

Parent forum May 2025



We learn together
We belong to this community
We are proud of ourselves and each other
We have consistently high expectations

Introduction

Mr Tim Munro - Deputy Headteacher - Quality of Education

Mr Jason Jones - Assistant Headteacher - Assessment



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This Afternoon

1. Our curriculum and how we share content (Knowledge Organisers and what to do with them)
2. Homework
3. Our assessment and reporting calendar (including parental engagement events)
4. Your questions.... (FAQs doc)
5. Planning information evenings for September



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What we will teach



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KS3 Food & Nutrition

YEAR 7

Introduction to Food

Preparation and Nutrition

The importance of food prep and nutrition & staying safe in the kitchen



Nutrients

The Big 6 nutrients of carbs, proteins, fats, vitamins, minerals and water.

British and World Cuisine

The historical influences on our food and the effect of geography and ingredients on our dishes.



YEAR 8

Food Safety

The four issues of bacteria, viruses, physical and chemical contamination

Making informed choices about health

The main nutrients provided by the core food groups- their basic functions and macro/micro nutrients.



Food Choice

How the choices we make impact our environment.

YEAR 9



Mini NEAs

You will respond to a brief and explore the characteristics, function and chemical properties of ingredients as you plan a set of practical experiments with food.



Functional and Chemical properties of food

Understanding the impact of factors on food.


Food Provenance

Knowing where food comes from- Organic, processed or travelled




Knowledge organisers

Figurative Devices	Language techniques e.g. simile
Empathy	Understand how someone is feeling as you've felt something similar
Structure	The way a story or something is put together
Show not tell	Showing something about someone's character through their actions
Dialogue	A conversation between two or more people in a story
Setting	The way or place in which something is set
Character	The particular qualities that make a person an individual
Plot	The way the story advances/ what happens in the story

Key Vocabulary - Heroes 		
Brave	Wise	Valiant
Fearless	Daring	Bold
Resolute	Honest	Principled
Idealistic	Leader	Iconic

What is flash fiction?
<i>Flash fiction is just a very, very short story that tries to make a big impact with just a few words. It's like a mini-story that can still be really exciting or interesting.</i>
Lily searched everywhere. Under the bed, behind the curtains. Her fuzzy blue elephant was gone. Tears welled in her eyes. Then, she saw a tiny bit of blue peeking out from under Dad's big armchair. She reached, pulled. There he was! Snuggled next to Dad's sleepy feet. Lily smiled. Best hiding spot ever.

Key Vocabulary - Villains 		
Evil	Malicious	Nemesis
Corrupt	Cruel	Ruthless
Vicious	Monstrous	Malevolent
Tyrannical	Nefarious	Mastermind

What is a haiku?
<i>A haiku is a very short kind of poem from Japan in Hinduism who work together to keep the universe in balance. Brahma is the creator who makes the world, Vishnu is the preserver who protects it, and Shiva is the destroyer who helps restart the cycle of life. Hindus believe this cycle of creation, preservation, and destruction happens over and over again, with no real beginning or end. All three gods are seen as different aspects of Brahman, the ultimate power in the universe.</i>
Green frog jumps right in, Splash! Ripples spread all around, Quiet pond again.

Yr 7 - Mini Sagas and Flash Fiction

YEAR 8 – KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER – HINDUISM – Summer Term



CREATION: Hindus believe the universe follows an eternal cycle of creation, existence, and destruction, with no beginning or end. **Brahma**, the creator god, works alongside **Vishnu** and **Shiva** to maintain this cycle. Before time began, only a vast ocean existed, with Vishnu sleeping on a giant serpent. The sound "Aum" awakened him, and from his navel grew a lotus flower, where Brahma sat. At Vishnu's command, Brahma created the world—dividing the lotus into the heavens, earth, and sky, filling the land with plants, animals, and life.

KEYWORDS

Aum/Om - Symbol of Hinduism. A sacred syllable that represents Brahman and was the starting point of creation.

