

The Park School

Yr8 Curriculum Booklet

Autumn 2023

THE PARKSCHOOL



What will my child learn this term?

- Students will read a range of poems and discuss the features of poetry. Texts may include Revolting Rhymes by Roald Dahl and The Highwayman by Alfred Noyes. Students will show understanding of the poems by sequencing events, character analysis, and making predictions. They will complete a range of writing activities including recount, descriptions, comprehension and diaries
- In the second half of term students will read a variety of short plays such as Escape from the Island by Michael Butt. They will identify how plays are set out and will write the ending for a play including stage directions

How will they be assessed?

- Students will be assessed each lesson through observation and questioning
- In the first term they will be formally assessed in reading, spelling and writing to check what they have remembered from last year

Key words: poetry, verse, poet, character, appearance, personality

How can I support them with their learning?

- Read with your child for at least 10 minutes every night
- Practise individual spelling with your child each night
- Read some poems together at home
- Read a play together, act it out, dress up – have fun!
- Go to see a play together
- Write a play script together

MATHS

What will my child learn this term?

- **Geometry:** 3D shapes, identify and draw the line of symmetry of a shape, horizontal and vertical and diagonal lines, nets of cuboids, use coordinates to identify a point on a grid, cardinal points
- **Number:** Place value, read and write numbers in figures and words, money, addition, subtractions, multiplications and divisions including word problems

How will they be assessed?

- Both schemes of learning will be assessed through an end of module assessment
- Maths Age assessments will also be carried out during June/July

Key words: Sides, edges, vertices, symmetry, line of symmetry, left, right, horizontal, vertical, diagonals, coordinates, ones, tens, hundreds, thousands, digit, more than, less than, most expensive, cheapest, North, South, West, East

How can I support them with their learning?

- Help them complete homework set
- Ensure they know their MyMaths login
- Talk about what they did in the lesson
- Show them examples of shapes and pictures from day-to-day life where they can apply all these key words

SCIENCE

What will my child learn this term?

- To identify the Rock Cycle
- To identify some different types of energy

How will they be assessed?

- By an end of term assessment paper
- In class observation and feedback

Key words: Sedimentary, metamorphic, igneous, volcano, magma, lava, heat, sun, radiant, electrical, mechanical, chemical, renewable

How can I support them with my learning?

- Help them complete any set homework
- Do some online research about rock cycles
- Do some online research about energy types
- Discuss the keywords above

ART & DESIGN

What will my child learn this term?

- They will learn about the techniques employed by a variety of different street artists and will research and use both digital and traditional collage techniques in the production of a large self-portrait

How will they be assessed?

- Class work is continuously assessed and progress will be reviewed at Half term

Key words: Silhouette, stencil, layers, tracing, masking, negative and positive spaces, found objects

How can I support them with their learning?

- Ask them about their work and what they have been doing and let them show and explain work that they are proud of

HISTORY

What will my child learn this term?

- Development of their understanding of chronology by looking at BC and AD and ordering events on a timeline
- Types of source
- Industrial Revolution – How life changed, where people lived, children’s jobs in Victorian times, workhouses, prison life and Cholera

How will they be assessed?

- Content will be assessed through a google form quiz at the end of the year
- History skills will be assessed during activities in the lesson where they will have a chance to independently put skills into practice

Key words: Before Christ, Anno Domini, primary and secondary sources, Industrial Revolution, back-to-back houses, mines, workhouse, Cholera

How can I support them with their learning?

- Look up what the keywords mean and practice using them in a sentence
- Talk about what they did in the lesson
- Do some practice of putting events in order using the years they occurred
- Look up videos online about each topic to further their understanding

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

What will my child learn this term?

- Memory strategies (recap, a ‘ways to remember’ sheet can be found in their diary)
- Feelings and strategies linked to Zones of Regulation (recap)
- Compliments – what one is and how to give and receive them
- Keeping (unkind) thoughts in our heads

How will they be assessed?

- Via the DINTs and responses in lesson
- Through their responses to any learning tasks used in lessons, which is recorded in their books

Key vocab: regulated, dysregulated, compliments, appearance, personality, insults, tolerance, feelings vocabulary

How can I support them with their learning?

- Take all opportunities to use a memory strategy and to support their listening and turn taking skills, identifying and using compliments and reminding them to keep insults in their heads
- Support their home learning

GEOGRAPHY

What will my child learn this term?

