

Year 8 curriculum summary- Autumn 1

Over this half term, your child will be learning about the topics on this page. We have given some ideas on how you can help and you can click on each subject for a useful weblink to give you some background information.

English

Topic: Tales & Transformations

How you can help: Talk to your child about famous fairytales and Bible stories and what the moral or message of them was.

Maths

Topic: 'Mental arithmetic' & 'Collecting and interpreting data'

How you can help: Practice times tables up to 12 x 12

PSHE

Topic: Enterprise

How you can help: Watch episodes of Dragons Den with your child– what do you think?

Physics

Topic: Light & Sound

How you can help: Click on the link to complete the quiz

Chemistry

Topic: Composition and Structure of the Earth

How you can help: Make a poster of the rock cycle and stick up in the house

Biology

Topic: Digestive system

How you can help: Look at the labels on food and see what is actually in the ingredients.

History

Topic: The 18th Century

How you can help: Look at things invented in the 18th century which still exist today

Geography

Topic: Earthquakes

How you can help: Investigate recent earthquake activity - where have the last 10 major earthquakes been.

RE

Topic: What makes me British

How you can help: Watch the Newsround clip and discuss the different viewpoints on being British.

French

Topic: Countries, customs and the present tense

How you can help: Ask your child to tell you about food from different countries

Spanish

Topic: Classroom instructions and the names for classroom objects

How you can help: Ask your child to teach you some Spanish instructions

German

Topic: Family and pets

How you can help: Talk about your family tree with your child - ask them what the family members are in German.

Drama

Topic: Physical theatre

How you can help: Watch videos of Frantic Assembly's workshops / take them to see physical theatre. The Curious Incident of the dog in the night is a great play.

Music

Topic: History of western classical music

How you can help: Change the radio station to classic FM or BBC3, encourage students to engage with a range of musical styles and composers

PE

Topic: Football, gymnastics, rugby, dance, netball, badminton

How you can help: Encourage your child to be active.

Textiles

Topic: Designing and making a tote bag

How you can help: Look at different bags in the house - compare their design and how they are made.

Food

Topic: Looking at food we can buy in a cafe / restaurant and making some food.

How you can help: Try the food your child has made and give feedback

Product Design

Topic: Wooden box and pewter casting

How you can help: Identify different types of timber used in products within you house

Computer Science

Topic: Algorithms and programming development

How you can help: Ask your child to explain what an algorithm is

Art

Topic: Low relief sculpture

How you can help: Encourage your child to draw fruit to show its shape and form



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Year 8 curriculum summary- Autumn 2

Over this half term, your child will be learning about the topics on this page. We have given some ideas on how you can help and you can click on each subject for a useful weblink to give you some background information.

English

Topic: A Christmas Carol

How you can help: Talk to your child about workhouses and how the poor were treated differently in The Victorian era. Visit Gressenhall Museum.

Maths

Topic: 'Place value, ordering and rounding integers, power and roots' & 'Algebra'

How you can help: Solve simple word problems

PSHE

Topic: Enterprise 2

How you can help: Think about gaps in the market and what different products you could invent to bridge them.

Physics

Topic: Light & Sound 2

How you can help: Watch the clip below - what does it tell you?

Chemistry

Topic: Composition and Structure of Earth

How you can help: Identify things around the house that have been made from crude oil. Ask your child to explain how crude oil is formed

Biology

Topic: Digestive system 2

How you can help: Look at the labels on food and see what is actually in the ingredients.

History

Topic: How did Victorian society develop?

How you can help: Look for and watch Victorian period dramas on TV

Geography

Topic: How is Asia being transformed?

How you can help: How many countries are there in Asia - can you name and locate them all?.

RE

Topic: Justice

How you can help: Create a 5 point factfile on how food banks are helping Norwich – your local area.

French

Topic: Holidays in the past

How you can help: Help plan the assessment by talking about a past holiday - or making one up.