Brahman - The one supreme spirit. Viewed as the ultimate reality by Hindus.

Deity - Avatars or Gods/Goddesses

Diwali - Festival of light celebrated by Hindus and Sikhs.

Mandir - Place of worship for Hindus.

Puja - Worship or devotion. Often directed at a particular deity or deities in Hinduism.

Trimurti - The trinity of deities that help Hindus to understand Brahman - Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva

FESTIVALS

DIVALI - one of the most celebrated events, usually held in October or November for five days. It is linked to **Rama and Sita's** story. Hindus clean their homes, settle accounts for the new financial year, light diya lamps, and hold firework displays, symbolizing Rama's rescue of Sita from the demon king Ravana. The festival also honors Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth, for a prosperous new year.

HOLI - a vibrant and joyful festival marking the arrival of spring. Known as the "Festival of Colors," it brings people together to play with colored powders, dance, and enjoy festive foods. Holi symbolizes the victory of good over evil and the spirit of unity and renewal. It is a time when differences are set aside, and friends, families, and communities come together in celebration and laughter.



MANDIR: a Hindu temple, a special place where Hindus go to pray, worship, and connect with God. It is beautifully decorated with carvings, statues of deities, and colorful designs. Inside, people make offerings like flowers and food, light lamps, and chant prayers. The **murti** (statue of a god or goddess) is the central focus of worship. Mandirs are also places where Hindus learn about their faith, celebrate festivals, and come together as a community.

TRIMURTI: the three main gods in Hinduism who work together to keep the universe in balance. **Brahma** is the creator who makes the world, **Vishnu** is the preserver who protects it, and **Shiva** is the destroyer who helps restart the cycle of life. Hindus believe this cycle of creation, preservation, and destruction happens over and over again, with no real beginning or end. All three gods are seen as different aspects of **Brahman**, the ultimate power in the universe.



Ganesh - the beloved elephant-headed god of wisdom, beginnings, and the remover of obstacles, often worshipped at the start of new ventures and prayers.

Hanuman - a devoted monkey god known for his strength, loyalty, and courage, revered as a symbol of devotion and a central figure in the epic Ramayana.

Trimurti - the trio of goddesses—**Saraswati**, **Lakshmi**, and **Parvati**—who represent wisdom, wealth, and power, and are the divine consorts of the Trimurti.

Saraswati - the goddess of wisdom, knowledge, music, and the arts, often worshipped by students and scholars seeking learning and inspiration.

Lakshmi - goddess of wealth, prosperity, and good fortune, and is widely worshipped during festivals like **Diwali** to invite abundance and happiness into the home.

Parvati - goddess of love, strength, and devotion, the divine consort of Lord Shiva, and the nurturing mother figure who represents the power of transformation and balance.

RITEs OF PASSAGE

Nam Samskar: The naming ceremony, is a sacred ritual performed to officially name a newborn. Involving prayers, blessings, and astrological considerations to choose a name. The event symbolises the child's identity and welcome into the family and society. Family and friends often gather to celebrate with rituals, food, and gifts. The name typically aligns with the child's birth star or horoscope.

Upanayanam: Traditional Hindu ceremony that marks a young boy's entry into spiritual and educational life. He is given a sacred thread to wear and taught sacred chants. It signifies his readiness to study the Vedas and live a virtuous life.

YARNA: The Varma system is an ancient way of organising society into four groups, based on Hindu beliefs. These groups, or castes, were linked to Brahma's body. Brahmins, priests and teachers, came from his mouth or third eye. Kshatriyas, rulers and warriors, came from his arms. Vaishyas, traders and farmers, came from his thighs. Shudras, who did service jobs, came from his feet. A fifth group, known as Dalits, also called "Untouchables," were outside this system and treated unfairly. Today, many believe this system is wrong and unfair.



