



YEAR 8 LEARNING JOURNEYS 2025-2026



Our 'Learning Journeys' provide an outline of the diverse range of knowledge rich and engaging subject topics that students can enjoy during their Key Stage 3 courses at Trinity Catholic High School.

We developed these 'journeys' to help students to understand the sequence of their learning and how their lessons fit into the bigger picture. This is further supported in lessons, where teachers and students explore the deeper meaning behind their learning; not only how topics link to those previous but also their connections to the wider world, their links to the principles of Catholic Social Teaching and how learning opportunities can support in fulfilling the Trinity Mission.

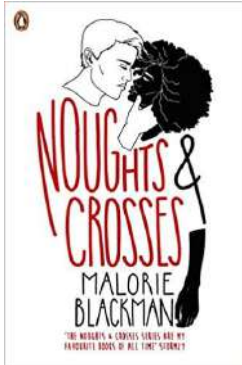
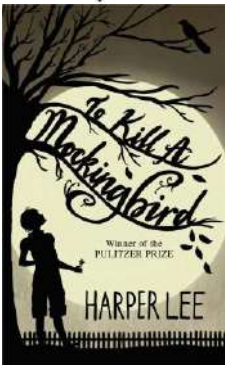
Learning journeys are placed at the front of all exercise books, and we encourage parents and carers to review them with their children. This helps everyone visualise the path of learning students will be following throughout the academic year.

Learning is their journey.
Let them navigate.
Push them to explore.
Watch them discover.
Encourage their questions.
Allow them to struggle.
Support their thinking.





TCHS: KS3 English Learning Journey



KS3 Recommended Reads



GCSE English Language



GCSE English Literature



End of Year Assessments

Love Poetry



Conflict Text Novel



Gothic Short Stories



Mid-Year Assessments



DID YOU KNOW? A librocubicularist is the name of a person who reads in bed.

Drama: DNA



Shakespearean Tragedy: 'Romeo and Juliet'



YEAR 9

End of Year Assessments



Poetry from Around the World



The Adventure of the Speckled Band
Short story by Arthur Conan Doyle

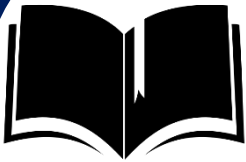


Famous Speeches

Drama: An adapted version of Dr. Faustus

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Mid-Year Assessments



YEAR 8



Drama: An Adapted Play Version of 'Frankenstein'



'Ghost Boys' by J. Parker Rhodes

End of Year Assessments

Travel Writing



DID YOU KNOW? Over 120 million copies of 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone' have been sold worldwide!



Animal Poetry



Mid-Year Assessments

Shakespeare's Villains



The History of the English



Dystopian Literature: 'The Hunger Games' by Suzanne Collins

YEAR 7



welcome

Year 8 Mathematics

Introduction lesson

DID YOU KNOW?

People who were good at maths as young children go on to earn more than other similar children by the time they are 30, a study has found.

Source: BBC NEWS

Representations

Working in the Cartesian Plane, Representing Data, Tables & Probability



DID YOU KNOW?

The famous NBA 24 second shot was created using an algebraic equation

Algebraic Techniques

Brackets, Equations & Inequalities, Sequences, Indices



Developing Geometry

Angles in Parallel Lines & Polygons, Area of Trapezia & Circles, Line Symmetry & Reflection

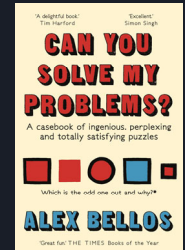
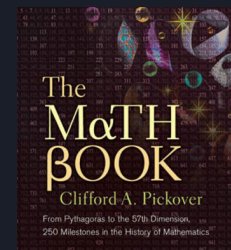


Reasoning with Data

The Data Handling Cycle & Measures of Location

DID YOU KNOW?

A new baby usually deprives each of its parents around 350-400 hours of sleep in the first year. If left alone, 70% of birthmarks gradually fade away. The human eye blinks an average of 4,200,000 times a year



Reading Books

Proportional Reasoning

Ratio & Scale, Multiplicative Change, Multiplying & Dividing Fractions



DID YOU KNOW?

The line that separates the numerator from the denominator in a fraction is called the vinculum

Mid-Year Test

Calculator and non-calculator paper

DID YOU KNOW?

Percentage are used regularly in Finance, for example; Compound interest will make a deposit or loan grow at a faster rate than simple interest

Developing Number

Fractions & Percentages, Standard Index Form, Number Sense



End of year Test



DID YOU KNOW?

