

# HEATHFIELD COMMUNITY SCHOOL

# CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER



## YEAR 8

### Summer Term – 2022

Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome to the Heathfield Curriculum Newsletter. One of these will be published every term. In its pages you will find a brief statement from each subject that tells you what your child will be studying this term. There are also some practical suggestions as to how you can help your child at home. On this point it would be of great benefit in all subjects if you could ensure that your child is properly equipped for lessons (pens, pencil, ruler, rubber etc) and if you could find time each night to look at Class Charts.

Heathfield is now a Class Charts school! This is our new praise platform where parents/carers and students can keep track of all praise points, sanctions and homework setting. By logging on you will be able to see a 'live' update on praise and behaviour points (linked to a shop in time), track homework and deadlines and see student timetables.

Microsoft TEAMS will still be used to set homework assignments, to share files and to answer questions. Microsoft's online environment is very safe. Students have access to email and to online storage (through the one drive).

Any Class Charts issues, please email [classchartssupport@heathfieldcommunityschool.co.uk](mailto:classchartssupport@heathfieldcommunityschool.co.uk)

Any IT TEAMS issues, please use [teamssupport@heathfieldcommunityschool.co.uk](mailto:teamssupport@heathfieldcommunityschool.co.uk)

I hope that you find the newsletter helpful and I would be grateful for any further suggestions (from parents or students) as to what other information would be useful to include in its pages.

**Ian Grant – Deputy Head**

#### **CAREERS**

We recommend that your child enjoys finding out about the world of work at a young age. Please encourage them to use these resources as they are helpful in widening horizons and planning for the future.

[www.careersa-z.co.uk](http://www.careersa-z.co.uk), [www.careerpilot.co.uk](http://www.careerpilot.co.uk) or [www.prospects.ac.uk](http://www.prospects.ac.uk) or look on the National Careers Service website <https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk>

During lessons students will be introduced into learning about careers through many different subjects. Careers will also form part of the PSHE curriculum.

*We are also hoping to introduce some more Future Thursday events where students and families can learn different careers industries. Please follow the website and social media for updates and also the careers newsletters.*

**Ian Caddy – Careers**

Summer 2022 - Curriculum Newsletter - Year 8

## **ENGLISH**

### ***Students will study:***

- Reading and responding to unseen non-fiction texts for exam week.
- Romantic Poetry.
- Celebrities and the Media.

### ***Parents - you can help by:***

- Taking your child to the library and reading with them at home.
- Raising the profile of reading by reading at home, asking your child about their book and creating a quiet place within the home for reading.
- Ensuring that your child regularly checks Educake for homework tasks.

### ***My son/daughter has no homework - what can I do?***

- Logon to BBC Bitesize, where there are lots of reading and writing tasks which can support in-class study.
- Please get in touch with Mrs Douglas/Mrs Tinkler (Deputy Heads of English) with any additional concerns.
- Look at advertisements in the media and discuss what makes them effective.

## **MATHEMATICS**

Students will continue to complete topics on Number, Ratio and Proportion, Statistics and Probability, Algebra and Shape. During the end of year exams, students will be tested on their understanding of the work covered during the year. Details of this can be found on their progress sheets.

### ***Parents - you can help by:***

- Regularly looking at your son's/daughter's book and helping with organisation and presentation.
- Helping them revise by getting them to learn the content in their blue exercise books.
- Encourage them to sort out topics they struggled with by using the <https://hegartymaths.com>
- Encourage them to record their progress on their progress sheets.

### ***My son/daughter has no homework - what can I do?***

- Tasks on "hegartymaths.com." Watch the videos, make some notes and then do the quiz.

## **SCIENCE**

### ***Students will be studying:***

<b>Summer 1</b>	The Earth / Cycles
	Motion and Pressure
<b>Summer 2</b>	Ecosystem processes

### ***Homework:***

Students will be provided with a set of digital organisers on Teams to use for revision throughout the academic year. Hard copy knowledge organisers will be available on request. There will be weekly quizzes on Teams to assess knowledge, so that teachers and students have a clear idea of development and progress. There will also be regular opportunities to enter competitions such as the cell model making competition.

### ***Science Club:***

There is a weekly KS3 STEM club held during lunchtimes where we explore practical based science and all students are invited to attend. The Science department organises several extra-curricular activities during the school year that include educational visits (e.g. Science Live! and trips to Avalon Marshes) or in school events (e.g. Science week).

