



Ministerium Tuum Imple Love | Serve | Do the best that is possible

Year 9 Curriculum Information Booklet



Advent Term 2018

INTRODUCTION



In this booklet teachers have outlined all that you will be learning in the Advent Term. Please read the booklet and be excited by all that you are going to learn.

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

FACULTY OF RE, GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY

RE

In the first half term students will be studying the topic: Did Jesus really rise from the dead? They will study the resurrection and post- resurrection accounts from the gospel and investigate the common themes amongst these. Pupils will investigate whether it is possible to move the resurrection stone and will evaluate the reliability of the Swoon Theory and the Shroud of Turin. Students will be assessed using GCSE style assessment questions.

In the second half term, pupils will complete a topic on 'Crime and Punishment'. They will investigate the criminal justice system in the UK, analyse the difference between crime and sin, before moving on to Christian attitudes and aims of punishment. Finally, pupils will look at the issue of capital punishment and evaluate whether capital punishment should be reinstated in the UK.

Geography

Rivers

Students start their GCSE option with an in-depth study on rivers. They learn how river processes shape the landscape, consider the value of rivers and evaluate how the risk of flooding can be managed.

Climate change

Students investigate the evidence, causes, impacts and responses of climate change. With reference to some dramatic case studies such as the potential loss of the Maldives, students focus on the concept that local actions have global consequences.

History

Year 9 will start their new GCSE unit on 'America 1920-1973: Opportunity and Inequality'. The first half term will be exploring the themes of 'boom' for those living in America in the 1920s. They will explore mass production, entertainment and the rise of the gangster. They will be completing an assessment on interpretations of women during this period.

After the half term students will continue exploring the unit on opportunity and inequality. This time they will discover the 'bust' of the 1930s. They explore the experiences of the depression and the New Deal.

FACULTY OF LANGUAGE

English

In the Advent term, students will be exploring creative writing through various extracts from texts. The assessment questions will be modelled on the GCSE English Language paper 1. As part of this, pupils will understand how writers have presented characters and themes through close text analysis. Practice essay questions will be in the style of the new GCSE Language examination specification. The focus for the second half of the term will be writing to argue which is a section in the English Language paper 2. They will complete a variety of tasks which will help them to acquire a wide vocabulary, improve their understanding of grammar and knowledge of linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language. They will also write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences.

Languages

How can you help your child to make fantastic progress in languages?

Because practice is so important when it comes to learning language, if you can encourage your child to speak the new words they're learning, this will have a real impact on their results. A little practice every day, even if it's just 10 minutes, will make all the difference! And a pocket dictionary will also help your child to become more independent and more creative. In September, we'll be advising your child about which one to buy.

German

This half term, we learn to talk about the people we admire and to explain what it is about them that we find so impressive. We then go on to our own lives – how it is now compared to how it was in the past. We then describe how we overcame misfortune! After half term, we immerse ourselves in music – the kind we like to listen to, whether we like to sing or play an instrument or what it's like at a music festival.

French

This half term, we talk about the social lives of teenagers! Facebook, the internet, giving your opinion about other people, arranging to go out, describing a date and going to a music festival. After half term, it's all about keeping healthy! We describe where we've been hit during a paintballing incident; we talk about the things we have to do to keep fit, before moving on to some New Year's resolutions.

Italian

This half term, we go into the world of technology and the role it plays in our lives, whether it's chatting online or entertaining ourselves! After half term, we will focus on living a healthy lifestyle – from examining our daily routine to talking about PE at school.

Spanish

This half term, we will talk about all aspects of daily life – from our routine through to the things we like, the films we watch, a special birthday celebration and the life of a celebrity. After half term, we will talk about our typical day before moving on to our aspirations for the future, whether it's the sort of job we'd like to do or the things we dream of doing.

FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE

Maths

In the Advent term, Year 9 will be learning about the application of Mathematics in the following subject areas:

- Language
- Geography
- Business Studies
- Information & Communication Technology

Students will be asked to use Mathematics in context and to discover new mathematical skills through exploration and reasoning. Pupils will have regular assessments in class including an exam style assessment in October.