Global population is approximately 7.5 billion
UK population is approximately 66 million
London population is approximately 10 million

End of year review and consolidation





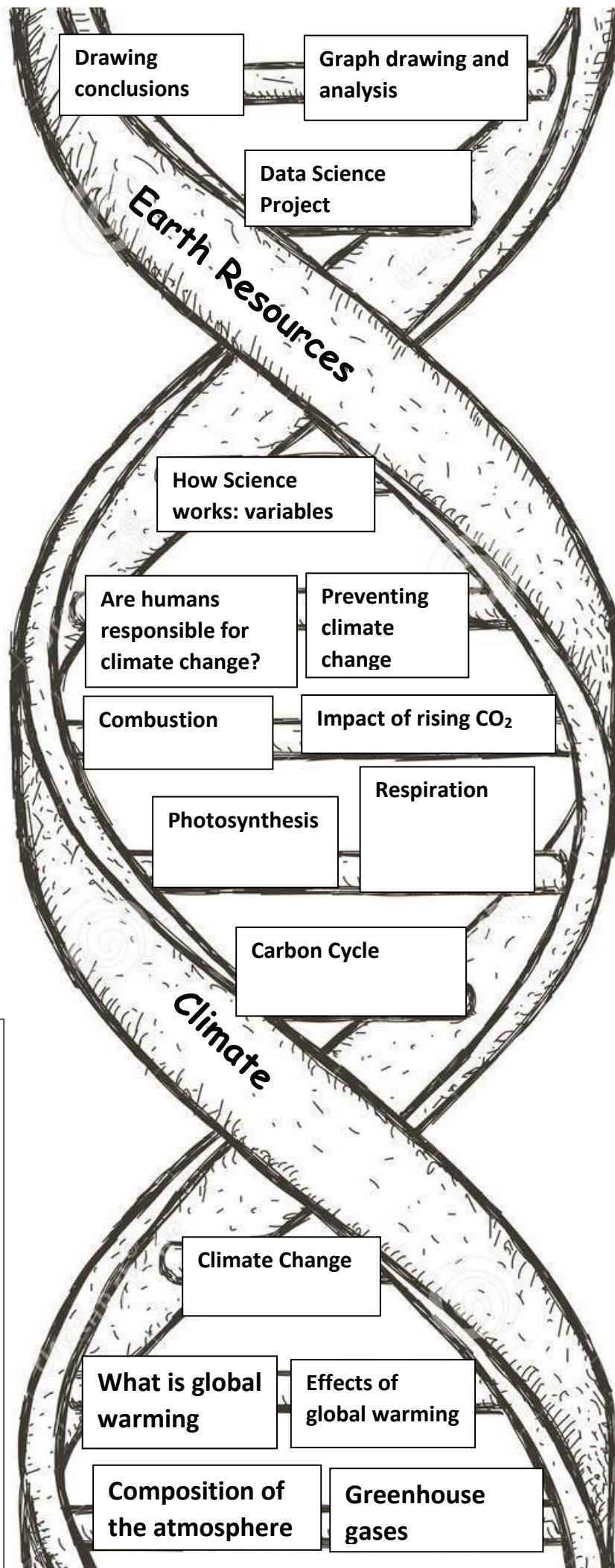
Check out NASA's website for key facts about climate change <https://climatekids.nasa.gov/climate-change-meaning/>



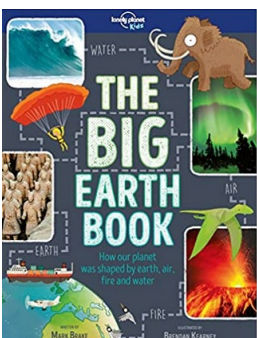
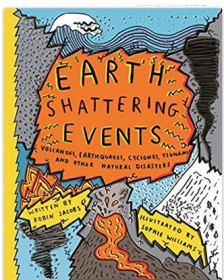
This is the mineral malachite which is used to extract copper from. Many minerals are polished to make in jewelry.

Earth

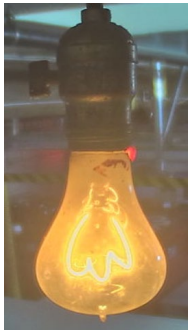
Year 8



Recommended Reads



Find out about the longest burning light bulb.



Electromagnets are used in MRI machines and are so strong they can lift a vehicle.



Electromagnetism

Year 8

Uses of electromagnets

Bells, circuit breakers, loudspeakers.

Strength of an electromagnet

Electromagnetism

Making an electromagnet

Magnetic fields

Permanent magnets

Use a model to explain

Charge

Resistance

Using $V=IR$ to calculate resistance

Measuring current

Potential difference and Current

Measuring voltage

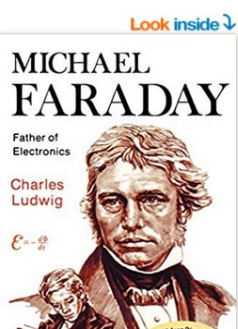
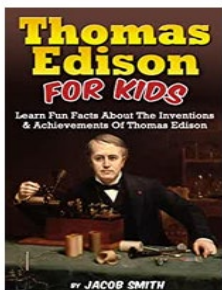
Potential difference

Parallel circuits

Series circuits

Current

Recommended Reads



Watch the alkali metals react:

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=brainiac+alkali+metals



Reactions of halogens:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=salvwX3_p1s



Matter

Year 8

Chemical Reactions

Bond energies

Investigation

Endothermic reactions

Exothermic reactions

Conservation of mass

Enthalpy changes

Combustion

Thermal Decomposition

Balancing equations

Chemical Reactions

Chemical formula

Elements

Compounds

Molecules

Chemical symbols

Particle model-atoms

Elements

Cross curricular:

Read this modern classic where Primo Levi uses the elements to tell the story of the holocaust.



