

8L Spring Term Curriculum Overview

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

Subject	Topic
Literacy	Our first topic will be winter and we will be exploring non-fiction about habitat, fauna and explorers. There will be opportunities for creative and descriptive writing. Students will do a presentation on an animal of their choice from the polar region. After half term we will be exploring different types of poems about Spring and by Grace Nichols.
Numeracy	Our number focus is multiplication. Shapes and Measure-we will be focusing on shape both 2D and 3D. Symmetry and developing knowledge of fractions.
Computing	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.
Science	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!
Humanities	This term the students will be developing their knowledge and understanding of the world. They will learn about the different climates and biomes, foods and farming, school, animals and home life in Africa and comparing them to their own lives in the UK. They will develop map skills, information presentation skills and deepen their knowledge of the world outside of London.
Food Tech	In the first part of the spring term year 8L will be learning to make 'Healthy Snacks'. These will include Crunchy Snack Mix, Vegetable Crisps, Plantain Fritters, Sweet Potato wedges and Coleslaw. 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 17 th . Sponge Cake for Mother's Day on March 31 st , Easter Biscuits for Easter on April 21 st . I hope that some of it will get home so that you can have a taste.

Craft	<p>This term students will be looking at more complex process by making wind-up toys. Students will be expected to produce at least one toy and be able to self-assess their work by comparing it to an example. There will be some cross-curricular links with science as students will be exposed to the idea of forces and energy in order to understand how their toys are propelled. They will have opportunities to develop fine motor skills and team work skills throughout this term.</p>
PSHE	<p>All about me -choices Students will be learning about rights, wrongs, and consequences of wrongdoing.</p> <p>Friendship fortnight – all students will be working on understanding and strengthening the value of true friendship. Students will be discussing about the qualities we need to be a fantastic friend.</p> <p>Healthy life style Students will be introduced to ways in which they can contribute to a healthy lifestyle and encourages them to demonstrate activities, which will improve their own lifestyle. Students will be learning about how to stay healthy through balanced diet, exercises and getting enough rest and sleep.</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. 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>
Music	<p>During the first half term we will be using stringed instruments (Ukulele, Guitar) to develop student’s 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 honing their previously learnt gymnastic skills, throughout the term, focusing on the 6 elements of</p>

	<p>balancing, rolling, travelling, flight, jumping and climbing. They will put these into a short sequence which they will display to their peer group.</p> <p>They will continue to work on the of use positive language to critique the performance of others.</p> <p>In addition pupils will experience and take part in rebound therapy too.</p> <p>Pupils also take part in health related exercise and learn about basic physiological functions of the body.</p> <p>Swimming: The pupils will continue with their programme of swimming as last term.</p>
Play Skills	<p>Through 'play' students will be encouraged to use their initiative, problem solve, make decisions, develop their confidence, experience success and develop positive attitudes to learning. Pupils will practice appropriate actions in different locations of the school and practice communicating with their peers across a range of scenarios. They will explore opportunities to extend their vocabulary and knowledge of key concepts.</p>
Social Communication	<p>This term we will be exploring how we communicate and interact with people outside Highshore. We will explore how to communicate with different people in differing situations through role play, discussion, using short pieces of film and drama.</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>