- Antarctica: where it is in the world, what it is like - weather conditions, landscape, wildlife, animal adaptations, what it is like for humans who work and visit there and why it is important
- Plate tectonics – volcanoes and earthquakes: the structure of the earth, plate tectonics, to label and name volcanoes, understand causes and key features of an earthquake, how they can be predicted and how people can protect themselves

How will they be assessed?

- Via the DINTs and responses in lessons and the learning in lessons is recorded on slides on the Chromebook

Key words: Antarctica, desert, wilderness, scientists, climate change; earth's crust, core, mantle, molten, magma, ash, vent, cone, active, dormant, crater, extinct, epicentre, after shock, fault line, magnitude, Richter scale

How can I support them with their learning?

- Show an interest, discuss issues, watch programmes, clips on YouTube about it
- Support their home learning

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

What will my child learn this term?

- The importance of health and safety whilst cooking and in the kitchen
- How to use equipment safely
- How to use a sharp knife safely
- How to prepare a range of simple, healthy snacks and small meals such as tea and toast, lemon cakes, fairy cakes, apple crumble, fruit salad and flapjacks

How will they be assessed?

- Do It Now tasks at the beginning of the lesson aid recall from previous lessons
- Teacher observations of skills during lesson
- Self-assessment of skills

Key words: Weigh, measure, timer, rubbing in, whisking, aeration, rising

How can I support them with their learning?

- Encourage further cooking at home
- Get them to help with washing up, drying up and clearing up after meals
- Read instructions on packets of food

RE

What will my child learn this term?

- Sikh faith: when and who founded the Sikh faith
- Sikh celebrations e.g. Vaisakhi
- The formation of the Khalsa & the Five K's
- Facts about the Guru Granth Sahib (Holy Book)
- Features of the Gurdwara (Holy Building)
- The Khanda and other Sikh symbols
- Christian traditions at Christmas

How will they be assessed?

- Do It Now tasks at the beginning of the lesson aid recall from previous lessons
- A multiple-choice quiz at the end of the topic

Key words: the 5 K's - kesh, kara, kirpan, kachera, kanga

How can I support them with their learning?

- Help them complete homework set on Google Classroom
- Practice key words
- Watch BBC bitesize (KS2 or KS3) Facts about the Sikh faith

MUSIC

What will my child learn this term?

- Listen and appraise Classical music from BBC Ten Pieces 2
- Learning to play the chime bars
- Singing a song for Harvest
- Singing Christmas songs

How will they be assessed?

- Do It Now tasks at the beginning of the lesson aid recall from previous lessons
- Photos will be taken as evidence
- Opportunity for group performance
- Self-reflection

Key words: chord, rhythm pattern

How can I support them with their learning?

- Help them complete homework set on Google Classroom
- Listen to Radio 3 or Classic FM. Discuss what type of instruments can be heard
- Watch [The Proms](#) on BBC iPlayer
- Practice key words
- Talk about what they did in the lesson
- [Singalong with Christmas songs](#) on YouTube

What will my child learn this term?

- Fitness testing to measure flexibility, strength, power, agility, coordination, stamina and balance
- Development of independent warm-ups
- Teambuilding and problem-solving activities
- Invasion Games to include football, netball, basketball
- Focus on elements within the games such as passing, attacking, defending, getting into space
- Further development of fundamental motor skills

How will they be assessed?

- As well as focussing on the specific skills within each activity that we cover in PE, all students will be assessed through the Head (cognitive application), Heart (character development) and Hands (physical application) programme
- In the Autumn Term, we will focus on and assess our students on the following assessment themes: Working with others / Identifying & Solving Problems / Acquiring New Skills / Developing New Skills / Self-Confidence / Making Decisions

Key words: flexibility, strength, power, agility, coordination, stamina, balance, attack, defence, teamwork, tactics

How can I support them with their learning?

- Talk about what they did in the lesson
- Look at examples of these sports activities on the TV, on the internet
- Watch or join in activities at outside clubs or at your local sports park
- Practise the key skills for each activity with your son or daughter
- Encourage your child to be active and participate in physical activity
- Practice key words above and use them in sentences

PSHE

What will my child learn this term?

- School council
- The Zones of Regulation
- Personal qualities
- Dealing with stress
- Friendship struggles
- Antibullying week
- Teamwork
- Responsible use of social media
- Fake News

How will they be assessed?

- Do it now task at the beginning of the lesson to recall learning from previous lesson
- Students will be assessed each lesson through questions and observation of tasks

Key words: Zones of Regulation, career, personal qualities, struggles, bullying, social media, fake news

How can I support them with their learning?