HYDRATION

Our lungs exhale almost half a litre (0.42L) of water every single day.
Factor this number into your hydration requirements.



WASTE REMOVAL

The lungs are the biggest waste removal engine in the body, accounting for the removal of 70% of body waste in the form of carbon dioxide in the air we exhale.



Did you know? The average person makes two pints of saliva per day. Gravity is not needed to get food to the stomach so you can eat upside down.



Organisms

Year 8

Inheritance

DNA

Biodiversity

Digestion

Extinction

Competition

Natural selection

Ecosystems

Photosynthesis

Food webs

Disruption of food chains

Food Chains

Breathing

Recreational drugs

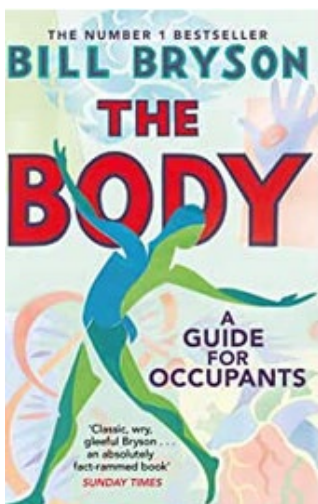
Drugs and alcohol

Bell jar model

Gas exchange

Breathing

Recommended Reads



Eye Openers:

New borns don't shed tears. The most active muscle is the eye. Your eyes can get sunburned. An ostrich eye is as big as its brain. You blink 15-20 times per minute.

Does everyone see the same thing? What colour is the dress?



waves

Year 7

Colour

Dispersion

Eye and vision

Light

Refraction

Speed of light

Reflection

Describe how ear works

Hearing damage

Auditory range

Name parts of ear

Difference between frequency and pitch

Sound

Frequency & Wavelength

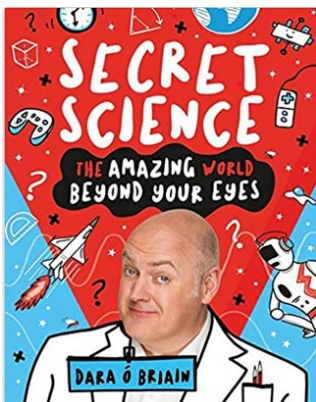
Compare light/ sound

Loudness & amplitude

Sources of Sound

Calculate speed of sound

Recommended Reads



Year 8

Religious Education

Creation and Covenant

What is the story of the Fall?
What is sin?
Why are God's commands important?
What is conscience?
What is Baptism?



Prophecy and Promise

What are the messages of the prophets?
How are parables used in prophecies?
Why was John the Baptist important?
What is the connection between Advent and prophecy?

Desert to Garden

Why do we suffer?
Why is Jesus called the suffering servant?
How do Christians prepare for Lent?
What is the Easter Triduum?
What is the sacrament of reconciliation?



Galilee to Jerusalem

How should we read scripture?
What is the kingdom of God?
What are parables?
How did Jesus treat the marginalised?
What were the miracles of Jesus?



To the Ends of the Earth

What does the Bible say about the Resurrection?
What is the significance of the empty tomb?
How did the disciples react to the Resurrection?
Do humans have a soul?
Why is Baptism necessary?



Dialogue and Encounter

Why was the Second Vatican Council important?
Why is Ecclesiam Suam important?
Is there more than one Catholic Church?

Islam

All about being a Muslim – culture, traditions, festivals and sacred values.

Y8 LEARNING ADVENTURE

SPACE
EXPLORER
PORTRAIT
HERE



SKETCHBOOKS

OBSERVATIONAL DRAWING
HOW TO THINK WHEN YOU
DRAW

DRAW FIGHTING
ALIENS HERE

CREATURES

DESIGN A CREATURE HEAD BASED
ON THE WORK OF OTHER ARTISTS.
BUILD AND COMPLETE YOUR DESIGN
IN CLAY.

COMIC BOOK COVER DESIGN

COMIC COVER DESIGN AND CREATION.
EC COMICS AND THEIR CULTURAL IMPACT
STUDY THE WORK OF JACK KIRBY.

