

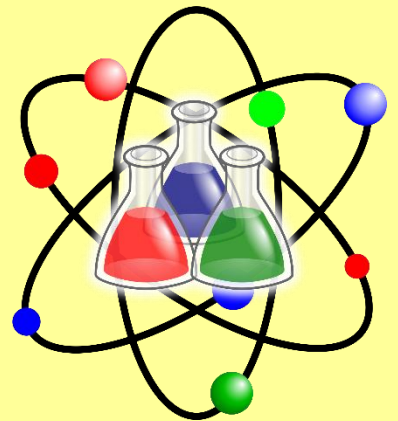
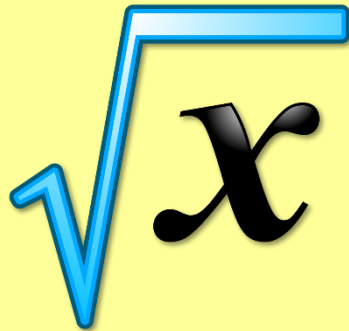
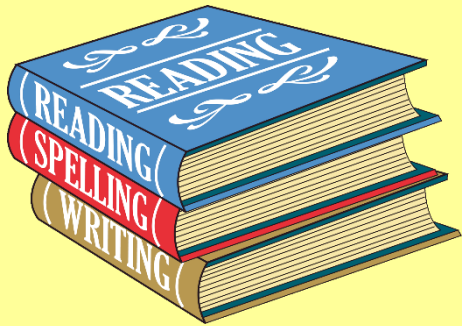
Grays Convent High School

Year 8

Curriculum Newsletter
Summer Term (A) - 2024



Inspiring Ambition,
Achieving Excellence



Welcome to our Summer Term (A) Curriculum Newsletter. The departments that teach your daughter have contributed to the newsletter to give you information about what you can expect her to be studying this term at Grays Convent High School.

English

In the summer term, students will study a range of extracts around the theme of 'Identity and Self' and have the opportunity to explore their own 'identity and self' through their writing. Students will also complete a reading test using the Renaissance Learning Accelerated Reading programme.

Maths

Set 1 and 2 are working on Proportion when we return. This will be followed by units on Graphs and comparing data.

Set 3 will continue their work on Equations and Formulae followed by Proportion.

Set 4 are working on Probability when we return. This will be followed by a unit on Equations and Formulae.

Set 5 are working with Circles when we return. This will be followed by a unit on Probability.

RE

Students' learning is based on the topics in the ICONS programme of study. At the start of this half term pupils will study the stories of Ascension and Pentecost and learn why these are they are important to the Church today. After this, pupils will consider what it means to live life to the full. Looking at various examples of people who have lived a full life by following Jesus. They will then consider how they can share in God's work of Creation. Pupils will study the Pope's teaching in Laudato Si and think of practical ways that this teaching can be put in to practice. Pupils will also be given some time to revise and prepare for their exams taking place this term.

Science

During summer term, students will study the following units:

- Inheritance
- Work
- Magnets and electromagnets
- Types of reaction
- Climate

Art

Introduction to the Insect Project and exploring mark making page with a diagram of a fly. Students will then draw on their experiments to draw a variety of insects with a variety of mark making techniques and patterns.

Students will then complete a detailed observational drawing: by zooming into a section of the insect to create a line pencil sketch, a tonal drawing in pencil and Biro pen drawing. They will then develop an A4 composition of an insect using different colour paper in different sections and using the different techniques they have learnt.

Computing

Data Representation (Binary)

Understand simple Boolean logic [for example, AND, OR and NOT] and some of its uses in circuits and programming; understand how numbers can be represented in binary, and be able to carry out simple operations on binary numbers [for example, binary addition, and conversion between binary and decimal].

Understand how instructions are stored and executed within a computer system; understand how data of various types (including text, sounds and pictures) can be represented and manipulated digitally, in the form of binary digits.

Design Technology

Bi-Plane Projects

- Drawing methods (Oblique, Isometric, and one and two point perspective).
- Toy design (designing, annotation, evaluation, customer feedback, final design with improvements).
- Materials (plastics, wood, metals, smart and modern materials).
- Mechanisms.
- Start making the bi-plane.

Assessment

- Designing and design development (self/peer /teacher assessment).
- Tech soft 2D- set tasks, sketch up, including toy design (teacher and peer assessment).

Drama

In the final term we continue studying the verbatim play Game Over by Mark Wheeler and we introduce TIE (Theatre in Education) students will use Game Over as a stimuli to **devise** and **create a performance** that is TIE inspired and can be performed to a target audience.

Food

Denaturation

Coagulation

Types of fish

Recipe ideas using fish

Food presentation

Food waste and labelling

Practical Lessons:

Fish fingers

Samosas

French

Mes exploits. This half term, students will learn how to describe and narrate their achievements. There will be an emphasis on grammar acquisition and accuracy at the expense of content, with a lot of work on the Determiner-Noun-Adjective sequence, 3 main tenses of regular verbs, and the use of modal verbs. Pupils will also learn to use the comparison structure. They will be improving their use of the partitive article (=some), and of the infinitive. We will aim at them being able to write a story using 3 tenses: present, future and past, using simple but mostly accurately language. This half term is a preparation for their end of year exam.

Geography

Year 8's work will cover two very topical areas of study this half term, ecosystems and climate change. Both these topics have a massive impact on the world's resources and how we live our lives.

History

Students will begin work on the Industrial Revolution and the growth of the British Empire. They will look at how Britain changed from a rural to an industrial nation to become Workshop of the World. Our final focus will look at the British Empire.

Music

Programme Music

Music is around us everywhere, with much music designed to tell us a story and draw us in. Sometimes this can be more "classical" or contemporary music which is designed to depict a scene, or a landscape, or a work of art. Sometimes this could be music for motion pictures. This term, Year 8 students will be investigating how music can be used in these diverse ways, using Music Technology, as appropriate, to help them start to create and build their own musical works, developing their own skills as both musicians and composers whilst understanding some of the conventions and clichés used by composers.

PSHEC

Students will be learning about the following:

- Gambling and its consequences
- Bank accounts and financial products
- Rights as a consumer

PE

Cricket

In Year 8 pupils are given knowledge about the game, and will be asked to bowl an over against a batter. In batting pupils will develop tactical awareness and will attempt to play different shots into space. There will be a focus on decision making and running between the stumps, under competitive pressure.

In Athletics Year 8 will build upon techniques learnt in September and implements these along-a-side competition rules, pupils will also start to measure and time their throws and runs, using their mathematical skills to record their results.

Spanish

Pupils will be learning about the home and accommodation. They will reinforce the adjectival agreement, start learning irregular verbs in the present tense, and prepositions. They will start exploring the future tense. They will consolidate the verb *estar*, which was one of the key learning form last term.