similarities and differences. They will use practical experiments to measure specific heat capacity, apply the formula to different materials, and interpret what the values show. Pupils will also study specific latent heat of fusion and vaporisation, learning how energy changes occur without temperature change. By comparing these concepts, they will develop a clearer understanding of how energy is transferred and stored in different states of matter.
PSHE	Art	PE
In PSHE this half term pupils will explore healthy relationships, consent and online safety in an increasingly digital world. They will investigate how pornography, image sharing and unrealistic online content can influence attitudes towards relationships and body image. Pupils will also learn about consent, the law surrounding intimate image sharing and strategies for recognising and responding to online exploitation. This unit helps pupils build respectful relationships, make informed choices and stay safe both online and offline.	In Art this half term we will be looking at the art, history and culture of the Favelas in Rio de Janeiro. Pupils will study the Mural artwork of Haas and Hann and also the art of Sergio Cesar ‘The Cardboard Architect’. Following this, pupils will create their own Favelas from card and found objects, they will be taught sculptural techniques and how to use tools safely, the Favelas will be displayed in the school. Pupils will learn how to build structurally and will also learn about the limitations of the material.	In PE this half term pupils will participate in rugby and badminton. They will start by refining their skills and understanding of both sports, focusing on techniques such as passing, tackling, and strategic gameplay in rugby, and serving, smashing, and court positioning in badminton. Through structured activities scrimmages, and competitive matches, pupils will deepen their understanding of game tactics, teamwork dynamics, and sportsmanship principles. By fully engaging with these sports, pupils will not only enhance their physical abilities but also develop crucial communication, collaboration, and decision-making skills essential for success both on the field and the court.
Geography	Food Technology	History
In Geography this half term the pupils will continue their topic on ‘Earthquakes and Volcanoes’. They will discover what an earthquake is and the damage they may cause. Pupils will explain what causes earthquakes and discover how they are measured. They will consider how people manage risk in earthquake zones and explore how they prepare for earthquakes. Pupils will consider that the stage of a country’s development can affect the way the risk of living in an earthquake zone is managed. Finally, pupils will discover how volcanic eruptions can be monitored and predicted.	In Food Technology this half term pupils will investigate how nutritional requirements change throughout life and how lifestyle, health and activity levels affect dietary needs. They will explore how culture, religion and ethical beliefs influence food choices and develop an understanding of different dietary practices. Practical lessons will focus on adapting recipes and preparing dishes suitable for a range of individuals and cultural backgrounds. Pupils will consider nutrition, flavour and presentation when evaluating their work. Through these experiences, they will develop respect for diversity and a greater understanding of how food can support health and wellbeing.	In History this half term pupils will be studying the period 'Between the Wars and the Second World War'. Pupils will begin by exploring and outlining Hitler's journey to politics, assessing how life under the Nazi dictatorship differed from the democratic system we live in today. This knowledge will then be used to explain why war broke out in 1939. Following this, pupils will identify key turning points of the war. They will investigate how and why the Nazi's organized the mass murder of millions of Jews. Finally, pupils will explain how and why the USA joined the Second World War.
Music	Enrichment	
In Music this half term, pupils will investigate a range of musical genres, including Drum and Bass, Rock, Funk and Reggae. They will explore how rhythm, instrumentation and production techniques have influenced the development of these styles. Using GarageBand, pupils will experiment with sampling, effects and layering to create original musical ideas. The unit culminates in a SPACE-themed composition project, where pupils use musical elements and technology to create atmosphere and mood. Throughout the half term, pupils will develop their composition skills through reflection, evaluation and creative experimentation.	As part of the Enrichment Programme, pupils will be given the opportunity to experience: BMX at the Velodrome: In this half term, pupils build on their experience from the bike safety and repair course pupils completed in Year 7. Now, pupils take their cycling confidence to the next level at the Olympic BMX track at the Velodrome in Stratford. With a focus on balance, control, and calculated risk-taking, pupils ride challenging terrain under expert supervision. This activity promotes independence, resilience, and physical coordination, helping pupils apply their technical knowledge in an exciting real-world setting. It’s a moment of progression that reflects our school ethos of opening doors and growing through challenge 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.	