STRANGE
PLANETS

NATURAL FORMS

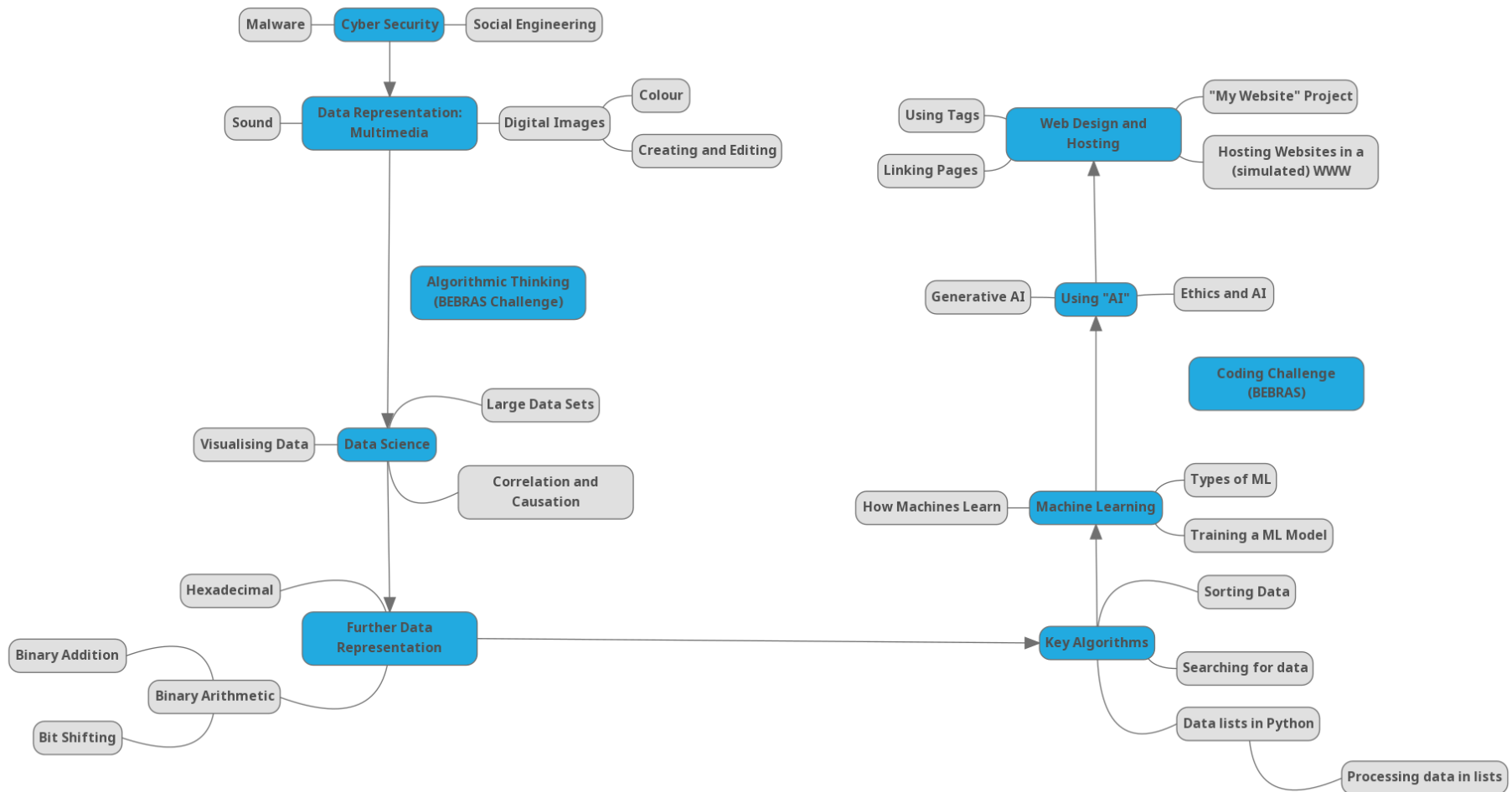
WILLIAM MORRIS
ORGANIC STRUCTURES
POLY BLOCK PRINTING

ARTIST RESEARCH
LOOKING AT AND ANALYSING THE WORK
OF OTHER ARTISTS. RESEARCHING
GREAT WORKS OR MOVEMENTS
THAT INSPIRE YOU.

COMPLETING PROJECTS

SAFELY BACK HOME - DRAW YOUR SHIP HERE

Year 8 Learning Journey



Year 8 students continue to build on the knowledge and skills they have developed in Year 7, topics such as Data Representation are studied in further depth and new topics are introduced.

The subject makes links to other subjects: Mathematics, Science, English, Technology, History and Geography.

The two summative assessments this year continue to be cumulative, including Year 7 as well as new knowledge from Year 8.

In both years, all students will also participate in the highly regarded BEBRAS Problem Solving and Coding competitions.

At the end of each year, students work on creative physical computing and web design projects.