Spanish

Topic: School subjects and opinions

How you can help: Ask your child which lessons they have each day in Spanish

German

Topic: Free time and hobbies

How you can help: Ask your child to tell you what they are doing – in German of course!.

Drama

Topic: Physical theatre

How you can help: Watch videos of Frantic Assembly's workshops / take them to see physical theatre. The Curious Incident of the dog in the night is a great play.

Music

Topic: History of western classical music

How you can help: Change the radio station to classic FM or BBC3, encourage students to engage with a range of musical styles and composers

PE

Topic: Football, gymnastics, rugby, dance, netball, badminton

How you can help: Encourage your child to be active.

Textiles

Topic: Designing and making a tote bag

How you can help: Look at different bags in the house - compare their design and how they are made.

Food

Topic: Looking at food we can buy in a cafe / restaurant and making some food.

How you can help: Try the food your child has made and give feedback

Product Design

Topic: Metal jewellery and enamelling

How you can help: Investigate types of jewellery design

Computer Science

Topic: Algorithms and programming development

How you can help: Ask your child to explain what computational thinking is

Art

Topic: Low relief sculpture

How you can help: Encourage your child to draw fruit to show its shape and form



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Year 8 curriculum summary- Spring 1

Over this half term, your child will be learning about the topics on this page. We have given some ideas on how you can help and you can click on each subject for a useful weblink to give you some background information.

English

Topic: Gender & advertising

How you can help: Look at some adverts together and think about how men and women are being presented. Talk about the different pressures on boys and girls.

Maths

Topic: FDP, ratio and proportion & construction, loci, measures and mensuration'

How you can help: Look out for percentages

PSHE

Topic: Diversity

How you can help: Encourage reading of books and watching of films by a range of authors and directors from a variety of cultures, genders and races.

Physics

Topic: Heating

How you can help: Look at the heating and insulation in your home – could it be more efficient?

Chemistry

Topic: Chemical Reactions that Produce Gases

How you can help: Bake a cake with your child and ask them to explain how they know a chemical reaction is happening

Biology

Topic: Respiration

How you can help: Ask your child to record their breathing rates when doing different activities and discuss the results

History

Topic: British Empire

How you can help: Talk about the British Empire and what influence it has today.

Geography

Topic: How does ice shape the world?

How you can help: Research glaciers and how they are changing

RE

Topic: Christianity

How you can help: Ask your child to name / find countries that identify as Christian

French

Topic: Food, restaurants and cafes

How you can help: Ask your child to serve dinner and explain what it is in French

Spanish

Topic: Houses, rooms and what you do in the rooms

How you can help: Ask your child to tell you what they do in each room in Spanish

German

Topic: School, subjects and opinions

How you can help: Ask your child which lessons they have each day in German and what they think of them..

Drama

Topic: Commedia dell'arte

How you can help: Discuss where Commedia strategies might be used when watching comedy. Students struggle with shape the most, watch the video suggested and practice shapes with them!

Music

Topic: Western Art Music - serialism

How you can help: Listen to music by Stockhausen, Stravinsky, Lutoslawski, Messiaen,

PE

Topic: Football, gymnastics, volleyball, fitness, rugby, handball

How you can help: Encourage your child to be active.

Textiles

Topic: Designing and making a tote bag

How you can help: Look at different bags in the house - compare their design and how they are made.

Food

Topic: Looking at food we can buy in a cafe / restaurant and making some food.

How you can help: Try the food your child has made and give feedback

Product Design

Topic: Wooden box and pewter casting

How you can help: Identify different types of timber used in products within you house

Computer Science

Topic: Internet safety

How you can help: Talk about current news stories linked to staying safe on the Internet

Art

Topic: Landscapes

How you can help: Encourage your child to draw different landscapes based on places they have been to



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Year 8 curriculum summary- Spring 2

Over this half term, your child will be learning about the topics on this page. We have given some ideas on how you can help and you can click on each subject for a useful weblink to give you some background information.