We do encourage pupils to enjoy mathematics outside of lessons; the following websites may be of interest:

- www.mymaths.co.uk
- www.mathsbot.com
- www.trockstars.com
- www.corbettmaths.com
- www.connect.collins.com

Pupils may also like to take advantage of the mathematics homework support club which takes place on Monday afternoons from 3pm until 4pm in J111. Pupils have access to iPads, mathematics textbooks and mathematics teachers, they can work on homework or can ask for additional support on topics which they would like to explore in more depth.

Science

What am I studying in Year 9 Advent Term?

Exam Board: OCR **Specification:** Gateway Suite of Sciences **Qualifications:** GCSE Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

Subject	Title	Content	Assessment
Biology	Unit B1.1 B1 Cell Level Systems <i>Cell structures</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Animal vs Plant Cells 2. Cell Structure 3. Microscopes 4. DNA as a molecule 5. Protein Synthesis 6. Enzymes 7. Enzyme practical work 8. Respiration and Exothermic reactions 9. Aerobic vs Anaerobic 10. Carbohydrates, Proteins and Fats (digestion) 11. Testing for Carbohydrates, Proteins and Fats 12. Photosynthesis 13. Photosynthesis practical work 14. Photosynthesis limiting factors 15. Photosynthesis limiting factors practical work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B1 AP1: B1.1 Cell Structure. • B1 AP2: B1.2 What happens in cells and what do cells need. • B1 AP3: B1.3 Respiration. • B1 AP4: B1.4 Photosynthesis. • B1 AP5: Synoptic Test covering all of B1 Cell Level Systems
Chemistry	Unit J248 Chemistry A	C1.1. Particles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The particle model, including limitations of it in the real world • Physical and chemical changes • Purity of substances 	There will be 3 assessment points: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Multiple choice questions 2. Extended written answers 3. Book checks.

Physics	Module P1: <i>Matter</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The particle model and the structure of the atom • Heating and cooling • Mass, volume and density • Pressure and temperature in gases • Floating and sinking 	Assessment points contain multiple choice and long answer questions and are synoptic in nature, assessing all the material which has been covered.
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How can I find out more? www.ocr.org.uk We follow the Gateway Suite of Sciences.

Head of Biology Samantha.Jones@st-pauls.org.uk

Head of Chemistry Francesca.Ferguson@st-pauls.org.uk

Head of Physics Emily.Guinness@st-pauls.org.uk

KS3 Coordinator Leah.Abbott@st-pauls.org.uk

BTEC Level 2 & 3 and Horticulture Coordinator David.Breuilly@st-pauls.org.uk

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.

Year 9 pupils are continuing in their studies in one subject area of Design and Technology. This allows pupils to achieve a depth of knowledge, understanding and a wide ranging skill base in preparation for study towards GCSE D&T or OCR National (Engineering) in their subject area.

As in previous years all Design and Technology courses are based around the principals of Designing.



Subject areas:

1. Electronic Design.
2. Food Nutrition and Preparation.
3. Paper, Cards and Boards.
4. Engineering Design and Manufacture.
5. Textiles, Fibres and Fabrics
6. Timber, Metals and Polymers.

FACULTY OF EXPRESSIVE ARTS

Art

Pupils have now opted for Art in Year 9 and will now begin building their coursework portfolio for their GCSE in Art & Design. Students produce a portfolio of work to form a unit which is worth 60% of their GCSE. This shows their journey of research, exploring materials, idea development to practical conclusions. Pupils must show they have worked in a range of styles and materials, have fully researched and evaluated artists, developed a range of ideas which is then further developed into final pieces. Pupils will experiment with a range of media and will be encouraged to be creative and to independently explore ways to resolve their ideas.

The first project will be based on the title 'Landscapes'. The trip to Kew Gardens and the resources pupils gather from this will be the starting point to this title.

The exam board does not set a syllabus but gives assessment objectives that need to be met which enables students to develop their projects individually, demonstrating their technical skills and creative ideas as well as their broader understanding of Art. The Assessment Objectives are as follows:

AO1 – Develop their ideas through investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and cultural understanding.