Yr.8 DESIGN TECHNOLOGY



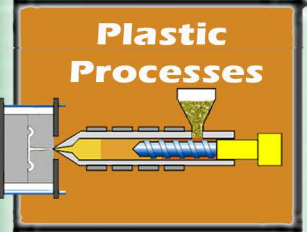
Brainstorming



Research

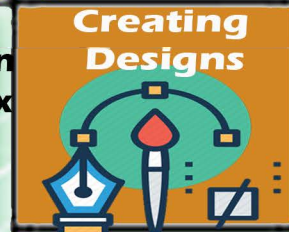


Writing a Specification

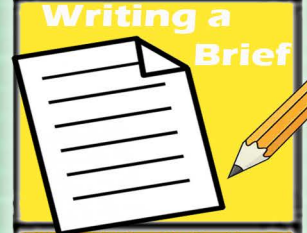


Plastic Processes

Students design and make a box with a specific function



Creating Designs



Writing a Brief



Chidori is a Japanese wood joinery system that inspired the game Tetris.



Working Drawings



Health & Safety



Making a Box



First Day of School



Decorate Box

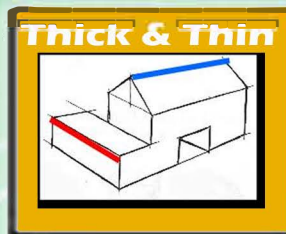
The great Pacific Garbage Patch is as big as Australia.

Resin Identification Codes are the number that you see on the bottom of some rigid plastic packaging. They were originally developed in the 1980s

Perspective was invented in 1415 by the architect Filippo Brunelleschi



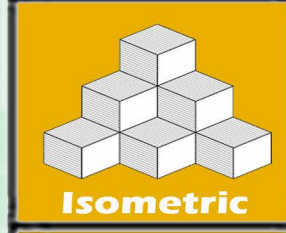
Plastics



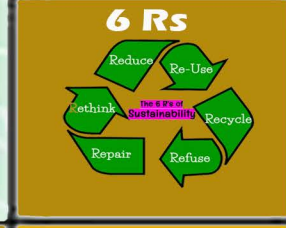
Thick & Thin



Tools



Isometric



6 Rs



2 Point Perspective



Plastic Pollution

Students Research and produce a presentation on their favourite Designer.

Student design and make a clock based on their favourite subject in school



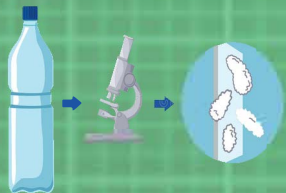
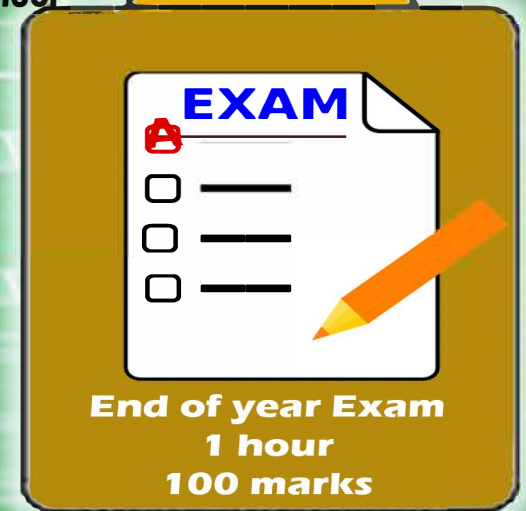
Resin Identity Codes



Famous Designers



Clock Project



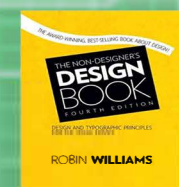
Did you know a new bacteria has been discovered that eats plastic bottles



Jonny Ive designer of the iPhone and iPod was born in Chingford.