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DEITIES:



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rites of passage

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What we will assess and when

Assessment timing linked to curriculum journey and KOs

		Yr7	Yr8	Yr9
WK	Term	s/2week	s/2week	s/2week
1	HT1			
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8		Assessment 1 - Energy 1 & Matter 2	Assessment 1 - Energy 1 & Reactions 1	Assessment 1 - Electromagn & Ecosystems 2
School Holidays				
9	HT2			
10				
11				
12				
13		Use Assess 1 & PMTs for Interim	Use Assess 1 & PMTs for Interim	Use Assess 1 & PMTs for Interim
14				
15		Assessment 2 - Separating techniques & Forces 1		
School Holidays				
16	HT3			Assessment 2 - Earth 1 & Energy 2
17			Assessment 2 - Genes 2 & Forces 2	Y9 Online testing
18				
19				KS4 content begins
20				
21				
School Holidays				
22	HT4			
23			Assessment 3 - Reactions 2 & Organisms 2	
24		BSW	BSW	
25				
26		Assessment 3 - Reproduction & Cells		
27				
School Holidays				
28	HT5	Use Assess 1,2, 3 & PMTs for Interim	Use Assess 1,2, 3 & PMTs for Interim	Use Assess 1,2, 3 & PMTs for Interim
29				
30				
31				
32			Assessment 4 - Waves 2 & Earth 2	
School Holidays				
33	HT6	Assessment 4 - Photosynthesis & circuits		
34		Presentations	Presentations	
35		Ecosystems	Saving the Earth	GCSE assessments
36				
37		ALW	ALW	
38				



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		Yr7	Yr8	Yr9
Wk	Term	6/2week	6/2week	6/2week
1	HT1			
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8		Assessment 1 - Energy 1 & Matter 2	Assessment 1 - Energy 1 & Reactions 1	Assessment 1 - Electromags & Ecosystems 2
School Holidays				
9	HT2			
10				
11				
12				
13		Use Assess 1 & PMTs for Interim	Use Assess 1 & PMTs for Interim	Use Assess 1 & PMTs for Interim
14				
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School Holidays				
16	HT3			Assessment 2 - Earth 1 & Energy 2
17			Assessment 2 - Genes 2 & Forces 2	Yr9 Online testing
18				
19				KS4 content begins
20				
21				
School Holidays				
22	HT4			
23			Assessment 3 - Reactions 2 & Organisms 2	
24		BSW	BSW	
25				
26		Assessment 3 - Reproduction & Cells		
27				
School Holidays				
28	HT5	Use Assess 1,2, 3 & PMTs for Interim	Use Assess 1,2, 3 & PMTs for Interim	Use Assess 1,2, 3 & PMTs for Interim
29				
30				
31				
32			Assessment 4 - Waves 2 & Earth 2	
School Holidays				
33	HT6	Assessment 4 - Photosynthesis & circuits		
34		Presentations	Presentations	
35		Ecosystems	Saving the Earth	GCSE assessments
36				
37		ALW	ALW	
38				

Curriculum website

Curriculum & Learning



Parent Forums

Assessment Overview

Exams Information

Smart Learning

Reading

Careers

Curriculum Policy



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Key areas for your discussion

Knowledge
Organisers (KOs)
How would you use
them with your child?



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Homework from September

“We understand that there are variety of views about homework and how much/when set - but when homework is set, please could there be consistency about how seriously deadlines are taken”



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Homework from September

1. Homework has a positive impact on average (+ 5 months), particularly with pupils in secondary schools.
2. Homework that is linked to classroom work tends to be more effective. In particular, studies that included feedback on homework had higher impacts on learning.
3. It is important to make the purpose of homework clear to pupils (e.g. to increase a specific area of knowledge, or to develop fluency in a particular area).
4. Studies involving digital technology typically have greater impact (+ 6 months).