English

Topic: Short stories

How you can help: Read some short stories together. We recommend Roald Dahl's 'Tales of the Unexpected' but there will be lots more in their homework booklets.

Maths

Topic: 'Geometrical reasoning' & 'Representing and Interpreting data'

How you can help: Find the number of faces, edges and vertices on 3D shapes

PSHE

Topic: Diversity

How you can help: Share global news stories, opinion pieces from marginalised voices, those who aren't often represented in popular media.

Physics

Topic: Heating / insulation

How you can help: Identify if insulation stops conduction, convection or/and radiation

Chemistry

Topic: Chemical Reactions that Produce Gases

How you can help: Ask your child to explain and draw the tests for oxygen, carbon dioxide and hydrogen gas

Biology

Topic: Respiration

How you can help: Ask your child to record their breathing rates when doing different activities and discuss the results

History

Topic: Slavery

How you can help: Ask your child to talk about individuals involved in ending slavery.

Geography

Topic: What are the challenges facing Africa?

How you can help: Try to name and find as many countries as you can in Africa

RE

Topic: Medical ethics

How you can help: Find out how many people in your family are on the organ donor register. Do they have a reason why or why not?

French

Topic: Celebrities, descriptions and clothes

How you can help: Ask your child to describe people they see on TV / in magazines in French

Spanish

Topic: Houses, rooms and what you do in the rooms

How you can help: Ask your child to tell you what they do in each room in Spanish

German

Topic: Buildings in a town and directions

How you can help: Find a map of a German town or city online and see what different types buildings you can find listed. Can you plan a route to visit some of them?

Drama

Topic: Commedia dell'arte

How you can help: Discuss where Commedia strategies might be used when watching comedy. Students struggle with shape the most, watch the video suggested and practice shapes with them!

Music

Topic: Western Art Music - minimalism

How you can help: Listen to music by Cage, Reich, Oldfield. Discuss minimalist art and features in sculpture, decor, music

PE

Topic: Football, gymnastics, volleyball, fitness, rugby, handball

How you can help: Encourage your child to be active.

Textiles

Topic: Designing and making a tote bag

How you can help: Look at different bags in the house - compare their design and how they are made.

Food

Topic: Looking at food we can buy in a cafe / restaurant and making some food.

How you can help: Try the food your child has made and give feedback

Product Design

Topic: Metal jewellery and enamelling

How you can help: Investigate types of jewellery design

Computer Science

Topic: Internet safety

How you can help: Talk about current news stories linked to staying safe on the Internet

Art

Topic: Landscapes

How you can help: Encourage your child to draw different landscapes based on places they have been to



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Year 8 curriculum summary- Summer 1

Over this half term, your child will be learning about the topics on this page. We have given some ideas on how you can help and you can click on each subject for a useful weblink to give you some background information.

English

Topic: Animal Farm

How you can help: Talk to your child about socialism and capitalism as concepts and their history.

Maths

Topic: 'Sequences' & 'Probability'

How you can help: Draw a shape after a reflection in a mirror

PSHE

Topic: Morals & morality

How you can help: Explore your own moral beliefs and opinions with each other, using current news stories and topical issues to engage discussion.

Physics

Topic: Forces

How you can help: Watch the video and look for anything in the house which shows what you saw

Chemistry

Topic: Particle Theory and the Periodic Table

How you can help: Ask your child to draw a particle diagram showing a solid, liquid and gas

Biology

Topic: Microorganisms

How you can help: Look at news items about vaccinations and discuss what you see.

History

Topic: Political reform

How you can help: Find out how Britain became more democratic over the last century

Geography

Topic: Rivers

How you can help: Visit the rivers in Norwich – what do you notice?

