

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 7 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	Fiction reading: Identity and Survival Fiction writing: Flash fiction	Summative assessment: 1. How does the main character develop? 2. Produce a piece of Flash fiction.
Maths	Equality and Equivalence, Place Value and Number Sense	Interim 1 Assessment and ongoing end of unit/mini progress check assessments
Science	Biology - Organisms 1 / Genes 1 Chemistry - Matter 1 Physics - Forces 1	Ongoing formative assessments and end of topic tests.
MFL	Justifying opinions, irregular verbs and time adverbs Spanish: Hobbies topic & Christmas traditions	Ongoing formative assessments and end of topic tests.
Computer Science	We will conclude the first unit (on Digital Safety and the Environment) after two weeks of HT2 (with an assessment) and then we will move onto the Coding unit where we will teach flowcharts, coding in Logo and then coding in Edublocks (which is a Scratch type version of Python).	Written test at the end of Unit 1
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.
Music	Instruments of the Orchestra, (The Young Person's Guide...), Peter and the Wolf, Composition and Performance	Performance Project/ End of unit listening assessment
Art	INDIAN PATTERN - Application of knowledge of formal elements studied in half term 1 & inspired by Indian pattern, specifically the paisley to learn/explore drawing/poly printing technique.	ongoing formative & summative assessment
Drama	Darkwood Manor - performance creation based on a fictional story. Devising, communication. leadership, rehearsal, character creation, performance and analysis skills explored throughout the half term.	Group performance at the end of the scheme
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	History of Migration in the UK (from Romans to the EU)	Battle of Hastings (1066) and an Overview of Migration Knowledge test
Geography	Africa - varying biome, environments, climates, adaptations to animal and human life, geopolitics	Knowledge Assessment & Extended Writing overview of Africa
RS	"Lost": Creating a society when you are stranded on a deserted island (Ethics & Morals)	Paragraph assessment on Leadership; Knowledge assessment overview

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
Head of MFL
Progress Lead: Disadvantaged Students
Enrichment coordinator
Holmes Chapel Comprehensive School