

# HEATHFIELD COMMUNITY SCHOOL

# CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER



## YEAR 9

## 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 encourage your child to make use of these resources as they are helpful in widening horizons and planning for the future. If you have internet access then general information on types of jobs/careers can be found on [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>

Jackie Martin, our independent careers advisor, is available to speak to any students about their future career ideas and options. Students may be given an opportunity to work on Careers Pilot which enables them to explore possible future pathways. We are also hoping to introduce some more Future Thursday events where students and families can learn about different career industries.

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**

## **ENGLISH**

### ***Students you will:***

- Study and watch Shakespeare's 'Much Ado About Nothing.'
- Read and explore Steinbeck's Of Mice & Men OR Barry Hines' A Kestrel for a Knave, completing a GCSE style essay.

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

- Taking your child to the library and reading with them at home.
- Encouraging them to read more non-fiction and discuss opinions on current affairs.
- 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.
- Encourage wide reading of the Gothic genre.
- Use their knowledge organisers to revise.
- Complete a 'Mock-style' literature assessment. You may have been working on one in class.
- Please get in touch with Mrs Douglas/Mrs Tinkler (Deputy Heads of English) with any additional concerns.

## **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>	Electrolysis
	Waves and EM Spectrum
<b>Summer 2</b>	Acids
	Photosynthesis and Food chains

### ***Homework:***

Students will be provided with a set of digital knowledge 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:***

- Support your child in revision for Assessment Point 2 using the Heathfield learner techniques on the completed topics.  
[KS3-Schemeofworkoverview.pdf \(heathfieldcommunityschool.com\)](#)
- 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-quiz 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 adversity, identity and challenging perceptions. We will be studying the work of Faith Ringgold, a pioneering artist which one of our Art studios are named after. Students will experiment with textiles to produce a final piece of work.

### ***Parents - you can help 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.uk](http://www.tate.org.uk)

## **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 : 'Identity' wall hanging.**

**Project 2: 'Memphis Clock'.**

These projects are creative design and make activities that focus on the core foundations of Design and Technology, concept, designing, modelling, communication drawings and workshop construction skills.

### ***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:***

The students will have their barrier taken away of Shakespeare and the aim is for it to become less scary, more engaging and modernised. We will focus on a specific text of Romeo and Juliet. The students will understand the context of Romeo and Juliet and devise a modern adaption of it, using all of the drama skills and techniques that they have learnt so far. The work will be show cased by the class. This will be useful if you are considering taking Drama at KS4, as we complete a unit on Shakespeare.

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

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

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

- Complete the quiz on Teams.
- Encourage your child to rehearse and to watch 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, Some Like It Hip Hop by Kate Prince.
- Year 9 Dance Club every Monday lunchtime from 1.30pm to 2.00pm in PA3. 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 be studying the following:***

- Raging Rivers : Can they be tamed?
- Population - the Age old Saga.
- What is the global fashion industry and what has it got to do with me?
- My own personal Geography / Fieldwork.

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

- Supporting your child with homework set on Teams.
- Investigate 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:***

- Life in Nazi Germany.
- The Holocaust.
- The Cold War.
- Were the 1960s a Social Revolution?

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

- Talking about history lessons.
- Checking on fortnightly homework.
- Family histories of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century - especially memorabilia of World War 2.
- 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:***

- Musical Fusions and Music from around the World - students will have workshop based lessons on music from around the world with an opportunity through an extended project to develop their understanding by completing a Music Product using Music Technology.
- Music Videos - with cross curricular links to English/ Media and ICT students will be given the opportunity to plan a narrative, organise roles, then film and edit their own Music Video to be screened to their class.

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

- Encouraging your child to perform to you at home.
- Encouraging your child to play you their favourite songs.
- If your child is studying GCSE Music next year, encourage your child to practise regularly and to have a go at making up some compositions of their own.

## **MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES – French**

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

- Discussing events, festivals and organising a party.
- Talking about travelling around the world and planning a holiday.
- Using a range of tenses together.
- Giving a range of opinions with justifications.
- Using formal and informal language.

### ***Parents - you will 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 LANGUAGES – Spanish**

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

- Discovering the wider Spanish speaking world.
- Planning a holiday abroad.
- Activities on holiday.
- Talking about activities in the past.
- Talking about ideal holidays in the future.
- Giving a range of opinions with justifications.

### ***Parents - you will 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.

## **P.E.**

### ***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 :***

- Does Religion have a future? We will be investigating the value of religion and whether it is okay to laugh at religion. We will look at Atheism and Humanism and ask whether they can replace religion. We will also look at famous Humanists today and their views on ethics and morality without religion.

### ***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 'What is Humanism? How do you live a good life without god? And other Big Questions for Kids' by Michael Rosen and Annemarie Young. Or if you would prefer fiction the depiction of religion in the trilogy 'His Dark Materials' by Philip Pullman is really interesting.
- Have a look at the Humanist UK website '<https://humanism.org.uk>.