RE

Topic: Life after death

How you can help: Discuss and research the different ways people can be remembered and bring in one idea to share with your next RE lesson

French

Topic: Paris and its attractions

How you can help: Ask your child to tell you about Paris

Spanish

Topic: Your town and what you can do there

How you can help: Ask your child to tell you about Norwich (or any city) in Spanish

German

Topic: Food and drink

How you can help: Ask your child to prepare a German breakfast

Drama

Topic: Theatre in Education

How you can help: Whilst watching TV, theatre, listening to the radio, or reading books discuss who they believe the intended audience is for the material. Get them to articulate why that may be – what strategies has the author used?

Music

Topic: Development of pop music - blues

How you can help: Explore blues music by listening to it and discussing the features students use in class

PE

Topic: Tennis, rounders, athletics, fitness, cricket, handball

How you can help: Encourage your child to be active.

Textiles

Topic: Designing and making a tote bag

How you can help: Look at different bags in the house - compare their design and how they are made.

Food

Topic: Looking at food we can buy in a cafe / restaurant and making some food.

How you can help: Try the food your child has made and give feedback

Product Design

Topic: Wooden box and pewter casting

How you can help: Identify different types of timber used in products within you house

Computer Science

Topic: Data and data representation. Communications and networks

How you can help: Discuss mobile broadband and how it has changed

Art

Topic: Pop art/ graffiti

How you can help: Look out for graffiti and discuss the artistic quality of what you see



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Year 8 curriculum summary- Summer 2

Over this half term, your child will be learning about the topics on this page. We have given some ideas on how you can help and you can click on each subject for a useful weblink to give you some background information.

English

Topic: Dystopian fiction

How you can help: Encourage your child to read dystopian books such as the Hunger Games or 1984. Ask your child about what would make a dystopian or utopian society.

Maths

Topic: 'Functions and Graphs' & 'Transformations'

How you can help: Convert GB pounds into different currencies

PSHE

Topic: Morals & morality

How you can help: Explore your own moral beliefs and opinions with each other, using current news stories and topical issues to engage discussion.

Physics

Topic: Forces

How you can help: Use the quiz on the link to show any gaps in learning - can you fill them?

Chemistry

Topic: Particle Theory and Periodic Table

How you can help: Have a look at the interactive Periodic Table with your child. Ask your child what they know about it. Explore some of the different elements

Biology

Topic: Microorganisms 2

How you can help: Look at news items about vaccinations and discuss what you see.

History

Topic: Causes of World War I

How you can help: Discuss what you already know about WWI

Geography

Topic: Climate Change

How you can help: Read the news, particularly the Guardian website which has a section on the environment.

RE

Topic: Sikhism

How you can help: Finds out 5 facts about the Gurdwara in Norwich

French

Topic: Events - the Tour de France and the French Revolution

How you can help: Ask your child to tell you about the French revolution

Spanish

Topic: Future plans and ideas

How you can help: Ask your child what they are going to do on the following weekend

German

Topic: Holidays 1

How you can help: Help plan the assessment by talking about a past holiday - or making one up

Drama

Topic: Theatre in Education

How you can help: Whilst watching TV, theatre, listening to the radio, or reading books discuss who they believe the intended audience is for the material. Get them to articulate why that may be – what strategies has the author used?

Music

Topic: Development of pop music - blues

How you can help: Explore blues music by listening to it and discussing the features students use in class

PE

Topic: Tennis, rounders, athletics, fitness, cricket, handball

How you can help: Encourage your child to be active.

Textiles

Topic: Designing and making a tote bag

How you can help: Look at different bags in the house - compare their design and how they are made.

Food

Topic: Looking at food we can buy in a cafe / restaurant and making some food.

How you can help: Try the food your child has made and give feedback

Product Design

Topic: Metal jewellery and enamelling

How you can help: Investigate types of jewellery design

Computer Science

Topic: Hardware and processing. Information technology

How you can help: Talk about how computers have impacted on jobs.

Art

Topic: Pop art/ graffiti

How you can help: Look out for graffiti and discuss the artistic quality of what you see



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