### ***Parents - you can help by :***

- Supporting your child in revision for Assessment Point 2 using the Heathfield learner techniques on the completed topics.  
[KS3-Schemeofworkoverview.pdf \(heathfieldcommunityschool.com\)](https://www.heathfieldcommunityschool.com/ks3-schemeofworkoverview.pdf)
- Encouraging your child to complete their homework, watch scientific documentaries and look at science related material from secondary sources.
- Making sure that your child has the right equipment for Science lessons – a pen, pencil, ruler and a scientific calculator.

### ***My son/daughter has no homework – what can I do?***

- Self-quizz using any knowledge organisers that are provided.
- Use Seneca learning website and complete relevant units.
- Complete the science aspire tasks.

## **ART**

### ***Students - you will be studying the following:***

- Students will be looking at identity. What do we have in common? What makes us who we are? We will be studying the work of Grayson Perry, a pioneering artist which the one of the Art studios is named after. Students will experiment with photoshop and collage to produce a final piece of work.

### ***Parents - you can assist by:***

- Helping to provide visual resources where and when necessary, for their study book.
- Talk to your son/daughter about their Art work.

### ***My son/daughter has no homework - what can I do?***

- Practise drawing something from life.
- Have a look at an Art Gallery website e.g. [www.tate.org](http://www.tate.org)

## **FOOD PREPARATION, NUTRITION AND DESIGN TECHNOLOGY**

Students will study Food Preparation and Nutrition for half the academic year and Design Technology for the alternative half of the year.

In Food Preparation and Nutrition students will continue to develop knowledge of healthy eating and nutrition through theory and practical work. Food practical lessons are planned to ensure that our enriched curriculum is taught through the making of diverse recipes that help to support the 'theory' aspect of the course. As such it is important that students cook all dishes even if they think they may not like them. Please can we ask that you support all our lessons by encouraging your child to check class charts/teams for weekly ingredients and that they always bring a suitable container with them to transport the food home. Thank you for your support.

### ***Parents – you can help by :***

- Supplying students with practical ingredients when necessary. All ingredients are posted on Teams.
- Encouraging your child to practise skills at home that have been taught in school. The more practical skills a child can develop, the more confident they become.
- Encouraging your child to share what they have made at home and discuss how it could be developed.
- Always send in labelled containers for taking food home in and remind them to collect food at the end of the day to take home.
- Ensure that ingredients are organised at home for a practical lesson and encourage your child to help shop for these and prepare them.

### ***“My son/daughter has no homework - what can I do?”***

Homework is set when it will support the learning that has taken place in that lesson or that will support the following lesson. This will mainly be quizzes that will be set through Teams. These will support and embed the learning in school and help prepare students for assessment point tests. Students who have outstanding practical work to complete for DT maybe asked to return at lunchtime to work with their teacher to catch up.

## **DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY**

***Projects will involve both design and making activities and students will work on 2 projects throughout the DT rotation:***

***Project 1: Plastics.*** This project is an introduction into the world of plastics. In this project students will make a range of outcomes using a variety of different plastics and manufacturing methods.

***Project 2: Pewter Casting.*** In this project the students learn about metals and have an opportunity to design and make a product using the casting method.

### ***My son/daughter has no homework - what can I do?***

Homework is typically set to support the learning that is taking place in lessons. This will mainly be quizzes that will be set through Teams. These will help to embed the learning in school, help prepare students for assessment point tests and provide important feedback to staff so that we can be sure what learning is taking place and any common misconceptions that need to be addressed. Staff will also put support materials on teams that students can use to independently revise the content delivered in each project. This will typically be done around the halfway point and also towards the end as we prepare for AP exams. These resources are especially useful for any student who misses some lessons due to absence. Students who have outstanding practical work to complete for DT maybe asked to return at lunchtime to work with their teacher to catch up.

## **DRAMA**

### ***Students - you will be:***

- Exploring a wider range of skills and drama techniques that you have been taught this year and expanding your knowledge of theatre history by looking at Shakespeare in a fun and engaging way. You will be creating performances that will showcase all you have learnt in Drama this year. The focus will be on Midsummer Night's Dream, specifically looking at the character Puck as part of a character analysis. The work will be show cased to the class.

### ***Parents - you can help by:***

- Taking your child to see a professional or school-based performance e.g. at the Tacchi-Morris Arts Centre.
- Talking with your child about their Drama lessons and the issues explored in them, encouraging their creativity and confidence.

### ***My son/daughter has no homework - what can I do?***

- Complete the quiz on teams.
- Encourage your child to watch pieces of theatre on Youtube.

## **DANCE**

### ***Students - you will be studying:***

- You will gain knowledge, understanding and skills for choreography and appreciation by studying the professional work, Swansong by Christopher Bruce.
- Year 8 Dance Club every Wednesday lunchtime from 1.30pm to 2.00pm in PA1. You will be working towards an end of year summer showcase to be held at the Tacchi Morris Arts Centre.
- Boys Dance Club every Thursday lunchtime from 1.30pm to 2.00pm in PA4.

