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# Year 8 Curriculum Information Booklet

## Pentecost Term 2017



# INTRODUCTION

In this booklet teachers have outlined all that you will be learning during the Summer Term. In some subjects like Science and DT the teachers have written down all that you will learn this year. This is because classes will all do different things at different times. Please read the booklet and be excited by all that you are going to learn. Some teachers have made suggestions about things that you might do to extend your learning.

**Please share this booklet with your parents. They might like to know what you are learning so that they can help you.**

# TUTORIAL

## Personal, Social, and Health Education

**Pupils will study the topic of the Our Families; this will include the following areas:**

- Types of family
- Family history
- Family roles, boys and girls
- Family roles, men and women
- Being old
- Family rows
- Generation gap
- Marriage and divorce

**Pupils will then go onto study Race in Britain today, which will include the following areas:**

- Minorities in Britain
- Why discriminate?
- What happens out of the EU
- Why immigrants have come to Britain
- Racial disadvantage in Britain today
- Racism: theory and practice
- Improving race relations

## **FACULTY OF RE, GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY**

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**Pupils will study the topic of Covenant, this will include the following areas:**

- Covenant in the New Testament; pupils are learning about the Covenant between Abraham and God.
- Covenant in the Old Testament; pupils are learning about the Covenant at the Last Supper.
- Salvation in the Bible
- Sacraments of Healing; pupils are learning about Reconciliation and Sacrament of the Sick.

**Pupils will then go on to study Judaism, which will include the following areas:**

- Abraham; pupils are learning about Abraham as a founding father of Judaism.
- Shabbat
- Synagogue
- Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur
- World War 2
- Anne Frank
- The Book Thief; pupils will be comparing this to the story of Anne Frank.

### **GEOGRAPHY**

In the first half of the term, students will be finishing their topic of development to consider if the world is in crisis and what can be carried out to support those parts of the world that are in crisis. Students will consider a range of techniques, including fair trade and appropriate technology ideas.

In the latter half of the term, students will carry out an investigation into 1 of a variety of geographical themed issues in an independent style study.

### **HISTORY**

During the first half of the Pentecost term, Year 8 will explore what is meant by terrorism and explore the different examples which have existed through time. They will examine the motivations of different organisations and consider two case studies of the IRA and Al Qaeda. They will complete an assessment assessing how successful the war on terror has been in America.

After half term, Year 8 will be completing an enquiry project on the Britain in the decades after World War II. They will have access to computers and textbooks to help them explore their chosen key question about music, fashion and film. Their assessment will be their findings concerning their key question, but it may be presented in a variety of formats.

Homework will be predominately research based and will be contained in their homework schedule distributed in the first week of this term.

## FACULTY OF LANGUAGE

### ENGLISH

The final unit of work that Year 8 students will study is based on '*Love and Relationships*.' They will explore the theme of love in Shakespeare's '*Romeo and Juliet*' and become more familiar with the techniques he uses to create meaning. In preparation for skills required in Key 4 they will be studying a poetry unit - *Love across the ages* - a selection of poems from the Romantic and Modern poets. Key skills explored are the analysis of poetry with special focus on the effect of poetic devices. In line with the new GCSE specifications, they will examine how social and historical contexts are reflected in poetry and learn how to compare two poems.

### LANGUAGES

#### French

We'll be describing the Nice Carnival, which will enable us to revise and extend our understanding of the Past Tense, an important GCSE skill. After half term, it's time for a talent show, where we give advice to future stars and revise and extend adjectives so that we can describe some of these 'stars' humorously!

#### German

We'll be describing some festivals in Switzerland which will enable us to revise and extend our understanding of the Past Tense, an important GCSE skill. After half term, we're learning about arranging a date, getting ready to go out, what we're wearing - and then telling a friend how the date went. This will develop our understanding of the Past Tense, which plays an essential role in achieving a good grade at GCSE.

#### Italian

We'll be learning about school – its facilities, our lessons, school rules, problems and teachers. We'll be focusing on the conditional tense, which will help us to achieve an excellent grade at GCSE!

