Parent Information Booklet – S2 Curriculum Autumn Term 2 2026

English – Mrs Thompson

Pupils will be finishing the play, 'The Diary of Anne Frank' which they started last term. They will continue to analyse characterisation, themes, language and setting, while analysing quotations. They will then write a critical essay using PEEL paragraphs. RUAE skills are developed as they are embedded in the study of literature.

Following this, pupils will be studying a short story from Roald Dahl's 'Tales of the Unexpected' collection. They will write an imaginative piece in response to the story.

Pupils will spend time learning how to use apostrophes and other grammar correctly.

RUAE - Reading for Understanding and Evaluation – skills will be explicitly taught and also embedded in the study of literature. They will develop their ability to read and understand unfamiliar pieces of non-fiction prose. They will learn how to analyse a range of literary devices used by a writer to create a particular effect and will write about their impact on the reader. Pupils will be taught how to evaluate how successful the writer is in employing these techniques. This work will help pupils prepare for the RUAE exam paper at National 5.

Pupils will be encouraged to read fiction and non-fiction for pleasure and will spend one lesson per week reading a book of their choice.

Fortnightly homework is based on the book they are reading for pleasure.

Parents can help their child at home by asking them about the texts they are reading, the RUAE skills they have learnt and by encouraging them to read a variety of fiction and non-fiction.

Homework will be shared via TEAMS and written on the class whiteboard, and pupils may given handouts. Please encourage your child to check TEAMS/ASSIGNMENTS and to let me know if they are having any problems accessing TEAMS.

English – Mr Jones

Pupils will be studying a selection of short stories that are diverse in perspective and style. They will be given a booklet of activities designed to strengthen their reading comprehension skills and knowledge of literary techniques, as well as opportunities to experiment with different forms of creative writing.

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Maths

Mr Archibald's Maths Class

S2 Students this term will be covering the following topics: algebra, angles and 2D construction using a ruler and protractor. Students will be assessment on all topics at the end of the term. They will also receive regular homework.

Parents can help their students by asking them to talk about the maths that they are covering each week. Students can also use the following apps and websites for help:

Microsoft Teams - each class has their own Class Team with related work.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize

https://www.national5maths.co.uk/s1-s2-courses/

https://mathsrevision.com/

Mrs Chatterton's Maths Class

This term the students will be covering the following topics: rotations, enlargement, scale drawings, solving equations, angles and properties of shapes. Students will get a chance to revise for an end of term assessment on topics covered last session including fractions, percentages, money, time, measurement and algebra. Homework will continue to be handed out on a Wednesday and due to be returned Tuesday the following week.

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RME

This term S2 will continue using the skill of analysis to examine the relationships between the Abrahamic faiths. They will learn about prophets, worship and key festivals. Pupils are encouraged to examine each faith (Judaism, Christianity and Islam) and recognise areas of similarity whilst

respecting differences between them. Please discuss your young person's learning with them and support them to investigate further through books, films and news articles.

Geography

This term the pupils will continue to study the Nepal earthquake, we'll be investigating how we respond to disasters and how we can prepare for them. We will be looking at short term and long term aid, and the challenges faced by countries, such as Nepal, who lack the infrastructure and resources to manage disasters effectively. The class will be completing a report on the Nepal Earthquake which will be their assessed piece of work for this unit. Our next topic is the Tundra Environment.

You can support your child at home with social subjects by: watching the news regularly, watching high quality documentaries about world issues. Your child can work on their general geographic knowledge by looking at google Earth, or an atlas, complete Geography quizzes on sites such as JetPunk or Sporcle.

Modern Studies

This term pupils will continue to study our Crime & Law Topic. We have looked at the role and powers of the Police and now will look at the debate surrounding arming the Police. From there we will look at the different Courts in Scotland and the sentences they can give out. We'll be building skills needed for further study in modern studies such as PEE paragraphs and skills questions.

You can support your child by encouraging them to keep up-to-date with current events, watching the news, documentaries or reading quality newspaper articles.

Art

S2 artists are creating three-dimensional animal trophy heads using papier-mâché. They will explore building structures, layering paper, modelling features and painting surface details, developing their understanding of form, proportion and texture alongside creativity, problem-solving, patience and practical construction skills.

At home, pupils can research their chosen animal, collect images and sketch its head from different angles. They should look closely at the shapes, proportions, colours and textures of features such as ears, eyes, horns and fur to help develop their trophy head in class.

Physical Education

S2 pupils will be undertaking blocks in the following activities:

Basketball and Netball

Pupil will also take part in Social Dance this term, where they will learn and practice a variety of traditional Scottish Country dances accompanied by both Ceilidh music and pop music.

Please encourage your child to be as active a possible outside of school. This will help develop fitness levels that can be applied to many sporting activities. Also, encouraging you child to engage with local sports clubs helps develop skills, confidence and determination all of which will help them succeed in Physical Education

History

This term we will be examining the impact of Nazi Party rule on the people in Germany in the 1930s, focussing on encouraging pupils' analysis skills. We will look at different groups within Nazi Germany as well as practicing source skills as the term develops. Please encourage your child to tell you what they have been learning about in History each week to aid their understanding.

Personal Support Programme

S2 - Sexual Health, Road Safety & Employability – This term during the Sexual Health block, S2 pupils will have the opportunity to learn about social media and the dangers of online relationships, Consent, Commitment, trust & respect. They will also complete a block of work on Road Safety – where they will be given scenarios to discuss as a group.