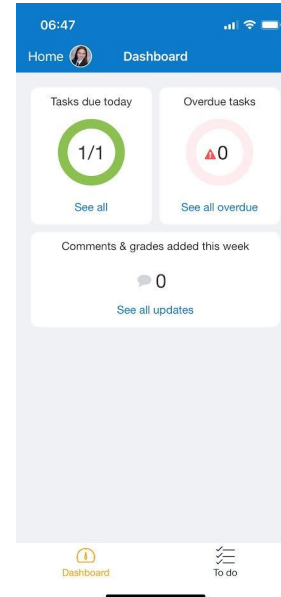
<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/teaching-learning-toolkit/homework>



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Homework and Satchel 1

- Making independent practice valid and useful
- Subjects will decide:
 - Online resources e.g. Sparx
 - Use of KO for practice
 - Specific tasks
 - Tied into the scheme of work and curriculum journey
- Satchel 1 from September

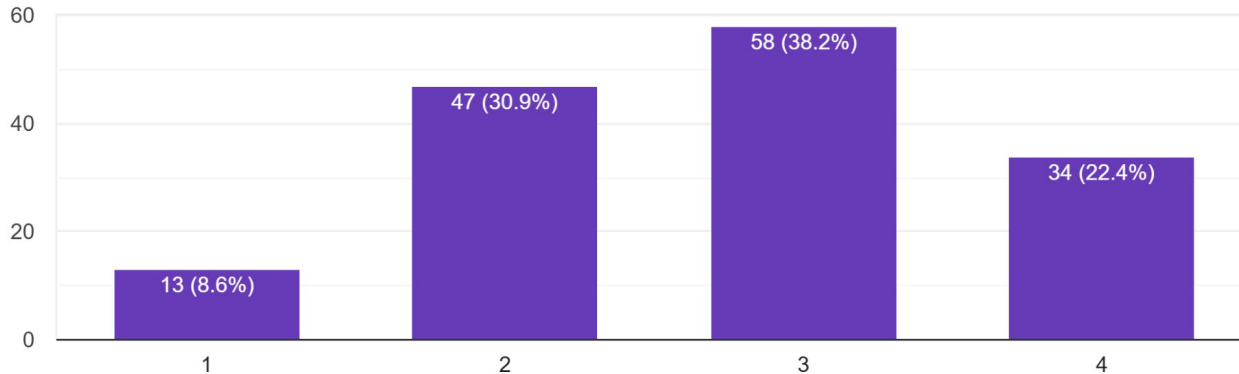


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The impact of parents' evenings

The parents evening had an impact on my child's progress

152 responses

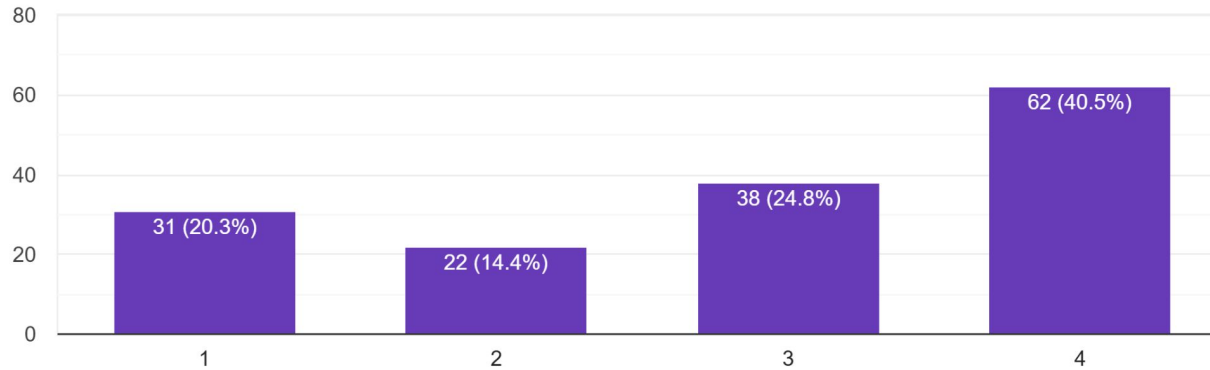


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Seeing the teachers you want