AO2 – Refine their ideas through experimenting and selecting appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes.

AO3 – Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to their intentions in visual and/or other forms.

AO4 - Present a personal, informed and meaningful response demonstrating analytical and critical understanding, realizing intentions and, where appropriate, making connections between visual, written, oral or other elements.

Homework will be both research based as well as building on practical skills learned. In order to be successful pupils should include examples of the art work, background information about the artist and personal judgements about the work.

How can I find out more?

- www.edexcel.org.uk
- [BBC bitesize](#)
- Collect as many primary sources linked to chosen themes. It is particularly useful to include photographs that they have taken themselves.
- Research artists who work in the same materials students are exploring, or artists who have covered the same theme.
- Visit Art Galleries.

Drama

Firstly, Year 9 students will be undertaking a Devising Unit in preparation for their GCSE Component 1 assessment. They will be using a number of different stimuli to create drama using both rehearsed and spontaneous improvisation skills. They will be utilising a range of explorative strategies and will evaluate the process and outcomes of devising effective drama. Example stimuli will be script extracts, poetry, objects, pictures, articles and music. They will also make links to established theatre practitioners and styles and experiment with these practically.

After half term, Year 9 will apply their devising skills to exploring the film 'Let Him Have It' and the issues and characters involved in the legal case of Craig and Bentley. They will use the medium of Drama and the integrated learning talents to interpret the various situations leading up to the shooting and portray different characters' perspectives on what happened. They will also complete some written portfolio tasks to enable them to evaluate their practical development.

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

- Voice and Body Language
- Thoughts in the head/thought tracking
- Hot-seating
- Spontaneous improvisation
- Rolling theatre
- Characterisation
- Physical theatre to music (dream sequences)

Assessment: students are assessed on their skills of:

- Self-Awareness and Planning
- Creativity
- Collaboration
- Sustained Response (performance)
- Written evaluation

Music

Performing: students will work with their class teacher and instrumental teacher towards a solo performance in each half term which shows off their musical skill. This could be a song or a piano piece, or something you are learning on a different instrument. It also includes the Music Technology option using Logic on the iMacs. Students will need to take ownership of this as it will require some practise out of lesson time.

Composing: students will start to compose their own piece of music or song using Sibelius or Logic (Music software).

Appraising: you will study music that is on the GCSE specification which could be anything from Western Classical Music (such as Baroque, Classical or Romantic music), Popular Music, Rock, Jazz, Reggae, Dubstep and Dance.

Physical Education

Pupils will be following a physical activity programme which will include a range of sports including team games, net games, striking and fielding games, dance, gymnastics, athletics and exercise and training, working sometimes in mixed gender groups, sometimes in single gender groups.

Pupils who have chosen to take GCSE PE as an extra option will complete the following:

Exam Board – OCR

Course outline/key topics covered.

The Key Topics covered in year 9 are the structure and function of the skeletal system, the structure and function of the muscular system, the cardiovascular and respiratory systems and effects of exercise on body systems.

These topics will cover the following:

- Location of major bones
- Functions of the skeleton
- Types of synovial joints
- Types of movement at joints
- Components of joints
- Location of major muscle groups
- The roles of muscle in movement
- Lever systems
- Planes of movement
- Structure and function of the cardiovascular and respiratory systems
- Aerobic and anaerobic exercise
- Short-term effects of exercise
- Long-term (training) effects of exercise

Assessment

Each of the five topics covered will have an end of topic test each half term, but the final external practical and written assessment will take place during year 11. Pupils will also have to complete an analysis and evaluating performance (AEP).

The course is broken down into three parts for assessment purposes, these are:

60% written examination

30% practical moderation

10% analysis of performance and PEP

How can I find out more?

Pupils can look on these websites for more information:

- www.brianmac.co.uk
- www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize
- <http://www.ocr.org.uk/>

They can also use their textbooks and a revision book will be made available for pupils to purchase around exam time.