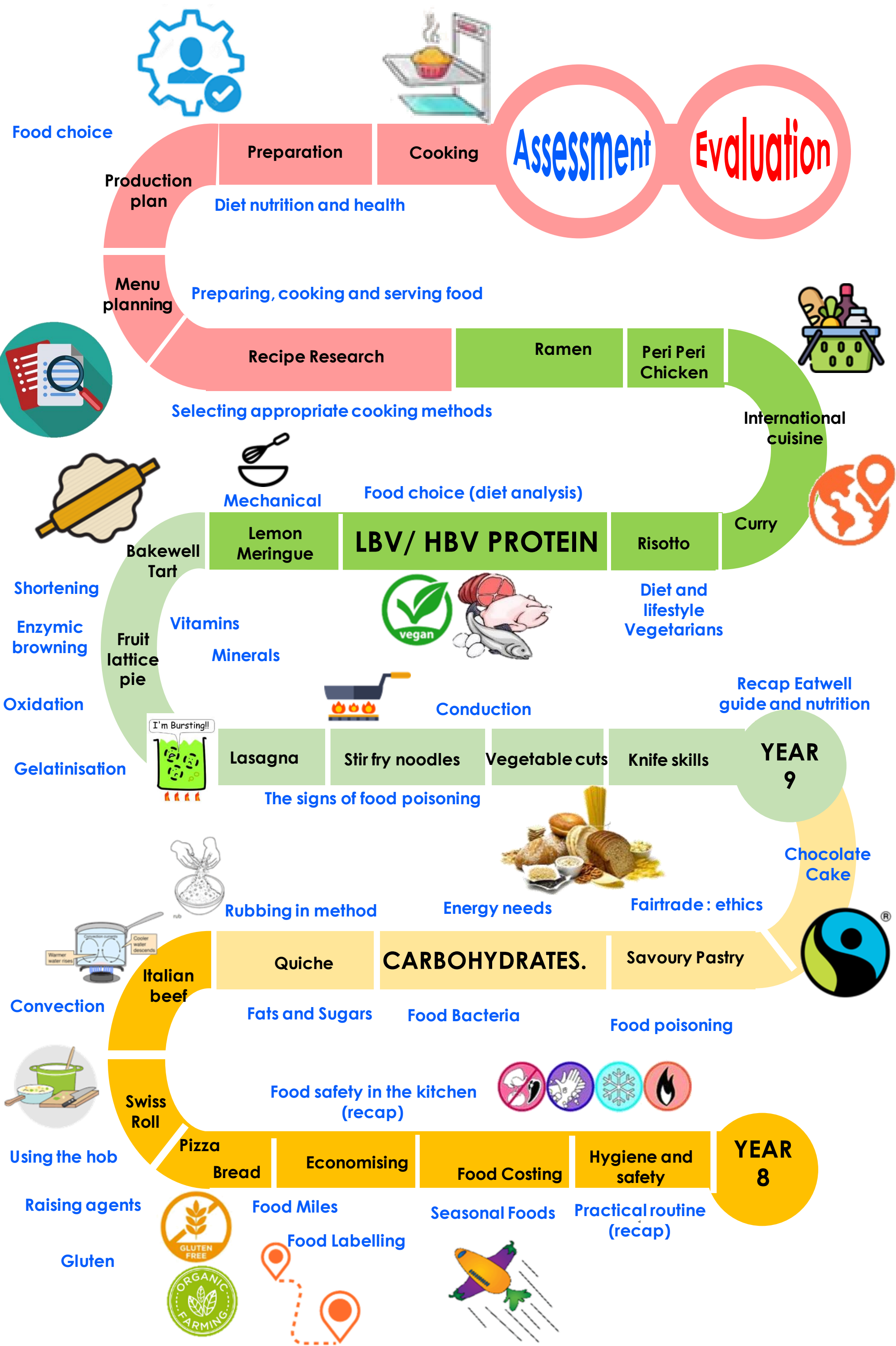
The Mini Cooper is 60 years old this year.





My Food Learning Journey

BTEC LEVEL 2



Learners will develop confidence of cooking a range of dishes and make informed decisions about food choice.



*We've adopted many French food in England.
Croissants, baguette, omelettes, pancakes....
How many more can you name?*

Point de départ



Celebrities and TV programs
Weather
Sports

End of year test

Le sport en direct



Sports
Directions
Going to the doctor

Module 5

Le cinéma français



*Practise French at
<https://languagesonline.org.uk>*

Module 1

Vive les vacances !



Holidays
What I did and where I went

Year 8 French Learning journey



French is spoken in France, Belgium or Switzerland, but also in Canada and Africa

Module 2



J'adore les fêtes!

Festivals
Food
Future trips

Mid-year test

The Louvre is the biggest museum in the world in terms of artefacts



À loisir

Technologies
Cinema
Leisure activities
Shopping



Module 3



Québec is the French speaking part of Canada and its biggest city is Montréal



Le monde est petit

Home
Daily routine
Culture



Module 4

Speaking assessment



Belgium is the country where most comics are from, like Tintin or the Smurfs

In Year 8 at Trinity you will cover 3 Units (Asia, Coasts and Urbanisation). A high-quality geography education should inspire in pupils a curiosity and fascination about the world and its people that will remain with them for the rest of their lives (N.C, 2014). Geography is the subject which holds the key to our future' (Michael Palin).

- Prior learning
- Essential Skills
- Extra Resources
- Learning Stations
- Assessments



THERE IS NO PLANET B

The Wild Atlantic Way is the longest signed coastal route in the world at 2,750 km (1,700 miles) in length.



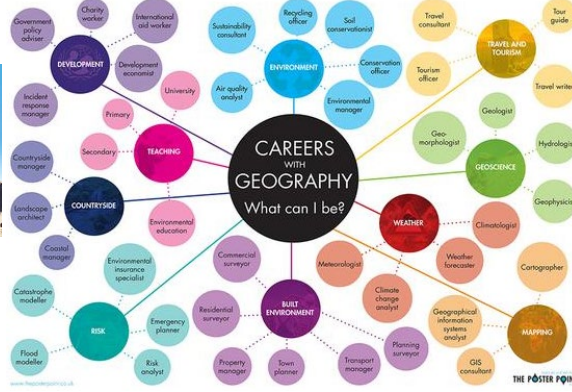
Why? Water is a powerful force and has carved out some of our most amazing landscapes. What erosional processes do you remember for Year 7 Rivers?

