

Science

Term: Summer

Year: 8 Girls

Teacher: Ms Mariam Amele

What will we be covering this term?

1st Half Term: The year 8's will be studying the unit 'Plants and photosynthesis' at the beginning of the term. In this unit pupils learn about photosynthesis as the key process producing new plant biomass. They will also find out that the carbon dioxide for photosynthesis comes from the air and that the water is absorbed through the roots. Pupils will examine the role of the leaf in photosynthesis and the importance of photosynthesis to humans and other animals. The next unit pupils will be studying is 'Environmental Chemistry' in which they will learn that rocks, soils and building materials all have a variety of chemical characteristics. They will investigate how chemical weathering alters rocks and building materials over time and will consider how the atmosphere and water resources are affected by natural processes and the activity of humans. Pupils will also be looking at how environmental conditions can be monitored and controlled.

2nd Half Term: At the start of the second half of the term pupils will study the unit 'Pressure and moments'. In this unit pupils learn about pressure on solids and describe applications of this in everyday appliances. They will study hydrostatic pressure in fluids and describe applications e.g. hydraulic jacks. They will also learn about the principle of moments and will describe the operation of levers including examples from the human body. At the end of the term pupils will look study the unit 'Gravity and Space' where they will learn about the gravitational pull between bodies; how it depends on the masses of bodies and the distance between them. They will also be able to relate the movement of planets around the Sun, and that of satellites around the Earth, to gravitation. We will finish off by looking at how artificial satellites are used to observe the Earth and provide information about the solar system and the universe.

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 son is up to date with his 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.