

Summary of work for Michaelmas Term – Form 3

English

Pupils study either John Steinbeck's 'Of Mice and Men', or Susan Hill's 'The Woman in Black', using and developing important skills which form the preparation for their GCSE courses. Focus is primarily on teaching the required skills through salient assessment objectives, using the novella. Independent study on a number of related subjects including black rights and the American Dream, and genre conventions is encouraged, while pupils' oral competency is facilitated through group and whole class discussion.

Maths

Pupils tackle simple interest questions and attempt calculations with percentages. They learn how to expand, simplify and factorise increasingly complex expressions and solve equations with variables in the denominator. Angle and symmetry properties of polygons are used to solve problems and tessellation is studied. Pupils then learn about graphs and data, including medians and quartiles, draw and interpret step and time graphs and draw graphs of simple and increasingly complex exponential functions. Finally they use Pythagoras' Theorem in a variety of problems and apply its converse.

Science

In the first term, Form 3 follow the AQA GCSE scheme of work.

In **Biology**, this includes cell structure and transport, organisation and the digestive system.

In **Chemistry**, this includes atomic structure and the Periodic Table.

In **Physics**, this includes conservation and dissipation of energy.

Geography

Pupils begin the AQA GCSE Geography scheme of work and learn about the UK Landscapes, specifically focusing on coastal and then river landscapes. For the coastal landscapes section, they investigate the various landforms found at coasts, how these landscapes are managed and follow a case study. For river landscapes, they investigate the different processes and landforms as well as how rivers are managed and there is a second case study.

History

In order to complicate the narrative which students have built up over the past two years, Form 3 History begins by re-evaluating the social history of Britain through a study of women's position within society. We follow this up with additional aspects of social history, in particular the impact of the Industrial Revolution on people's lives, and the consequences of British colonisation in Australia.

Modern Foreign Languages

French

Students talk about numerous geography and media based topics such as describing/comparing countries, transport, TV programmes, film and technology including social media. They learn about verbs and tenses in more detail as well as comparatives and asking questions. Adjectives are studied also.

German

Students cover a wide range of everyday subjects such as jobs around the home, holidays and generally describing things, including family relationships. Grammar includes more work on nouns, the perfect tense and future tense, reflexive and separable verbs and word order rules.

Spanish

Students learn about a wide range of topics, including shopping, holidays and relationships with family and friends. Grammar studies include more work on tenses and adjectives.

Art

Students study and sketch a variety of architectural styles, exploring cultural and historical differences. They then create buildings in the style of their choice in 3 dimensions, in card and clay. To reinforce their understanding of perspective drawing from DT students then redesign Longridge in a new architectural style.

Music

Pupils study musical theatre with a particular emphasis on Chicago, by breaking down larger numbers into their components and creating their own performances. This work is extended into studying music for the cinema after half-term, looking at the use of music to enhance the mood of a scene. They use these ideas to develop the soundtrack for a James Bond trailer.

Design Technology

Pupils have made a personalised tool box to keep their personal aprons, masks and goggles safe from contamination.

In the work shop:

Pupils start with Health and Safety revision, especially around the use of power tools. They study joints and make prototypes of the 3 joints: butt, lap and finger out of cardboard. They practise on scrap wood using the power tools and then make their box using finger joints. Finally they paint the box using previous chalk paint design finishes.

Their second project is a series of Christmas challenges: to design and create a drift wood Christmas tree; to design and create a freestanding moose from wood; to make a Christmas wreath starting with a bar of mild steel; to create hanging decorations using sea glass.

In the classroom:

Pupils study buildings through time and do some technical drawing.

Drama

Pupils examine the concept of 'arts and the media', which leads into a study of different theatre practitioners, including Stanislavski and Brecht. They also do some work on political theatre. A variety of dramatic techniques are explored through these themes.

PSHE

Pupils examine human rights, the balance between rights and responsibilities, the UN Charter on Children's rights and human rights abuses in the world. They consider strategies for developing resilience, and E-safety etiquette and maintaining personal safety in both the real and the virtual world.

Sport

Pupils participate in a variety of sporting activities throughout the term. The main team sport for girls is hockey, with boys playing rugby. Pupils develop their skills in training and match situations and learn about gameplay tactics and the key principles of the sport. Both boys and girls have the opportunity to participate in lacrosse and badminton during their shorter weekly sessions.

Summary of work for Lent and Summer Terms – Form 3

English

Pupils look at a suitable selection of stimulating and potentially controversial issues, which they can then focus on, discussing their views and opinions in pairs, then in a small group forum, leading to presenting a talk to the whole class. The pupils learn about and practise an important array of 'spoken language skills', facilitating articulate speech and confident communication. They all have the opportunity to progress further and partake in the School Public Speaking competition.

Moving into the next term, the pupils prepare for examinations which are a customised version of the GCSE model which they will encounter in the year immediately following. They develop further language skills, including comprehension, how to use effective description, and the crafting of interesting stories. They keep having a 'library lesson' in which they are encouraged to make their own appropriate choices, reading stimulating fiction, which can help to extend their vocabulary and hopefully continue to activate a love of literature!

Maths

During the Lent term, pupils cover Pythagoras' theorem and its applications, consolidate their knowledge of working with fractions, expansion of algebraic expressions with two brackets, leading to factorisation of quadratic functions, laws of indices and standard index form and error in measurement leading to upper and lower bound calculations.

In the summer term, they study surface area and volume of cylinders, graphical solutions to equations and trigonometry. They then spend some time preparing for the end of year exams. Following the exams, they begin more complex topics in the iGCSE specification, such as trigonometry in non-right-angled triangles and circle theorems.

Science

In the second term, Form 3 continues to follow the AQA GCSE scheme of work.

In **Biology**, this includes transport in humans and plants.