Why? Currently over half of all people live in urban areas and this is expected to be around 70% by 2030, urban planning will become a vital part of all our futures.

Why? Understanding how to mitigate our environmental impact particularly in cities is essential to protecting our world.

Key Words & Spellings:

Erosion, hydraulic action, sub aerial weathering, groyne, longshore drift, urbanisation, megacity, human development index.



Why? Asia is the largest continent by area and number of people!

Why? As an island nation our coast is essential for our economy in the form of tourism, trade, and industries.

Coastal Processes

Coastal Landforms

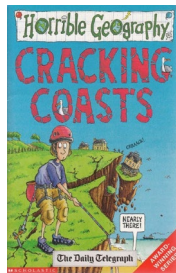
Urbanisation

Sustainable Cities Year 9

OS Mapping Skills Essay Structure

Prior Yr7 Learning:
Grid referencing, dense & sparse population
African continent
River Erosion

Office 365
Geog.2 Textbook
Useful Websites List
BBC Bitesize
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zrw76sg>
Geography all the Way
http://www.geographyalltheway.com/ks3_geography.htm
Learn on the Internet
<http://geography.learnontheinternet.co.uk/ks3/index.html>



Autumn Extended Writing

China and Population

Why? China is the most populous country on Earth with 1.3 billion people, we need to know how to provide enough resources for feeding, housing and providing essential services to growing populations.



Mid-year exam (Asia)



Spring Extended Writing

Storms and Management

Why? Geographers save lives! Understanding the physical causes of hazards and how to mitigate risk saves lives.



End of Year Exam (Coasts)



Squatter Settlements

Why? Without improving prospects in rural areas people will continue to flock to urban areas for the best opportunities and this means in LICs people end up living in very poor conditions.



Year 8 HISTORY Learning Journey

Queen Elizabeth I

What was she like, what was her 'middle way' and why did she kill her cousin?

Did you know? There were 8 million sheep in Britain in the 1500s, and only around 5 million people!

The Stuarts

Who was King James I and why did Guy Fawkes want to blow him up?

CHRISTMAS TEST

To check your knowledge and understanding of the work you undertook in your first term!

The English Civil War

Why did the English start fighting each other? Who was Oliver Cromwell and what happened to Charles I?

Did you know? The Mayflower was the ship that sailed 102 settlers from England to America in 1620

The Restoration

Why was Charles II known as 'The Merry Monarch'? How did they cope with the plague and The Great Fire of London?

SPRING TERM ASSESSMENT

Terrible Towns

Why were towns so smelly? Who were the heroes of public health and what did they do to clean up the towns?

Did you know? Mary Seacole (1805-1881) was a nurse from Jamaica, who paid for herself to go to Crimea to help the wounded during the Crimean War.

The Slave Trade

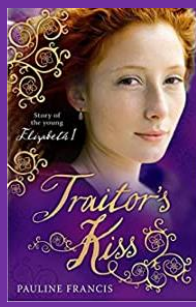
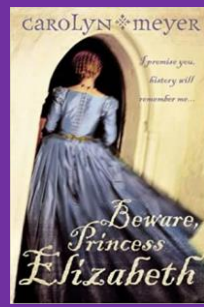
What was the slave trade? What was it like to be a slave and why was it finally abolished?

END OF YEAR TEST

To check finally on your knowledge and understanding of work you undertook in your second year at Trinity!

Did you know?

It is estimated that around 12 million people were transported as slaves from Africa to the Americas and the West Indies between the 1500s and the early 1800s



Reading Books

Chronology

The ability to put events in the correct chronological order is vital in history. History is full of amazing stories – and to understand a story you must know the order in which things happened.

Literacy skill

Writing in detail: when writing about history answers must contain many specific, factual details e.g. names, dates, examples and facts.

Did you know? During the plague people believed wearing a dead frog around your neck would stop you catching the disease!

History Skill

An important way that historians use sources is through inference: historians 'read between the lines' to work out what sources might be suggesting, rather than what is actually written down or shown.

History Skill

Historians use the term 'causes' to describe the things that made events happen. Also, events have consequences – the results or effects of something. Like causes, there can often be several consequences.

Did you know? Oliver Cromwell banned Christmas!

Literacy Skill

It is very important that you structure your paragraphs properly and support what you write with evidence. One way of doing this is to use the PEEL paragraph writing approach.

