

Mathematics

Term: Autumn

Year: 8

Teacher: Mr A Shah

What will we be covering this term?

1st Half Term: 1. Number: estimations and approximations, rounding off and index notation. 2. Algebra: factorising algebraic expressions and simplifying them. Represent problems in algebraic form.

2nd Half Term: 3. Area and measure: converting between units of area and volume, circumference and area of a circle. 4. Averages and spread: mean, median and mode. 5. Formulae: forming and solving formulae, simplifying formulae using factorisation.

How will my child be assessed this term?

Homework and end of chapter test give a useful indication of comprehension. In class assessment via traffic light feedback - green, amber and red.

How can I help my child in this subject?

Please make sure that he has attempted all questions in the homework. Just take a minute to look in his homework diary to see what was set and that he has made a decent effort.

Who do I contact if I have concerns about my child's progress in this subject?

Please feel free to contact me at the school.

English

Term: Autumn

Year: 8

Teacher: Ms Afshan Siddiqui

What will we be covering this term?

1st Half Terms: Students will be focusing upon improving their writing skills. They will examine closely the writing techniques of Charles Dickens and will attempt to emulate some of these techniques within their own story writing. Story structure, planning narrative hooks and endings, developing characters and settings will all be examined in detail. This unit will culminate with the students putting all they have learnt into practice. The stories that they produce will be assessed and will form part of their end of term grade.

2nd Half Term: Students will be looking at different styles of non-fiction writing in the form of reports, writing reviews and biographical writings. Each writing styles' structure and contents will be closely examined and modelled by the pupils in their own work. Similarly, the writings that they will produce will be assessed and will form part of their end of term grade.

How will my child be assessed this term?

Homework is an integral part of ongoing assessment. Please refer to your child's timetable for the days when homework is given. In addition to this, your son will also be assessed by weekly spelling tests and end of unit tasks. Class participation is also necessary.

How can I help my child in this subject?

Please ensure that your son is up to date with his homework and that he reads at least two books of his choice from selecting them from the school library. Having a consistent reading routine will benefit your son greatly.

Who do I contact if I have concerns about my child's progress in this subject?

Please feel free to contact me at the school if you have any questions or concerns.

Science

Term: Autumn

Year: 8

Teacher: Mr. S. Ahmed

What will we be covering this term?

1st Half Term: Students will study the unit on Food and Digestion. Pupils will be able to describe what is in food? Why is food important? A balanced diet and the food tests. How the food is transported through the digestive system. How to choose what to eat? Be able to label the digestive system. Know what does the digestive system do. Pupils will start the 2nd Unit in Chemistry and study atoms and elements. How many different materials are there? What are the elements made up from? What are elements like? Know the changes when elements combine. Students will cover different acids and alkalis and identify them in everyday life.

2nd Half Term: Pupils will study Magnets and electromagnets. What can a magnet do? Magnetic field and compasses? The earth's magnetic field and how can electricity make a magnet. In the second unit we will cover Respiration. What happens to food molecules after digestion? How does oxygen get into the blood? How do oxygen and glucose reach the cells? How does the heart pump the blood around the body? Do other living things respire?

How will my child be assessed this term?

Pupils will be assessed using a combination of classroom participation, homework, class tests and end of term exams.

How can I help my child in this subject?

Students must go over their work every day and can visit the local library and read scientific magazines. Pupils must read through their work every night and ask him what was learnt today.

Who do I contact if I have concerns about my child's progress in this subject?

Please feel free to contact me at the school from 9.00-16:00 if you have any questions or concerns. Alternatively, leave a note in your son's homework diary and I will try to give you a written response on the same day.

Religious Studies

Term: Autumn

Year: 7

Teacher: Mr. S Y Ali

What will we be covering this term?

1st Half Term: Students will be studying the Tafseer (explanation) of Juz Amma (The last volume of the Quran. We will continue from surah At-Takathur which is where we left off in the last academic year.

We will also cover supplications from the book Hisn Al-Muslim, Hadith of manners from Riyad us-Saliheen and stories from the Ahadith of the Prophet SAW and the lives of the companions of the Prophet SAW.

2nd Half Term: We will continue with our Tafseer lessons. We will also cover supplications from the book Hisn Al-Muslim, Hadith of manners from Riyad us-Saliheen and stories from the Ahadith of the Prophet SAW and the lives of the companions of the Prophet SAW.

How will my child be assessed this term?

Your son will be assessed through class participation, memorisation of the supplications and the end of term test.

How can I help my child in this subject?

Your son will benefit from having access to Tafseer books either at home or Tafseer websites. You can also help them by listening to the supplications they are supposed to memorise. It would be advisable for parents to regularly ask their children about the ahadith and stories we study at school as a way of helping them revise and analyse what they are taught.

Who do I contact if I have concerns about my child's progress in this subject?

Please feel free to contact me at the school from 9.00-16:00 if you have any questions or concerns. Alternatively, leave a note in your son's homework diary and I will try to give you a written response on the same day.

History

Term: Autumn

Year: 8

Teacher: MR Abdul Fattah Hussain

What will we be covering this term?