#### Spanish

This half term is all about dates! Asking each other out, making excuses, getting ready and telling a friend how the date went. This module develops our understanding of 'reflexive' verbs, which will make our work more detailed and more impressive! After half term, it's holidays – where we stay, what we like to do, what we did last year and what we plan to do next year. By using these three tenses, we'll be developing an essential GCSE skill.

# FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE

## SCIENCE

### Half Term 1: Science Applied Cooking

This half term pupils will be looking in more detail at the science behind cooking. This is a subject which has been briefly looked at before, but now pupils will be exploring the subject with a GCSE level of detail. Pupils will be tasked with applying the knowledge they have already acquired in previous modules of KS3 science and applying it to the new situations which can arise in cooking.

The module will cover part of the GCSE specification for biology, chemistry and physics. With pupils starting the GCSE course in Year 9, this module will help them develop key skills needed to 'hit the ground running' come the start of next half term and Year 9.

### Half Term 2: Olympic Science

During the second half term, pupils will be learning about the exciting areas of sport science. With the Olympics right around the corner, the scheme of work will be looking at the different aspects of biology, chemistry and physics that fit into the Rio games.

The following topics and more will be covered.

- Aerodynamics
- Science of sports drinks
- Testing of banned substances
- Fabric design
- Aerobic and anaerobic respiration

## MATHS

In the Pentecost term, Year 8 will be studying mathematics in the contexts of Expressive Arts, PE and Magic. These will include topics from the following range:

- Number Tricks in Magic to allow students to see algebra and number rules being applied and to apply them themselves.
- Sport
- World records

- Interior Design
- Architecture

Short assessments for this year group will take place at the end of each module. These will take place in the classroom.

Some websites which may be of interest in helping them to further develop their understanding.

- [www.mymaths.co.uk](http://www.mymaths.co.uk)
- [www.connect.collins.co.uk](http://www.connect.collins.co.uk)
- [www.corbettmaths.com](http://www.corbettmaths.com)
- [www.mathsbot.com](http://www.mathsbot.com)

Pupils will also sit formal examinations to further assess their progress and to help them build familiarity with the examination process.

# FACULTY OF COMMUNICATION AND DESIGN

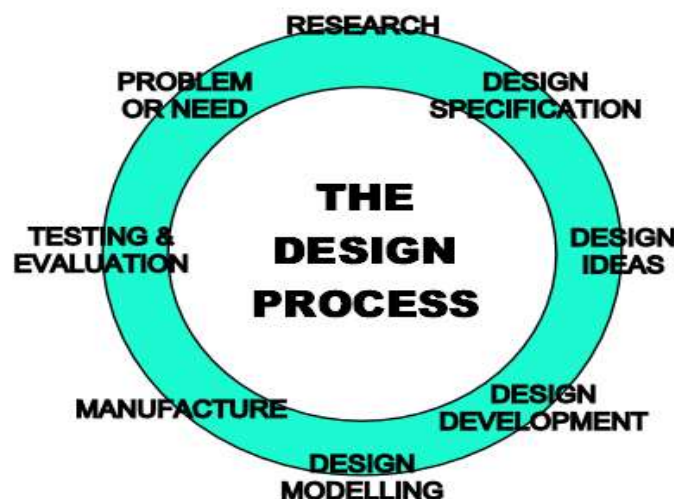
## DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

All pupils at St. Paul's Catholic School follow a Design and Technology programme of study at Key Stage 3.

Design and Technology is a subject that allows pupils to be creative and encourages them to develop new skills and knowledge through practical activities.

In Year 8 pupils continue to undertake a series of design and make tasks designed to increase their skills in problem solving, creative thinking and manufacturing.

The Design and Technology course is based around the Design Process.



## DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY ROUTES

Pupils at St. Paul's follow a carousel of 3 subjects during Years 7 & 8. The idea is to give them a grounding in the specific skills and knowledge relating to Design and Technology. Year 8 pupils have already completed courses in two areas and are currently completing their third and final project. Pupils will have the opportunity to select which single subject area they would prefer to study during Year 9.

