

Ignite – Autumn Term One

Curriculum Newsletter

We welcome back all of students after the summer holidays. We will continue with our exciting and aspirational curriculum, which will allow our students to achieve both academically and emotionally and again, we will have special visits or visitors that link to our termly themes.

This half term, our topic is '*All about Me*'. Our students will be looking at themselves, their morals and beliefs, their anatomy and their place in the world and what it all means.

Alongside our outdoor learning, reiki and craft sessions, our students will continue our seed to plate curriculum. Over the course of the year, they will help develop our polytunnel and planting beds, grow a range of fruit and vegetables and learn to cook the produce they have grown. We are extending our outdoor offer and have employed a new member of staff to work with some of our students to develop our outdoor space even further.

As part of our curriculum, we will be visiting places of worship and discussing differing beliefs.

We will also be having our residential for the older children at Skreens Park. This is their opportunity to try a range of adventurous activities, stay overnight and really step out of their comfort zone.

English

This half term, pupils will explore a range of writing through English, focusing on the poem

PE

This half term in PE, pupils will be taking part in table tennis. As well as developing their hand-eye coordination, balance, and physical skills, pupils will have opportunities to build confidence, resilience, self-regulation, and positive communication through fun, engaging activities. We will encourage teamwork, respect, and perseverance, helping everyone to enjoy being active while celebrating their own progress and achievements.

PSHE

For PSHE we follow the DFE approved Jigsaw Scheme of Work. Students will explore big questions around '*Being In My World*'. As suggested, this topic is all about how our students understand and view their place in our world.

Lesson	PSHE Learning Intentions
Becoming an adult	I can identify things I am looking forward to in adulthood, and things that concern me. I know where to access help and information if I am worried or concerned about anything.
Relationships and the law	I can suggest ways to keep myself and others safe in regard to healthy and positive relationships. I know how and where to access advice and support if I am concerned about a sex or relationship matter.

'What Are You?' and the creation of a **physical and mental health leaflet**. Through poetry, pupils will investigate how writers use **imagery, similes, metaphors and emotive language** to create vivid descriptions and communicate powerful ideas and feelings. They will analyse the poet's use of unusual and imaginative language before experimenting with their own poetic devices and composing original poems. Alongside this, pupils will explore the features of effective leaflet writing, learning how writers organise information and use factual and persuasive language to inform and influence readers. They will develop their understanding of **purpose, audience, layout and organisation** before planning, drafting and publishing a leaflet that promotes healthy lifestyle choices.

Throughout the term, pupils will build their skills as readers and writers while using language creatively and effectively for different purposes and audiences.

Our class novel is Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson

Targets at Entry level 2:

Text Structure

- More detailed 5-part stories; expanded endings.
- Non-fiction: grouped facts, subheadings, lists, diagrams.
- Sentence Construction
- Vary openers; -ly starters.
- Compound and complex sentences using who/which.
- Short and long sentences for effect.

Language Features

- Additional prepositions; two-adjective noun phrases; similes; generalisers (most, some).
- Suffixes: -ness, -er, -ful, -less; comparatives.

Punctuation

The law and you	I can suggest ways to keep myself and others safe in regard to alcohol and substances. I know how and where to access advice and support if I am concerned about the misuse of power or coercive control.
Me, the internet, and the law	I know how and where to access advice and support if I am concerned about the misuse of technology.
Emergency situation	I am aware of the feelings I might encounter when faced with an emergency situation and how those requiring my help might feel.

We have linked our PSHE lessons to the Asdan award scheme so our pupils will gain national accreditation each half term for completing their PSHE work.

Expressive arts

This half term, pupils will focus on developing their drawing skills through the theme '**This Is Me**'. They will explore a range of techniques while creating self-portraits that celebrate their identity. Throughout the term, pupils will build towards a final piece, which will be displayed as part of a whole-school classroom showcase.

Our learning questions are:

- How can I use symbols and drawings to show who I am?
- How can I show subtle emotions drawn in a face?
- How can I use observation to draw an accurate self-portrait?
- How can I show both my outside appearance and inside feelings in one artwork?
- How does changing artistic style change the way my self-portrait is seen?

- Commas in lists; commas after fronted adverbials; apostrophes for contractions; simple speech marks.

Targets at Entry level 3:

Text Structure

- Paragraphs to show changes in time/place.
- Clear build-up, dilemma, resolution, and reflective endings.

Sentence Construction

- Standard English verb forms.
- Simile openers; expanded complex sentences; a full range of conjunctions.

Language Features

- More prepositions; conditionals (could/should/would); comparatives/superlatives; proper nouns.

Punctuation

- Commas for clauses; full direct speech punctuation; apostrophes for plural possession.

Targets at Functional Skills:

Text Structure

- Secure 5-part structure; suspense, cliff-hangers, flashbacks.
- Strong cohesion across paragraphs.
- Non-fiction: clear viewpoint, balanced arguments, purposeful layout.

