



# ST EDMUND'S SCHOOL CANTERBURY

## Curriculum Newsletter

Form 8

Lent Term 2020

### Forthcoming Events

Epiphany Service	9th Jan
Eucharist Service	21st Jan
PSHEE Morning	27th Jan
Lunchtime concert	4th Feb
Candlemas Service	4th Feb
French Play	4th Feb
House singing competition	7th Feb
Fair trade fortnight	24th Feb- 6th March
Shrove Tuesday Service	25th Feb
JS Choirs' Lunchtime	27th Feb
World Book Day	5th March
Gala Concert	12th March
Form 8 Parents' Evening	16th March
Passiontide Services	17th March, 19th March
500 Word Short Story Competition	Closing date 16th March
JS Production	19th, 20th, 21st March

## Welcome to 2020!

From 'Macbeth' to 'Globalisation' pupils in Form 8 are studying a rich and diverse range of topics this term. As Year 8 edges closer to Senior School subject study becomes more rigorous, laying key foundations for GCSE. At GCSE pupils will again study Shakespeare, algebra, the 'Waves' topic in Physics and 'The Heart' in Biology. Similarly, the art of Antoni Gaudi is relevant to GCSE Art and 'Le Famille' is a topic studied in GCSE French. Enjoy, Form 8!



### English

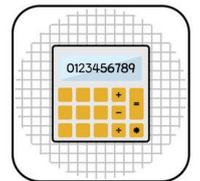


'Double, double toil and trouble; Fire burn, and cauldron bubble.'

'Macbeth' will be the main stimulus for Form 8 during the Lent term. From analysing Shakespearean language to writing plays, Form 8 will be immersed in this bloodthirsty and perilous play.

Through drama, role play, critical thinking and investigation, the children will develop an appreciation for Shakespeare; understanding how Macbeth continues to amaze and horrify audiences of today. Alongside this, discrete grammar and language lesson will be taught to enhance the children's written accuracy and composition.

### Mathematics



Following consultation with the Senior School, our mode of assessment is changing this term. Rather than large end of term assessments, we are moving to smaller but more frequent unit tests. The end of year summer examination will remain.

Much of mathematics this term will involve a variety of graph work. While set two pupils will extend their knowledge of algebra with the emphasis on solving equations, set one will study transformations and construction. All pupils will revisit decimals, percentages, fractions and ratio.

### Computing & ICT



We welcome back Form 8 in Lent term by taking a closer look at the technical aspects of software; what is an operating system? How does it work? How does binary link to memory and processing instructions?

Pupils will be able to make links to some of the content covered in Computer Science History. Form 8 will also continue to develop ICT skills that will aid their academic journey in other subjects, starting a new project using databases and how data can be used.

### Science

In Form 8 Biology pupils will study 'The Heart and Circulatory System' this term, looking in depth at blood, disease and the immune system.

Study in Chemistry will entail looking in detail at 'Elements' 'Metals' and 'Acids'. In their Physics lessons this term pupils will focus on the topic of 'Sound Waves'. Lessons will focus on themes such as 'loudness', 'pitch' and 'frequency'.



Be all you can be

## Art, Design & Technology



In Drawing and Painting, the themes 'Everyday Objects' and 'Human Form' are explored through observation drawing, painting and photography. In Ceramics pupils are introduced to working with clay to build three-dimensional pieces based on 'Sea Life'. In Printmaking, pupils learn relief printing techniques. They produce a design based on the work of Antoni Gaudi which is then printed with lino.

## MFL

This term year 8 will develop their speaking, reading, writing and listening skills on two main topics 'La famille' for set 2 and 'Le Sport' for set 3. Pupils will continue to develop their vocabulary and ways to memorise new words. They will work on grammar and build longer sentences with connectives and high-frequency words. There will be opportunities to strengthen their pronunciation and confidence in speaking tasks with role plays and presentations of unfamiliar sport (la pétanque, la pelote basque, la crosse, bull fighting). Throughout the term, they will also exchange letters with their penfriends from Arras. (Year 8 set 1 will study Spanish this term).

## Music

Extending the work we previously did on the 'Musical Elements', pupils are now covering 'Musical Structures' and how many genres of music are composed.



We've concentrated on Binary and Ternary Form and have composed and performed pieces as a class. Performance is at the heart of the second half of term as we take a look at the magnificent sound of the symphony orchestra.

## PE and Games

Our fitness tests are nearly complete. Designed to give us a basic benchmark of fitness, the standard has been high. The children have a good base to develop the main sports of the term, netball and hockey.

In PE we begin the 4 weekly carousel of sports which includes badminton, gymnastics, tennis and softball cricket. School fixtures and House competition add a competitive edge to the sports delivered.

## A PSHEE lesson in Form 8



## Drama

This term we are continuing to develop the children's basic understanding of various dramatic techniques, and how and when to use these effectively in performance.



We will be introducing them to different styles of performance and building their confidence to work outside of their comfort zone, giving them skills transferable to other aspects of their lives. These skills include communication, team work, public speaking and building confidence and creativity.

## Religious Studies

This term Year 8 continue with: 'An A-Z of Religion and Beliefs'. Broadly following the animated BBC series of the same name, pupils will be introduced to a wide variety of religious topics and phenomena which we can explore together. Some of the topics and questions we shall consider are given below:

*P is for The Problem of Evil: How can an all powerful and good God exist in a world full of evil and suffering?*

*Q is for Qur'an and Sacred Text: How can a text written hundreds of years ago help people with their lives today? How do we deal with contradictions?*

*R is for Ritual: What are rituals and why do we need them? An anthropological and psychological look at the purpose of ritual.*

## More than a School

## History

Form 8 continue their theme of Revolution this term having successfully arrived in 2020 after surviving the bloody and brutal English Civil War.

Equality, Fraternity and Liberty are the key messages as Form 8 study the equally bloody and brutal French Revolution.



## Geography

This term Form 8 are looking at transport and industry. They will be investigating the evolution of modern transport routes and methods, and the impact they have of the Earth.

Form 8 will also be looking at employment sector and globalisation. We will examine how the two themes interconnect between different industries.



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