### ***Parents - you can help by:***

- Taking your child to see a professional performance e.g. at the Tacchi-Morris Arts Centre.
- Talking with your child about their Dance lessons and the content explored, encouraging them to rehearse to gain confidence.
- Encouraging your child to join Dance classes held at the Tacchi-Morris Arts Centre. Please contact the Box Office for times and further information.
- Encouraging your child to attend our Dance Clubs.

## **GEOGRAPHY**

### ***Students - you will study:***

- The Tide is High – What is the future for Dawlish Warren?
- Introducing India!
- Marvellous Maps – what can we learn from them?

### ***Parents - you can help by:***

- Supporting you child with homework set on Teams.
- Investigating issues and topics discussed in the lesson.

### ***My son/daughter has no homework - what can I do?***

- Look over and investigate key content using the Knowledge Organiser (A3 sheet) – in the inside cover of your child's exercise book and uploaded to Teams near exam periods.

## **HISTORY**

***Students - you will be studying the following:***

- The Industrial Revolution.
- Slavery and Empire.

***Parents - you can help by:***

- Talking about history lessons.
- Checking on fortnightly homework.
- Going to historical places, talking about history in the news, in books, in film or on TV.

***My son/daughter has no homework - what can I do?***

- The first port of call is to revise their knowledge organisers (a list of names, events and timelines that students need to know by the end of the year).
- Students can find reading lists in all History classrooms and in the library.

## **MUSIC**

***Students - you will be studying some of the following:***

- Ensemble Project - based on a BTEC style Music Industry Brief - students will develop their independent working skills to produce an online blog with a Music product - this is presented to the class digitally.
- Graphic score and Minimalism - Building on our knowledge of the Musical Elements we investigate the work of 20th and 21st Century Contemporary Music - using the key skills, Composing, Performing and Listening.

***Parents - you can help by:***

- Talk about the work we do at school, share your favourite music together and listen to as much music as you can!

## **MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGE – Spanish**

***Students - you will be studying the following:***

- Discussing healthy living.
- Travelling using different methods of transport.
- Planning a holiday abroad.
- Activities on holiday.
- Talking about activities in the past.
- Talking about ideal holidays in the future.

***Parents - you can help by:***

- Encouraging your child to look back through his/her book regularly, making sure it is up to date and that key language is understood.
- Using the knowledge organiser to test your child on key words and structures.

***My son/daughter has no homework - what can I do?***

- Learn vocabulary and structures from the knowledge organiser.
- Practise vocabulary and grammar using BBC Bitesize (Key Stage 3).
- Create a mind map on the topics from this term.

## **MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGE – French**

### ***Students - you will be studying the following:***

- Talking about sports and leisure activities, parts of the body and healthy living.
- Discussing where you live and your daily routine.
- Discussing television, films and reading.
- Extending opinions and using a wider range of language.
- Talking about the past and the future.

### ***Parents - you can help by:***

- Encouraging your child to look back through his/her book regularly, making sure it is up to date and that key language is understood.
- Using the knowledge organiser to test your child on key words and structures.

### ***My son/daughter has no homework - what can I do?***

- Learn vocabulary and structures from the knowledge organiser.
- Practise vocabulary and grammar using BBC Bitesize (Key Stage 3).
- Create a mind map on the topics from this term.

## **PE**

### ***Students - you will be studying the following:***

- Athletics, Striking and Fielding Games, Tennis.
- Students will also be learning sport science aspects of 'Cardiorespiratory System and Components of Fitness.'

### ***Parents - you can help by:***

- Ensuring your child has the correct PE kit (*please see the school website for correct PE kit*).
- Checking their PE kit is named.

## **RPE (Religion, Philosophy & Ethics)**

### ***Students - you will be studying :***

- An introduction to Islam. We will be looking at what Muslims believe about God and Life. We will be looking at the basics of Muslim faith in detail through the 5 pillars of Islam, and then we will end the year looking at how Muslims express their faith through calligraphy and art work.

### ***Parents - you can help by:***

- Discussing with your child issues and ideas raised in lessons.
- Encouraging your child to watch the news and reflect on examples of inequality, social justice, wealth or poverty.

### ***My son/daughter has no homework - what can I do?***

- Read a book! Try 'Does my head look big in this?' by Randa Abdel- Fattah, or look in the library with the Dewey number 297.
- Have a look at the [www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/islam/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/islam/) or <https://www.truetube.co.uk> (search for Islam).