



Dear Parents/Carers,

Over these two pages, you will be able to read about what your child will be learning over the course of this term.

Should you wish to find out more, please visit our website:

www.astonfields.worcs.sch.uk

Maths

Number – factors, multiples, primes, prime factor form, LCM, HCF, powers and roots, indices, rounding and estimation

Shape – measures including converting between metric and imperial measure, time & money, area, perimeter, including circles

Algebra – collecting terms, substitution and formulae, brackets, powers/indices

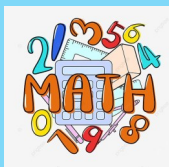
Algebra – sequences including nth term

Fractions, decimals and percentages – equivalents, calculation, percentage change, including using decimal equivalents

Angles & 2D shapes – including different angle rules for polygons and parallel lines.

Graphs – coordinates, straight line graphs, equation of a straight-line graph, plotting graphs from equations, straight lines and simple curves

Shape – transformations including reflection, rotation, translation and enlargement, including understanding similar shapes and congruent shapes.



Core Subjects

English

Poetry through time

- What is Poetry? Form and function.
- Building knowledge of poetic devices.
- Analysis of a variety of poems from different eras beginning with 'The Odyssey' by Homer and ending with 'Change Maker' by Solli Raphael.
- Writing poetry in a variety of forms to evoke/entertain the audience.

Time to Persuade

- Pupils will study speeches, letters and other forms of persuasive writing.
- Writing persuasively to different audiences.
- Writing an argumentative piece using a variety of connectives to structure their points.
- Rhetorical and persuasive devices – being able to recognise these in the texts studied and apply to their own writing.

PETER responses will be increasingly independent and/or in depth. They will begin to show variation in analytical verbs used. Additionally, pupils will be encouraged to infer what a single word or phrase implies and be guided to consider more than one interpretation and/or context to extend their written responses.

Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation teaching is integrated within lessons based on the needs of individuals/groups with recall tasks at the beginning of lessons. The focus is on remembering and reinforcing skills from Year 7. Colons and semicolons will be a recurring focus throughout the year.

Science

Health and lifestyle

Pupils will learn to:

- Explore how each nutrient contributes to a balanced diet.
- Use appropriate techniques to carry out food tests.
- Explain health issues caused by an unhealthy diet.
- Explain the effects of recreational drugs, alcohol and tobacco on the body.

Separation

Pupils will learn to:

- Describe particle arrangement in mixtures.
- Describe solutions using the correct vocabulary.
- Explain what a saturated solution is.
- Explain how filtration, evaporation, distillation and chromatography can separate mixtures.

Energy

Pupils will learn to:

- Compare energy values of food.
- Describe energy stores and transfers.
- Explain the difference between energy and temperature.
- Compare renewable and non-renewable energy sources.

Pressure

Pupils will learn to:

- Calculate relative motion and speed.
- Interpret distance-time graphs.
- Describe pressure in solids, liquids and gases.
- Explain turning forces.

Personal Development and Character Education focus:

Pupils will continue to learn about individuals of character through our 'Amazing People' resource and consider the character traits that make them a valuable part of our school community.

Foundation Subjects

Geography

Topic – Population

Pupils will study populations around the world. They will explore many issues drawing upon many skills including statistical interpretation.

Skills to be developed:

- Locational knowledge and use of choropleth maps
- Exploring issues with population change, overpopulation, and an ageing population.
- Analysing data to draw their own conclusions
- Explore how countries try and manage their populations and what the effects of this are.

Physical Education

In the Autumn Term, Year 8 Physical Education focuses on enhancing pupils' abilities across four key strands. **Physically**, pupils will optimise their fitness levels through different training methods. The **psychological** strand emphasises mental toughness, offering tactical solutions and reflection of their performance. **Socially**, the term highlights leadership, effective teamwork, and communication. **Technically**, the curriculum focuses on mastering advanced skills of varied throws and catches in team sports.

Music

Pupils will develop their knowledge and understanding of Blues music including traditions and cultures of Africa and America. Pupils will learn the skills to perform a blues melody, the blues scale, the 3 chords - C, F and G, and the walking bass pattern to the 12 bar Blues accurately and fluently. Pupils will explore ways to improvise and consider how the components can be interpreted and experimented with. Pupils will be creative when performing and will become aware of world issues related to the 12 Bar Blues.

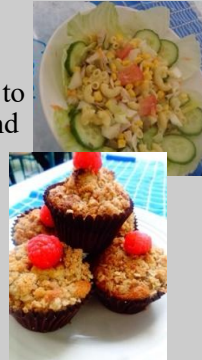
History

Topics: The English Civil War & the French Revolution.

Pupils will begin Year 8 by learning about the causes, key battles and the consequences of the English Civil War. They will learn about key individuals including Charles I, Oliver Cromwell and Charles II. This will also include local history by studying the monarch's way which runs through Bromsgrove. Later in the term, pupils will cover an aspect of European History by learning about the French Revolution. Pupils will learn the causes, key events and consequences of the revolution.

Design & Technology

Pupils will begin a carousel of DT based projects including Food Technology, Textiles, Product Design and a STEAM project with a focus on systems and control. Each project will last for 8 weeks and has been developed to introduce pupils to new materials and processes as well as developing their designing, making and evaluation skills.



Computing

Topic – E-safety App lab (making your own App)

Pupils are learning that online actions have consequences in the real world. How to protect their information and understand what to do if things go wrong. During this unit, pupils will explore what a digital footprint is and why it is important to be aware of. How to change settings to ensure their personal information is secure. Pupils will create an app to help children their age to understand the dangers online and advise them on how to stay safe.

Religious Studies

Does the world need prophets today?

Pupils will consider the place and role of prophets in the Bible, including characters such as Isaiah and Amos. They will discuss what they think the role of a modern-day prophet would be and consider the extent to which messages from historical prophets are relevant to contemporary society. They will reflect upon how they might respond to various 'prophetic' messages.



Art & Design

Pupils begin the year by completing an observational drawing, further developing their practical skills.

Natural Form

This leads into an advanced study of the principles of design. Pupils will explore different tools, processes and techniques whilst looking at natural form.

Positive/negative space.

Pupils study artists who use vintage toys to create their art. They develop a piece of art based on positive and negative space which incorporates a range of different imagery.

Modern Foreign Languages

This term in French, we will be covering two topics: *Les vacances* and *Fêtes et festivals*.

In our topic *Les vacances* !, we will be learning how to...

- Say where I went on holiday.
- Talk about places I visited and explored.
- Talk about what I ate, drank and bought.
- Give opinions about a past holiday.

In our topic *Fêtes et festivals* !, we will be learning how to...

- Talk about plans for festivals and celebrations.
- Say what we are going to do at an event.
- Talk about food, drinks and shopping at festivals.
- Give opinions about what an event will be like.