Sentence Construction

- Active/passive voice; full range of complex sentences.
- Advanced rhetorical techniques.
- Language Features
- Formal vs informal vocabulary; synonyms/antonyms; expanded noun phrases.

Punctuation

- Semi-colons, colons, dashes; hyphens to avoid ambiguity; full bullet-point conventions

Humanities

This half term, pupils will explore the theme 'This Is Me' through Humanities. They will investigate the different factors that help shape identity, including family, community, beliefs, values and life experiences. Through learning in Geography, History and Religious Education, pupils will develop an understanding of who they are, how they belong to different groups, and how people's experiences and environments can influence who they become. Throughout the term, pupils will reflect on their own lives while recognising and celebrating the unique identities of others.

Our learning questions are:

- What do we mean by identity and how is it formed?
- How do family and culture influence who we become?
- How does place and society influence identity?
- How do beliefs and values influence how people live and see themselves?
- How do experiences and historical events shape who people become?
- How do family, culture, place, beliefs, and experiences shape identity over time?

Science

This half term, pupils will explore the topic 'The Heart' through science. They will investigate how the heart functions as a pump, how blood transports vital substances around the body, and how the circulatory system helps keep us alive and healthy. Through practical investigations and scientific enquiry, pupils will develop an understanding of the structure and function of the heart, the role of blood and blood vessels, and how oxygen and nutrients are delivered throughout the body. Pupils will

Maths

This half-term in Maths we are covering the topics of whole number and calculations and proportionality and formula.

Targets at Entry Level:

- Write, order and compare whole numbers up to 1000. Know the value of each digit in a three-digit number.
- Understand vocabulary associated with numerical calculations such as sum, difference, share, total, twice, triple.
- add whole numbers up to 1000.
- Subtract whole numbers from an initial value no greater than 1000.
- Solve simple proportion problems using systematic analysis e.g. adapt a 2 person recipe for 1 person, 3 people, 20 people, etc.
- Solve simple inverse proportion problems using systematic analysis e.g. if speed doubles then the time taken will halve
- Complete sequences of increasing or decreasing integers where the common difference is less than 10 or a multiple of 10.
- Substitute positive integers into a formula given in words and calculate answers i.e. average speed is distance travelled divided by time taken.
- Use a simple two-step function machine to determine outputs for given inputs.

Targets at Functional Skills Level One:

- Read, write, order, and compare large numbers up to one million.
- Recognise and use positive and negative numbers.
- Multiply and divide whole numbers and decimals by 10, 100 and 1000.

also explore how exercise, diet and lifestyle choices can affect heart rate, circulation and overall health, helping them understand the importance of making positive choices for their wellbeing.

Our learning questions are:

- How is the heart adapted to function as a pump?
- How do the components of blood support life?
- How does the double circulatory system work?
- How are oxygen and carbon dioxide transported?
- What affects heart rate and circulation?
- How do lifestyle choices affect the circulatory system?

Skills Builder

In skills builder this term we will be exploring the world of graphic design, working collaboratively as a team to create a class logo which will be 3D printed onto a sign and displayed on the classroom doors. The skills we will focus on developing are Creativity, Leadership and Teamwork, but all skills will be covered throughout the termly project.

Wellbeing

Our younger students will have additional lessons on The Zones of Regulation-an essential tool we use to help our students' emotional regulation and emotional language.

Our students will also be engaging in The Six Core Strengths Curriculum, designed to help their mental wellbeing.

Each class will be exploring a different subject around mental health to also help with our students' targets on their EHCPs.

- Use multiplication facts and make connections with division facts.
- Calculate the squares of one and two-digit numbers.
- Use simple formulae expressed in two words for one and two step instructions.
- Read, write, order, and compare common fractions and mixed numbers.

Functional Skills Level Two:

- Read write, order, and compare positive and negative numbers of any size.
- Carry out calculations with numbers up to one million including strategies to check answers including estimation and approximation.
- Evaluate expressions and make substitutions in given formulae in words and symbols.
- Identify and know the equivalence between fractions, decimals, and percentages.
- Express one number as a fraction of another.
- Work out percentages of amounts and express one amount as a percentage of another.
- Calculate percentage change (any size increase and decrease), and original value after percentage change.

Careers

We will link as much of our learning to the real world and encourage our students to think about the skills and knowledge they are being taught and how it can lead to future employment such as:

- Sociology research assistant
- Geographer mapping
- Historian research assistant
- Youth Worker
- Religious community volunteer
- Community Leader
- NHS Medical imaging
- NHS Medical Porter
- Nursing and Adult Social Care
- Fitness Coach
- Public Health Technician
- Art department - learning support assistant.
- Portrait artist
- Concept artist
- Graphic Designer