Home Economics

This term, S2 pupils will focus on the Scottish Dietary Targets, learning how small changes to diet can improve health. They'll explore food labels, make healthier choices, and cook simple dishes — including macaroni cheese using the hob.

How You Can Help

- Talk about healthy swaps (e.g. water instead of fizzy drinks)
- Check food labels together
- Encourage cooking at home and safe kitchen habits
- Send a container for practical lessons

🎄 We'll finish the term with some festive Christmas cookery!

Biology

This term in Biology we will be assessing the Health and technology topic before moving on to study the topic of "DNA and Reproduction". We will introduce the concept of DNA containing the genetic information to control characteristics and how these vary between individuals. We then introduce the concepts of sexual and asexual reproduction before studying sexual reproduction in humans. Pupils should look on TEAMS for information on assessment dates and revision resources. The following web-sites may prove useful for revision:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zybbkqt

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zxtnvcw

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zwk2fg8

Chemistry

This term we are learning how about acids and alkalis and the chemical reaction called neutralisation

The pH scale measures the acidity or alkalinity of a solution. Acids and bases have a wide variety of uses and can react together in neutralisation reactions.

Acids and alkalis are not only found in chemistry labs, they are actually very common. We use acids and alkalis in our daily lives for things like cleaning, cooking and you even eat and drink some substances that are acidic or alkaline

A chemical reaction happens if you mix together an acid and an alkali (Base). The reaction is called *neutralisation*. A neutral solution is made if you add just the right amount of acid and base together

Parents can help by asking pupils about any experiments they carried out and asking pupils to identify acids and alkalis around the home. Encouraging pupils to do visit BBC bitesize website would help – links are below

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zf73382/revision/1

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zf73382/revision/2

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zf73382/revision/3

Physics

This term we will complete the Forces topic, learning about Newton's 1st Law of Motion and how it explains why objects move. There will be an assessment covering the whole Forces topic.

Following this we will explore Electricity. This will start by looking at static electricity and carrying out several small practical tasks demonstrating the effects of static charge. The main focus of the topic is basic electric circuits, where pupils will build a variety of series and parallel circuits and carry out measurements of current and voltage to investigate the differences between different circuit types.

Parents can help by encouraging pupils to try to explain what they have learned during lessons and also by letting them safely explore electrical apparatus in the home (looking at different appliances, the fuse box and meter for example).

Revision notes and copies of the PowerPoints used in class will be available on Teams. There will be a formal homework and an assessment at the end of the topic.

For extra revision BBC Bitesize is a good place to start:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zgy39j6

Business Management and ICT

This term your child will be learning about the functions of a business. Pupils learn about the different functional areas within a business, tall & flat structures as well as the span of control within an organisation. Pupils will also learn about key business terms. Pupils will complete several activities, making full use of the features available on Microsoft packages. Please support your child

by, if possible, talking to them about your employment and any changes you have seen in your industry e.g. reduction in staffing, increase in home working etc.

Music

Performance Pupils will continue to build their playing skills across their 2 chosen classroom instruments, and pupils will be working on music from Musicals and films. We will use peer and self-assessment as well as ongoing teacher feedback to improve our practical skills.

Understanding We will continue to work on music literacy to help us when reading music. Pupils will also be introduced to sound production including how to use microphones to capture sound correctly, as part of our focus on the creative industries.

Creating We are doing a digital learning activity using digital software called "Mixcraft" to record our own sounds, in order to create sound foley for a short film.

To support your young person, please try and instil the concept of improving through practise-getting it wrong is a major part of getting it right in music! If they have access to a musical instrument at home, I encourage them to practise regularly to improve their playing. The music department is also open to all pupils for practise at lunch times. Please encourage your young person to listen to different genres of music and try to pick out instruments they can hear.

Computer Science

S2 pupils receive two 45-minute Computing Science lessons each week and one piece of homework per term.

This term, pupils will develop their programming skills through turtle programming. Lessons will include short explanations, demonstrations, guided tasks and independent challenges, with each activity building on previous learning. Pupils should regularly revisit class activities, practise their skills and use the course resources to support their learning. Pupils will learn to control a turtle using instructions for movement, turning and drawing. They will explore sequence, repetition and variables to create shapes, patterns and more complex designs. As they progress, pupils will combine these skills to produce their own drawings, developing their understanding of how angles, distances and repeated instructions affect the output. Problem-solving and debugging will be central to this work. Pupils will break designs into smaller steps, predict what their code will produce, and identify and correct errors. Independent challenges will encourage them to adapt their solutions and apply their learning creatively.

By the end of the term, pupils will have gained further experience in programming, problem-solving and debugging, while developing their confidence in combining programming constructs to create increasingly complex programs.

British Sign Language

Pupils will continue their learning of British Sign Language. This term we will be looking at Looking at **greetings** (engaging in role play conversations with partners), **BSL features** (context, positives & negative signs, facial expressions, lip patterns), **introducing yourself** (engaging in conversations with partners), **places** (UK and international), **Jobs** and **Christmas** (signs & songs).

Homework will be online via the sign language course pupils are enrolled in www.british-sign.co.uk. This can be accessed through any device with internet. Pupils will be encouraged to revise material

learnt in their lessons or catch up on any work missed. Log in details have been emailed to each pupil's school glow account.

You can support your child at home by encouraging them to log-in to their BSL account and practice what they have been covering in class.