In **Chemistry**, this includes the Periodic Table, the reactivity series and extracting metals.

In **Physics**, this includes energy transfer by heating and energy resources.

In the third term, Form 3 continues to follow the AQA GCSE scheme of work.

In **Biology**, The topic of communicable diseases is always a favourite and generates a lot of discussion.

In **Chemistry**, the pupils complete the topic on metals and alloys.

In **Physics**, the pupils complete the topic on energy resources.

Geography

Pupils continue GCSE scheme of work and focus on 'The Living World', specifically looking at ecosystems and how they differ in terms of location and scale. They have compulsory study of tropical rainforests where they examine the characteristics of the rainforest and look into a case study of deforestation; as well as focusing on how rainforests are managed.

History

The Lent term work focuses in-depth on the causes, events, and consequences of the First World War. Students gain an appreciation for the rivalries among Europe's great powers that led to conflict, before assessing competing interpretations of the Battle of the Somme. We then study the Second World War, improving causation skills by looking to explain why the Allies won.

Summer term begins with a study of the Holocaust, assessing primary documents to try to understand the significance of this most horrific of crimes. We will move on to look at post-war Britain, aiming to tell the story of the welfare state, the treatment of migrants, and the struggle for equality by women's, LGBT, disabled, and ethnic minority campaigners. Finally, we turn our attention to the United States, assessing the extent to which the civil rights movement has achieved its aims.

Modern Foreign Languages

French

The class has started the GCSE course on the topic School and Future plans. This involves writing about and speaking about school subjects, opinions, describing teachers and option choices as well as comparing school life in France and the UK. The class is being introduced to using three different tenses and using phrases to extend the detail in sentences to Foundation level GCSE standard.

The class move on to education post 16, careers and jobs at GCSE level. This work includes practising the different skills required at GCSE, role plays and photocards. Pupils learn how to deal with unexpected questions, revise the future tense and learn the conditional tense.

German

Pupils have started the GCSE course on the topic of free time. This involves writing about and speaking about sports, music, television, films in three different tenses and using phrases to extend the detail in sentences to Foundation level GCSE standard.

They continue the topic of Free-time at GCSE level, looking at eating out, healthy foods and lifestyles and also at German cultural festivals. This work includes giving detailed descriptions of activities, dealing with unexpected questions and learning the conditional tense.

Spanish

Form 3 embark on the AQA GCSE course. We study Unit 1 which covers the topic of family relationships, friends and plans for the future (marriage /partnerships). Pupils consolidate the present tense of regular and irregular verbs and the near future tense. Rules governing adjectives and possessive adjectives are consolidated as will the use of object pronouns. All four skills are practised. In speaking we focus on role play and photo card tasks which are elements of the new GCSE examination. Pupils study the topic of Technology in everyday life. Pupils look at texts and listen to materials of increasing difficulty in line with GCSE Foundation levels. Grammar covered will focus on the use of the three key tenses, the present, the preterite and the future.

Art

In Spring term, students will look at the idea of identity. Using Grayson Perry's work as inspiration they map out their own personality, exploring what places, people and experiences have shaped them, while honing fine drawing and lettering skills.

In the summer term we look at how artists have been inspired by and have represented the natural world. The (hopefully) improving weather will afford us a chance to sketch outside from life and do some work on the elements of landscape art, both representational and abstract.

Music

The use of music in computer games is investigated and deconstructed. Methods used to modify music to follow the action are investigated and ideas for sections of games are developed.

The final part of the course looks at the popular modern classical techniques of Minimalism. This is investigated through listening, analysing, performing and inventing minimalist music.

Design Technology

Pupils continue to develop their skills using a variety of media, tools and machinery. Appropriate tasks are developed according to the interests and expertise of the group. Summer term is the final term for many students and their project is entirely up to them. They design and make an individual project to fulfil a specific need. They have been developing their graphics skills and should be able to produce an orthographic working drawing to help to explain their designs before they start to work in resistant materials. They may use any material and any technique.

Drama

Students focus two styles of theatre; 'Theatre of the Absurd' and physical theatre. They work with various themes as their stimuli such as nightmares and twisted fairy tales. They touch upon staging configurations and use ICT to record and present their findings.

Students then cover theatre in education by creating a short play with a strong message such as road safety and substance abuse. They perform and present their piece to each other and also to a younger class within the school where appropriate.

PSHE

Pupils start the Lent term exploring ideas about making choices, particularly in relation to GCSE options.

They learn about different categories of drugs, both legal and illegal, exploring why drugs are so categorised. They investigate legal and social aspects of drugs, and different attitudes to drugs and their consumption, along with understanding the risks of drug taking.

They then move on to the topic of money management, revisiting basic budgeting, understanding the concept of taxation and exploring different forms of credit and loans and considering ways of managing debt risk. They investigate the local economy, and consider different types and models of business.

This leads on to considering ecology of the world's resources and economic inequality and poverty. Religious viewpoints on this are introduced.

The role of stress in life is considered, along with ways of managing stress effectively.

Pupils explore risks in personal relationships and develop a deeper understanding of contraception and managing personal sexual health. They revisit ideas about family, family life and ideas about partnership and marriage.

Finally, Form 3 look at how to manage the transition to Form 4.

Sport

During the Lent term, pupils continue to embed core games techniques, including aspects of evasion and spatial awareness, across sports such as football, hockey and netball. Coupled with this, a range of skill development sessions are offered during PE lessons, which cover racket and net sports such as badminton, lacrosse, basketball and handball. During the summer term, pupils are given the opportunity to embed their athletic skills across a full range of disciplines, including throwing, jumping and running events. They are also challenged to examine the effective strategies required in tennis, cricket and softball as well as develop their understanding of the rules and game-play required in these sports.