- Look up what the keywords mean and practice using them in a sentence
- Talk about what they did in the lesson
- Look up videos online about each topic to further their understanding
<https://www.youtube.com/@bbcteach> and <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround>

ICT

What will my child learn this term?

- To use a variety of simple software programs
- To use a spreadsheet to record information

How will they be assessed?

- By an end of term assessment paper
- In class observation and feedback

Key words: Software, program, Word, PowerPoint, document, spreadsheet, table, graph

How can I support them with my learning?

- Help them complete any set homework
- Do some online research about how to use a PowerPoint and a spreadsheet
- Discuss the keywords above

DRAMA

What will my child learn this term?

- This half term, Year 8 students will develop a short scene and perform it in our Christmas production. They will be watching extracts from “A Christmas Carol” by Charles Dickens and will use these as stimuli for developing their own scene based on the text
- The Drama skills they will be developing will include: improvisation, making suggestions for the writing and staging of a scene and for their own lines and actions, learning lines and actions, adding expression to their lines and continuing to develop their range of facial and vocal expressions

How will they be assessed?

- Drama assessment takes the form of our Flight Path Tracker assessment system and also individual Drama reports, which are updated every half term

Key words: Improvisation, Facial expressions, Staging, Props, Vocal expression, Body language

How can I support them with my learning?

- Please help your child learn their lines and cues if they bring home a script later in the term

DIGITAL MEDIA

What will my child learn this term?

- This term we are learning how to create a storybook using various software on an Apple Mac computer. This will include using pages to create a digital storybook and Pixelmator for creating illustrations

How will they be assessed?

- Students will be assessed during lessons on their ability to create an initial idea, develop this into a story, and be able to explain and show their ideas using a storyboard

Key words: storyboard, smart erase, repair, paste, quick selection, magnetic selection, free selection, polygonal selection

How can I support them with their learning?

- Encourage your child to pick up their favourite storybook and read it from start to end, then practice writing out brief paragraphs summarizing the beginning, middle and end of the book to help them understand the formula of how the story was developed

SCHOOL DAY

It is important that students arrive at school on time. The school gates open at 8:50am and all students are expected to be on the school premises by 9:00am when the gates close. Morning Registration takes place between 9:00am and 9:15am, students who arrive after 9:05am are given a Late mark on the register.

- 8:50am – 9:00am – Students arrive at school
- 9:00am – 9:10am - Tutor time
- 9:10am - 9:25am – Reading in tutor bases
- 9:25am – 10:15am - Lesson 1
- 10:15am – 10:30am - Break
- 10:30am – 11:20am - Lesson 2
- 11:20am – 12:15pm - Lesson 3
- 12:15pm – 1:00pm – Lunch
- 1:00pm – 1:10pm - Tutor time
- 1:10pm – 2:00pm - Lesson 4
- 2:00pm – 2:50pm - Lesson 5
- 2:50pm – 3:00pm – Tutor time
- 3:00pm Home Time

EQUIPMENT

Part of developing self-organisation skills involves being prepared for lessons. Students should learn to check that they have the correct items with them daily. This will help them work towards a high standard of presentation as well as developing a sense of responsibility and an appreciation of school resources.

We request a pencil case (with student's name on it) containing a basic set of:

- Handwriting pen (fibre tip not a ball point)
- Pencil
- Eraser
- Ruler
- Glue stick
- Pencil sharpener
- Highlighter pen
- Coloured pencils

Students are expected to bring a named water bottle to use throughout the day.

TOP TIPS TO SUPPORT COMMUNICATION

1. Speak slowly and clearly to your child. This will help your child to speak slowly and clearly too. This will also help them understand.
2. Encourage your child to say when they have not understood something.
3. When your child says something incorrectly, say it back to them correctly, e.g. child says "I play on the puter", adult says "You want to play on the computer".
4. Explain what longer words mean.
5. Tell your child when you are joking or being sarcastic.
6. If you use a saying like "You're on fire today!" or "I'm over the moon" check they understand what you mean.
7. Explain words with more than one meaning, e.g. "pair" and "pear".
8. Help your child understand how to act in different social situations.
9. Talk to your child about the dangers of using sites such as 'Facebook', as it is likely they will not understand the risks of sharing personal information with people they don't know well or when talking with others online.

NOTES

Please use this section for any notes you may have



Respect and Achievement for All