I was able to book appointments for all the subjects I wanted to see

153 responses

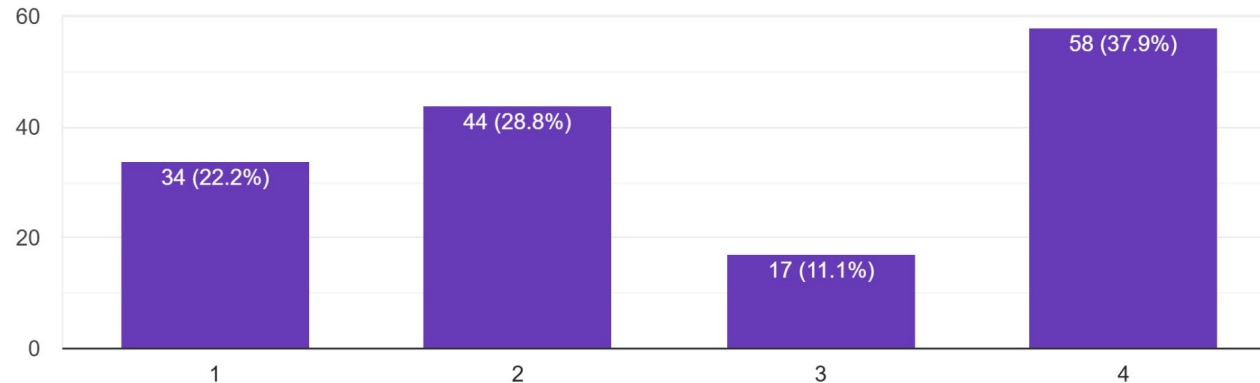


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On line or in school?

I would prefer to come into school to discuss my child's progress

153 responses



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Sharing data update

Frequently asked questions - Thank you for feedback. Response via website

New look calendar for sharing information - We have looked at the journeys of students through the year and key stages, spreading out the points of contact and more engagement (next few slides for info).

More contact, more parental involvement, more opportunities to come into school.



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Year group journeys

Year 7 and 8

Term 1		Term 2		Term 3	
Parent info Evening	Interim 1	Showcase Evening	Interim 2	Interim 3	Celebration evening
September (Y7 25th, Y8 4th)	24 Oct	Y7 5th March Y8 12th March	12 Feb	3 July	11th June



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Year 9

Term 1		Term 2			Term 3	
Parent info Evening	Interim 1	Interim 2	Options and drop in	EMS parents eve	Celebration evening	Interim 3
11 Sept	24 Oct	16 Jan	22 Jan	29 Jan	30th April	3rd July



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Year 10

Term 1		Term 2			Term 3		
Parent info Evening	Interim 1	EM exams	Interim 2	Parents evening	EMS Mocks	Options Mock	Mock Results (Interim 3)
11 Sept	24 Oct	31 Jan	6 Mar	19 Mar	16 Apr	24 Jun	15 Jul



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Year 11

Term 1				Term 2		Term 3
Parents info and revision evening	Interim 1	Parents Evening	Mock Exams	Mock results evening (interim 2)	Targeted revision event	Exams
4 Sept	15 Oct	16 Oct	1 Dec - 15 Dec	5 Feb	26th Feb	



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Year 12

Term 1		Term 2	Term 3		
Information evening	Interim 1	Interim 2	Interim 3 and parents evening	Progress exams	Results
18 Sept	28 Nov	6 March	20&21 May	29&30 April	15 July

Year 13

Term 1		Term 2		Term 3	
Mocks	Results and Parents evening	Mocks	Interim 2 (results)		
5 Nov	26&27 Nov	24 Feb	19 Feb		



Parental engagement events
What questions have you
got, and what do we need to
consider?



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