

13 January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: Year 8 Learning Journey

In order to keep you informed about what your child will be learning this term, please find below a learning journey for the forthcoming half-term. This provides an overview of the topics your son/daughter will cover in each of their subjects so that you can effectively support your child. A breakdown of these topics will be provided to students and inserted in their exercise books. Additionally, Long-Term Plans that provide an overview for each subject can be found under the 'curriculum' section of the school website.

Year 8 – Spring Term 1 – Learning Journey

Subject	Topic(s)
English	Revolution & Uprising - Animal Farm: Reading
Maths	Probability Fractions and Decimals Ratio and Proportion
Science	Electricity circuits Magnetism Chemical Substances
Art	Self-portraits- 'The half rule' Celebrity tonal half face portraits
DT - Engineering	Prototyping
DT - Food	'Baking success'
Drama	Conflict and Resistance Through the Ages: Using a stimulus to create drama Performances and Evaluations
Geography	Africa and resource management
History	ENQUIRY: Is the British Empire really something we should be proud of?
ICT	Graphics – mini project
Modern Foreign Languages - French	En Ville (in town)
Modern Foreign Languages - Spanish	Mi Ciudad (My town)
Music	Harmony (chords)
Physical Education	Students will continue to study a range of practical activities. This term will include units of work focussing on Health-Related Fitness, Table-Tennis, Handball, Badminton, Football, Basketball and Dance
PSHE	Managing risk and personal safety
Religious Education	Buddhism

Students will also continue to have a lesson each fortnight of Accelerated Reader and Reciprocal Reading that will further develop their reading ability and comprehension.



Home Learning

Our home learning policy is built around the importance of retrieval to embed the knowledge and skills students learn in lessons. Home learning will be set by teachers every 2-5 lessons and all home learning tasks will be set through 'Assignments' on Microsoft Teams. Most home learning tasks will be retrieval tasks on Microsoft Forms, for example a multiple-choice quiz or an exam-style question. Students are expected to record brief details of the task in their planner, along with the completion deadline. We ask for the support of parents/carers in checking your child's planner and assignments on Teams to encourage them to keep on top of the home learning tasks they have been set. Microsoft Teams can be accessed on any device (such as a mobile phone, gaming console, PC, laptop, tablet etc), however if students do not have access to an electronic device on which to complete the home learning tasks, home learning support sessions will run daily from 3.10-3.40pm in IT4. We are also launching our Hungerhill Study Skills initiative with students this week which will provide students with a range of strategies that they can use to support their learning and understanding of key knowledge.

Assessment Reporting and Recording

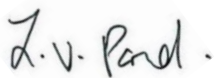
You will be aware that we use three different forms of assessment at Hungerhill to assess understanding and inform planning. Low Stakes assessments involve the home learning quizzes mentioned above in addition to quick, informal assessments that take place each lesson – for example the questioning posed in lessons by the teacher and every lesson starting with a 'Do Now' activity that focuses on the understanding of previous learning. Medium Stakes assessments are undertaken at the end of each topic/unit of work and are used to assess students understanding of the knowledge from that period of learning and the skills they have developed. Your child may refer to these as Check 20s, Progress Checks or STARS assessments. Finally, High Stakes assessments are those assessments carried out at set points throughout the year to assess all learning undertaken to that point and to provide a **current working level** for all students. These are reported home along with updated information regarding students' Attitude to Learning (ATOL), home learning, attendance and conduct information such as the number of achievement and behaviour points received throughout the academic year.

Please note the forthcoming **important dates** for Year 8 students:

- 13.01.22: ATOL grades and subject grades reported home
- 19.01.22: Subject Teacher Parents' Evening
- 31.03.22: ATOL grades and subject grades reported home
- 04.07.22: GL Progress Tests all week
- 14.07.22: ATOL grades and subject grades reported home

If you have any questions about any of the contents of this letter or in general regarding your Year 8 student, please don't hesitate to contact their Achievement Leader Mrs Marriott or other member of staff via the 'Send us a Message' function of the school website, clearly denoting the intended recipient.

Yours sincerely



Mrs L Pond
Headteacher



Mr P Storey
Deputy Headteacher



Mrs J Laidlaw
Deputy Headteacher