The material specific areas offered are:

1. Electronics.
2. Food Technology.
3. Graphics.
4. Engineering.



5. Textiles Technology.
6. Resistant Materials Technology.

## **COMPUTER SCIENCE**

### **E communication**

During this unit, pupils will learn to understand the importance of creating documents for a specific audience. Understanding why audiences have different needs and how to accommodate these needs are the main focus for the beginning of the term. Furthermore, they will learn to develop existing presentations and create their own independently.

In addition to this, pupils will develop basic and advanced communication techniques through independent development of a professional presentation suitable for a specific audience and purpose. Learners will engage in a range of exciting activities including choosing and embedding sound files, sorting slides, image manipulation and advanced presentation techniques.

# FACULTY OF EXPRESSIVE ARTS

## ART

### Portraiture

Students are currently exploring Portraiture by experimenting with a range of materials such as collage, mixed media and relief sculptures. They will research and be inspired by artists such as Matisse, Naum Gabo and look at portraits throughout time. Students will have opportunity to develop 3D and relief pieces using recyclable materials as well as develop skills with paint. The aim is for students to gain a better understanding of alternative approaches to Art and to be able to combine different disciplines.

## DRAMA

Pupils will be using a range of drama conventions to explore the play '*A Midsummer Night's Dream*'.

Pupils should focus on developing their ability to use the following key skills:

- Still Image
- Marking the moment
- Hot seating
- Characterisation
- Script delivery
- Interpretation
- Physical theatre

After half term pupils will be extending this text work to a modern play and will be considering how they might approach different scenes as an actor, director and designer. The emphasis will be on practical exploration but students will be starting to consider elements such as staging, props, costume, lighting and sound and how they have an impact on an audience.

## **MUSIC**

### **Song writing**

In the first half of the Pentecost term, Year 8 will have the opportunity to compose their own songs. Using the songs of established artists as a model, they will look at the structure of pop songs, consider the chords used and analyse the features of catchy melodies before writing their own.

### **Variations**

Students will study music that has a repeating motif or bass line, with variations or development over the top of it. They will play the famous *Canon* by Pachelbel, and then make a study of it alongside *Chasing Cars* and identify how composers create variations over a repeating bass line or chord sequence

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

During the Pentecost term pupils in year 8 will follow a programme of study which will include Athletics, Cricket, Rounders and Health Related Exercise. Throughout Key Stage 3 the pupils will work in mixed and single gender groups to develop their communication, thinking, analysis and evaluation skills. The focus in Year 7 was to develop the basic physical skills of running, throwing and jumping and to apply them to specific athletic events and striking and fielding games. This continues into year 8, where they are also encouraged to develop more complex physical skills and use reflection and evaluation to improve their own performance.

Pupils will also have the opportunity to select PE as one of their expressive arts options. This will allow pupils to have a taste of what it is like to study PE at GCSE level. The course will include written theory work which will include homework tasks and written assessments, as well as pupils taking part in their own exercise and training programme.

There will be lots of different opportunities for the students to extend their skills outside normal school hours through the extended curriculum programme, which this term features golf, and through the extra-curricular programme which includes traditional summer sports such as Athletics, Rounders and Cricket. We encourage all pupils to attend at least one club session in at least one sport to develop their skills.

## YEAR 8 Homework Timetable 2016/17

Year 8 – 45 minutes per subject

**8X**

<b>Monday:</b>	RE, English
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Expressive Arts 1, ICT* or RE
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Expressive Arts 2, Technology, Science*
	MFL, Science*, ICT*
<b>Friday:</b>	History or Geography, Maths

\*If the pupil has the subject(s) on this day

**8Y**

<b>Monday:</b>	Science*, Maths
<b>Tuesday:</b>	English, Expressive Arts 1
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Science*, Technology
<b>Thursday:</b>	ICT, History or Geography
<b>Friday:</b>	Expressive Arts 2, RE

\*If the pupil has the subject(s) on this day