

8/9E Spring Term Curriculum Overview

This term pupils will be studying the following topics in their KS3 curriculum.

Subject	Topic
Literacy	<p>The Natural World</p> <p>Through this unit pupils will attempt to read from a range of books, power points, Interactive White Board (IWB) books and group books. Students will be able to take the information in the book and use it to help them create their own posters, leaflets and books aiding understanding of the purpose of books both for reading and writing for pleasure and information.</p>
Numeracy	<p>These units form part of a rolling programme of mathematics for pupils at Highshore. The curriculum revisits topics and skills on a regular basis throughout Key Stage. Through the activities pupils will attempt to understand and use words relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• counting, partitioning and calculating• measures• handling data <p>Pupils should be encouraged to use maths in a real life context.</p>
Computing	<p>Students will learn that when a computer does something it is following instructions called Code. They will write, or program, their own Code and create their own basic games and apps. They will learn to work logically; systematically identify mistakes and De-Bug their Code. Some students in the class will work on improving their ability to sort and sequence objects and to identify and predict patterns.</p>
Science	<p>Year 7, 8 & 9 Students will be learning about different kinds of living things and how they adapt in their environment. Students will also learn about plants and why they are so important for our lives and wellbeing. We will look at the Life Cycles of animals and plants. I recommended the BBC website. It is a great resource for learning about Science. Here is the web address www.bbc.co.uk/education. They can also go to www.educationcity.com for more homework tasks and learning. In February we have duck eggs coming to the school so get ready for baby ducklings! A fantastic experience to look forward to!</p>
Humanities	<p>This term the students will be developing their knowledge and understanding of the world. They will be learning about Africa through a series of sensory activities and stories. They will deepen their knowledge of the land, food, school, clothing, animals and homes in Africa.</p>

[Type here]

Food Tech	<p>In the first part of the spring term year 8/9E will be learning to make 'Healthy Snacks'. These will include Crunchy Snack Mix, Vegetable Crisps, Plantain Fritters, Sweet Potato wedges and Coleslaw.</p> <p>In the second half of the term they will be learning about food used to mark some important 'Celebrations'. We will be making Soda Bread for St Patricks Day, which is March 17th. Sponge Cake for Mother's Day on March 31st, Easter Biscuits for Easter on April 21st.</p> <p>I hope that some of it will get home so that you can have a taste.</p>
Craft	<p>In the first half term of craft we will be making different objects out of playdough and mixing our own playdough, students will have to follow a basic recipe for playdough and work in teams to make a useable dough, they will be assessed on team work and their ability to follow a recipe. They will then work on fine motor skills through rolling and manipulating the playdough and making a healthy food plate entirely from play dough. For the second half term we will look at the coming of spring and be making ink trees by blowing ink with straws and balloons this aids in oral fine motor skills and speech development.</p>
PSHE	<p>This term there will be a particular focus on developing students' knowledge and understanding of social and emotional aspects of learning: empathy, managing feelings and social skills.</p> <p>They will have opportunities to practise using 'peaceful problem solving' in relation to the theme of when they fall out with friends.</p>
Art	<p>Year 7, 8 & 9 Students will be practicing drawing and painting skills, exploring mixed media materials and experimenting with new art techniques and sensory activities. We will be learning about and looking at images by a variety of artists to see how art work can inspire and help us to be creative. Students are encouraged to draw from memory and imagination and bring art work to school to share.</p>
Drama	<p>In the first half of the term student will be using drama and role play to explore, understand and strengthen the value of true friendship - qualities we need to be a fantastic friend, bullying and peer pressure. They will then be moving on to identify the features of what makes a good team. The students will improvise to develop characters and short scenarios, working in small groups to create class performances.</p> <p>After half term student will enact stories and scenes from Greek Myths including Daedalus and Icarus, Theseus and the Minotaur, King Midas and Pandora's Box. Again students will be working in small groups to create class performances.</p>

[Type here]

Music	<p>During the first half term we will be using stringed instruments (Ukulele, Guitar) to develop students fine motor skills. We will be exploring chords and melodies whilst focusing on quality of tone and technique.</p> <p>During the second half term we will be looking at composition and songwriting. The focus will be on creating pieces of music on a variety of instruments looking at structure and shape, exploring the mechanics of music using skills taught in previous sessions.</p>
PE	<p>The pupils will be learning gymnastic skills, throughout the term. They will explore a range of sequences which will be displayed to their peer group.</p> <p>They will learn to use positive language to critique the performance of others.</p>
Play Skills	<p>This term students will explore play as a means of social interaction, creative thinking and how play helps them to make sense of the world around us all.</p>
Social Communication	<p>Through this unit pupils will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consolidate their understanding of good manners and why they are important.• Continue to practice a range of good manners. <p>Practice using good manners in the community.</p>
Yoga	<p>This term, we will continue to develop our Mindfulness techniques through the MindUP scheme of work. We will be 'sharpening our senses' through a range of differentiated activities, including: mindful listening, mindful seeing, mindful smelling and mindful tasting. Through these activities, we will use sensory experiences to improve our attention, memory, problem solving, creativity and physical performance.</p> <p>We will continue to develop our core strength, balance and flexibility through different sequences of asanas (poses). Each lesson will incorporate different breathing techniques to strengthen, energise and calm the nervous system. We will be working towards increasing the amount of relaxation at the end of each lesson.</p>
Lego Therapy	<p>This term students will focus on developing the concept of teamwork in order to develop their social interaction and communication skills. In small groups students will work on multifaceted designs and structures from simple 3D dimensions to more gradually more complex structures.</p>