

**Year 8  
Overview of  
Learning**

This term we are learning about  
"Who are we?"



Our Change Maker principle, this term  
is 'Bravery'



**English**

**Maths**

**Science**

**Computing & Careers**

**PSHE/RSE**

<p>In Year 8, young people will be studying 'A Series of Unfortunate Events - The Bad Beginning' by Lemony Snicket, with a focus on developing their skills in analysis, character exploration, and understanding how settings and plotlines are built. This will encourage them to think about how authors use language to create meaning and atmosphere, while also considering how characters interact and develop throughout the text.</p> <p>Alongside their reading, young people will also practise their own descriptive writing, building creativity and confidence in written expression. They will use the PEEZLE paragraph structure (Point, Evidence, Explain, Zoom, Line, Effect) to support their analytical writing, helping them to form strong, detailed responses to questions about the text and improving their ability to communicate ideas clearly.</p>	<p>In Year 8 mathematics, students deepen their understanding of key concepts across three major areas: Ratio &amp; Scale, Multiplicative Change, and Multiplying &amp; Dividing Fractions. In Ratio &amp; Scale, pupils learn to interpret and use ratio notation, solve problems involving ratios such as 1:n and m:n, simplify ratios, and compare them with fractions. They also explore ratios in real-world contexts, including understanding pi and gradient as ratios. The Multiplicative Change unit focuses on solving direct proportion problems, interpreting conversion and scale graphs, converting currencies, and understanding relationships between similar shapes through scale factors and diagrams. Finally, in Multiplying and Dividing Fractions, students develop fluency in multiplying fractions by integers and other fractions, dividing both whole numbers and fractions, using reciprocals, and working with improper, mixed, and algebraic fractions. These topics build a strong foundation for mathematical</p>	<p><u>Organisation</u></p> <p>Students will explore the fascinating world of cells and organisation. They will learn about the hierarchy of organisation, starting from cells to tissues, organs, and ultimately, systems. We will dive into specialised cells, such as muscle and nerve cells, alongside the importance of bones and the skeleton for support and movement.</p> <p>Practical activities include chicken leg dissection to observe muscle and joint structure and the different types of tissue present.</p> <p>Students will also engage in microscope work to investigate cells up close. Additionally, they will explore the respiratory system and the processes of anaerobic and aerobic respiration, enhancing their understanding of how living organisms function.</p>	<p>This term in Computing, Year 8 will be learning about <b>Networks and the Internet</b>. Students will begin by exploring what a computer network is, why we use them, and the different devices that make up a network. They will then move on to understanding the difference between the Internet and the World Wide Web, using simple analogies and activities to support their learning.</p> <p>As the unit develops, pupils will discover how devices connect to the internet, what happens when you type a web address, and how browsers and URLs work. They will also look at the key parts of a webpage, including hyperlinks, and practise navigating between pages.</p> <p>The unit will finish with a focus on online safety, helping students to develop safe habits when searching, browsing, and sharing information online. By the end, pupils will have a stronger understanding of how the internet works and how to use it responsibly.</p>	<p>This half term in PSHE our topic is - Self-Awareness. We are going to be exploring this through the following areas:</p> <p>Describing what we are good at or enjoy.</p> <p>identifying things that make us special and unique as learners,</p> <p>Describing what learning areas we enjoy and setting our own learning goals,</p> <p>Describing what it means to treat others in a kind a fair way,</p> <p>Recognising that everyone is unique and special and no one should be treated unfairly,</p> <p>Describing and giving examples of kind and unkind behaviour and identifying some of the ways we could tell a trusted adult that we need help.</p>
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	<p>reasoning and problem-solving in everyday and academic contexts.</p>		<p><b>Careers</b> In Year 8, students will deepen their self-awareness and begin to articulate their future ambitions. They will kick off the term by exploring their aspirations and reflecting on their achievements so far. They will recognise the importance of learning, skills, and qualifications in crafting a successful career. We will encourage students to challenge themselves and embrace new experiences, tying in with their Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education. Other lessons will offer insights into the relationship between careers and environmental awareness, as well as how technological advancements shape job opportunities. Finally, students will prepare for their transition into the next key stage by discussing the importance of choosing the right qualifications</p>	
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Geography & History	Art and DT	PE & Music	MFL & RE
<p><b>Geography</b></p> <p>This half term we will be starting a unit looking at Rivers. We will start by exploring the major rivers of the world and asking what the difference between the longest and largest rivers is. We will recap the water cycle before moving onto drainage basins and the sections that make up the source of a river and its changing course, considering the specific elements of a river found in the Upper, Middle and Lower sections of a river such as gorges and waterfalls, meanders and oxbow lakes and then flood plains as we move towards the mouth of a river</p>	<p><b><u>Food Technology:</u></b></p> <p>Pupils will be creating a variety of dishes as voted for by themselves to celebrate their likes and explore different tastes. They will follow step-by-step plans, choosing the right equipment and ingredients to prepare and cook a variety of dishes using a range of cooking techniques, especially demonstrating an increasing confidence in techniques such as measuring, mixing, chopping, baking and cooking. Pupils will cook or bake a product and make sure that it looks attractive, being able to explain the process that they have used.</p> <p><b>Art</b></p> <p>In our upcoming art curriculum, students will explore the symbolism of poppies and create their own sculptures. We'll start with an introduction to poppies and their significance in relation to WWI. Lessons will include drawing techniques, wire sculpture construction, and refinement of individual pieces. Each session encourages collaboration and reflection, culminating in a class display for Remembrance. We hope to instil a deeper understanding of both artistic practice and the meaning behind our artwork.</p>	<p><b><u>PE</u></b></p> <p>Young people will be developing their skills in invasion games. The focus will be on refining core techniques like passing, shooting, tackling and marking while building a deeper understanding of tactics in both attack and defence. Young people will also strengthen their teamwork, communication and decision making with emphasis on applying strategies to a game.</p> <p><b><u>Music</u></b></p> <p>This half term we will be developing our music theory - how to read music - by learning to play Dvorak's 'Symphony No.9' on the keyboards. We will learn note names and lengths, where notes are on a staff and how this relates to the keyboard, and hopefully play 2-handed.</p>	<p><b>MFL:</b></p> <p>This half term students are recapping phonics and the basic building blocks of the Spanish language. This will focus on the pronunciation of the Spanish alphabet before moving onto the key phonics and phonemes. This will then help students move forward and more effectively manage more complicated topics</p> <p>In RE young people will be focusing on "what does it mean to live in a multifaith country"</p>