1st Half Term: This term we will focus on the key skills of history: interpretation, evidence and methodology. We will use the British Medieval history to develop the historian's art. We will explore the nature of evidence. The course will focus on written expression and interpretation. The first half of the term will be about 1066 and what followed the Norman conquest.

2nd Half Term: The second term will develop the skills further by looking at how it was to grow up in the Medieval England and methods of warfare. Emphasis will be put on interpretation and written expression.

How will my child be assessed this term?

Your child will be assessed through homework, contribution in class and final exam.

How can I help my child in this subject?

There are countless documentaries that you can watch with your child, for example Simon Schama's a history of Britain just to mention a few. There are also many books on the Norman conquest that you will find in the library. However, above all it is really to encourage your child's analytical skills and help him in his written expression.

Who do I contact if I have concerns about my child's progress in this subject?

Please feel free to contact me on Thursdays between 1.30-4.00 You can also make an appointment to see me after school on Thursdays to discuss the progress of your child.

Geography

Term: Autumn

Year: 8

Teacher: Ms Mariam Amele

What will we be covering this term?

1st Half Terms: Pupils in year 8 will be studying 'Population' where they will learn about how the world population is distributed as well as: where people live in the UK; what affects where we live; how world population changes and the causes and effects of migration. Learning about population will help pupils to understand some of the problems facing our world and to develop their own views on how these problems may be solved.

2nd Half Term: In the second half of the term we will be looking at farming in the UK. We will examine the type and distribution of farming; how farming affects the landscape and how the farming industry has changed in recent years. Although most people live in towns and cities much of Britain is still countryside. Pupils will begin to understand how farming provides jobs, generates wealth and alters the appearance of our countryside.

How will my child be assessed this term?

Homework is an integral part of ongoing assessment. Pupils will also be assessed through end of unit tests, which they will be notified about well in advance.

How can I help my child in this subject?

It is recommended that each pupil develops their own glossary. Encourage your child to learn the meaning and the correct spelling of key geographical terms. Please ensure that your child is up to date with their homework.

Who do I contact if I have concerns about my child's progress in this subject?

Please feel free to contact me at the school if you have any questions or concerns.

ICT

Term: Autumn

Year: 8

Teacher: Ms Afsha Mohamed

What will we be covering this term?

1st Half Term: students will be focusing upon improving their DTP (Desktop Publishing Skills) by creating a school booklet which can be given to new students. This will be done on Microsoft Publisher. During this project they will focus on layout and suitability of audience. There will be a self-assessment sheet and their final booklet will form part of their end of year term grade.

2nd Half Term: students will be learning how to assess validity of information. They will be able to identify biased and inaccurate information and avoid that which they deem to be unreliable. They will also develop techniques to help them search effectively. They will be producing a PowerPoint on a contentious issue and will be gathering information from various sources in order to make it unbiased. They will learn to consider the usefulness, reliability and bias of the information they collect and use.

How will my child be assessed this term?

Homework is an integral part of ongoing assessment. Please refer to your child's timetable for the days when homework is given. In addition to this, your son will also be assessed by weekly homework assignments and end of unit projects which will be handed in.

How can I help my child in this subject?

Please ensure that your son is up to date with weekly assignments. Assignments undertaken from completeict.net can be checked online from home. All work is carried out using Microsoft 2007 so it would be of benefit for your son to have the same software package at home.

Who do I contact if I have concerns about my child's progress in this subject?

Please feel free to contact me at the school from 11.20am-11.40am and 13.20pm-14.20pm. You may also leave a written message in your son's homework diary or email me at afsha.alkhair@googlemail.com

Arabic

Term: Autumn

Year: 8

Teacher: Mr. S Y Ali

What will we be covering this term?

1st Half Term: Students will be studying Arabic from the book العربية بين يديك (Al-Arabuyyatu bayna Yadayk). We started this book in the spring term of the 2008-2009 academic year, and shall be continuing with it. In this half term we will briefly revise the first six chapters then move on to chapter 7 and 8. Chapter 7 is الدراسة (Studies) and chapter 8 is العمل (Work). Both chapters introduce new target language for the students to be able to converse in the particular situation. There are additional exercises for students to improve their pronunciation and handwriting.

2nd Half Term: In this half term we will study the ninth and tenth chapters of the book. Chapter 9 is التسوق (Shopping) and chapter 4 is الجو (The Weather). Both chapters introduce new target language for the students to be able to converse in the particular situation. There are additional exercises for students to improve their pronunciation and handwriting.

How will my child be assessed this term?

Pupils will be assessed using a combination of classroom participation, homework, class tests and end of term exams.

How can I help my child in this subject?

Keeping in mind that most parents will not have the ability to offer extensive help to their children in this particular subject, it is imperative that you insure that they complete the work they are set for homework. The dialogues in each chapter have audio files associated with them. These files have been given to each student with the text book. Please try to ensure your son regularly listens to the dialogues and reads the text to improve pronunciation and to aid memorisation of the vocabulary.

Who do I contact if I have concerns about my child's progress in this subject?

Please feel free to contact me at the school from 9.00-16:00 if you have any questions or concerns. Alternatively, leave a note in your son's homework diary and I will try to give you a written response on the same day.