

Dear Parent/Carer,

Earlier this year we wrote to you explaining what the students had been learning in each curriculum area. Here are the details for each subject for the next half term, taking us up to the Christmas break. More details are available on our school website under the 'Curriculum and Learning' tab.

The table below outlines what is being studied during Half Term 2 in Year 8 in each subject and how students are assessed and given feedback to support their progress.

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Content this half term</u>	<u>Assessments</u>
English	Reading fiction: Conflict Writing fiction: Bringing a story to life	Summative assessment: 1. How does the theme of conflict develop? 2. Produce a short narrative.
Maths	Develop Geometric Reasoning, Prime Numbers and Proof, Ratio and Scale, Multiplicative Change	Interim 1 Assessment and Ongoing end of unit/mini progress check assessments
Science	Biology - Genes 2 Chemistry - Matter 2 Physics - Forces 2 / Energy 1	Ongoing formative assessments and end of topic tests.
MFL	Comparative and superlative adjectival structures, future tense French: Jobs topic & Christmas traditions German: School topic & Christmas traditions Spanish: Health topic & Christmas traditions	Ongoing formative assessments and end of topic tests.
Computer Science	Students will complete unit on the history of the internet. Then move to a unit on how to code in Python	We have a multiple choice exam at the end of Unit 1 which will be assessed alongside the website they have produced.
Technology	Students will undertake a range of CAD, practical and design exercises in order to develop their DT skills.	Some homework tasks set in line with the topic undertaken where appropriate.
Food preparation and Nutrition	Healthy lifestyles including balanced meals, diet-related diseases, energy needs and nutritional analysis.	Practical assessment - Paella.
Music	Atmospheric Music, based on Danse Macabre by Saint Saens	Composition Project/ End of Unit Listening assessment
Art	Inspired by the creative process of artist/designer Jon Burgerman to experience developing art from imaginative & intuitive drawing. Apply knowledge of formal elements/paper collage learnt in yr7 to	ongoing formative & summative assessment

	produce: drawing/designing/card relief work/painting	
Drama	Non-Verbal Communication - focusing on non-verbal performance skills to communicate meaning, character and situation. Devising, communication. leadership, rehearsal, character creation, performance and analysis skills explored throughout the half term.	Assessed Group Performance
PE	Techniques, tactics & composition across a variety of sports. Knowledge and understanding of health & fitness. Introduction to character exam action and its value in sport.	Every 4 weeks on different aspects of physical literacy.
History	Work through time Or Slavery (18th/19th Century)	Paragraph writing assessment - Changing nature of work through time Or Slavery source assessment
Geography	Population	Migration Assessment & Knowledge Test
RS	Buddhism	Assess the importance of Buddha (paragraph writing task)

In the coming weeks, you can support your child in a number of ways:

- ★ Check that your child is keeping up with their homework, this will be set through the Google Classroom and will include a clear deadline.
- ★ Use the Google Classroom to check that your child has what they need in their book, you can sit together and go through the lessons to see that they finished the work
- ★ Speak to your child about what they are doing – this could be through asking them what they have done and what knowledge they can remember from the lesson.
- ★ Encourage your child to read for pleasure and ensure they always have their book with them in school for our 5 minutes reading time at the start of every lesson.
- ★ Ensure that they have regular breaks from homework and get a good night's sleep – work in chunks of time, turn off mobile phones and devices at least one hour in advance of going to bed
- ★ Encourage hobbies and interests which are not technology based
- ★ Let children be bored; this is when creativity occurs and reveals their talents

We hope you find this information useful and your child is enjoying learning with us at HCCS.

Kind regards,
Helena Connolly
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Progress Lead: Disadvantaged Students
Enrichment coordinator
Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School