2025-2026

Year 8 Music Learning Journey

Term 1 - African Music

African Instruments
Polyrhythms & Cyclic Rhythms
Call and Response
Improvisation
African Vocal Music
Fusion



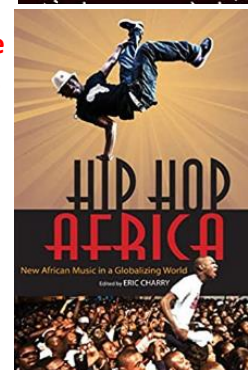
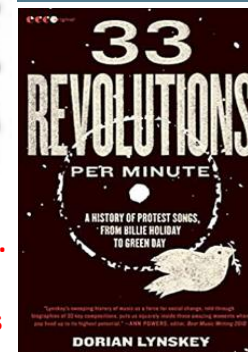
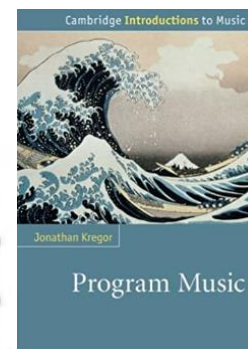
Did you know?
The oldest drum ever discovered was an 'elephant skin drum'. It was found frozen in an Antarctic iceberg, and is dated at roughly 37,000 years old!



Term 3 – Protest Songs

Protest songs – why are they used and what can they be about?
What makes a successful melody?
The role of verses and choruses.
How to expand your song: intro/outro, bridge and instrumental sections.
Chord sequences and composing an accompaniment.

Did you know?
The famous protest song writer Bob Dylan was actually born 'Robert Allen Zimmerman' in May 1941



Term 2 – Programme Music

What is Programme Music?

Mars – The Bringer of War
The Night Ferry – Anna Clyne
The Lark Ascending – Vaughan Williams
Scherzo – Dmitri Shostakovich

Keyboard skills and notation reading



Did you know?

The British Programme Music composer Ralph Vaughan Williams fought in WW1 in France and Greece. Prolonged exposure to gunfire caused a gradual deterioration of his hearing as he aged until he was nearly deaf at age 70. Despite this he carried on composing for another 15 years until he died aged 85.



Recommended Reads

Trinity Year 8 Physical Education Journey



OAA

Taking part in outdoor adventurous activities set to challenge individuals and build teamwork and confidence.



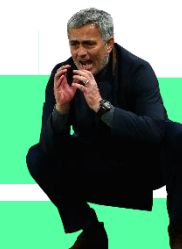
Cricket

Your lessons will look at developing batting, bowling, fielding and applying tactics within the game.



Leadership

All Year 7 students will be completing the Young Sports Leaders Award, accredited by Sports Leaders UK.



Show Your Commitment

How many can you complete?



Try Your Best In All Lessons

Bring Your PE Kit To All Lessons

Attend PE Extra-Curricular Clubs Each Term

Represent your form in interform

Football

Development of the basic football skills learned from Year 7 and will allow individuals to influence a game or pressurised situation.



Tennis

Pupils will develop their understanding of tactics and play shots within a rally more consistently.



Rounders

You will be learning about bowling, batting, fielding, positioning and tactical play within this unit.



Summer Term

Badminton

Pupils will develop skills learnt in Year 7, refining game strategies with the intention of outwitting an opponent.



Invasion games

Pupils will experience a range of skill variations with intent to outwit the opposition, and develop attacking and defensive strategies.

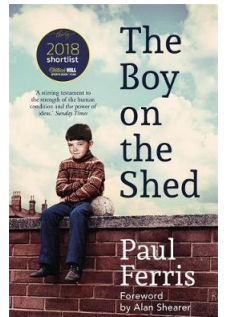
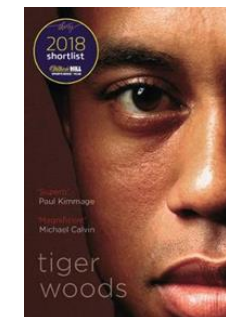


Athletics

Your lessons will explore variations in technique and use the information to become more technically proficient.



Recommended Reads



Dance

You will learn the basics of choreography whilst doing social dance in small groups.



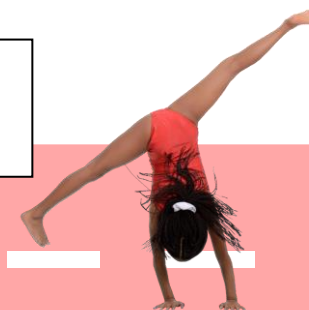
Volleyball You will learn the basic skills and apply these in mini games



Autumn Term

Gymnastics

In Year 8 you will use core skills acquired in year 7 to think creatively and apply these to axis of rotation and balance.



Basketball

Pupils will select and apply core basketball skills using them tactically with the intention of outwitting their opponents.

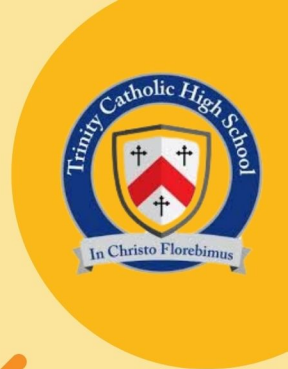


Fixtures Each Year

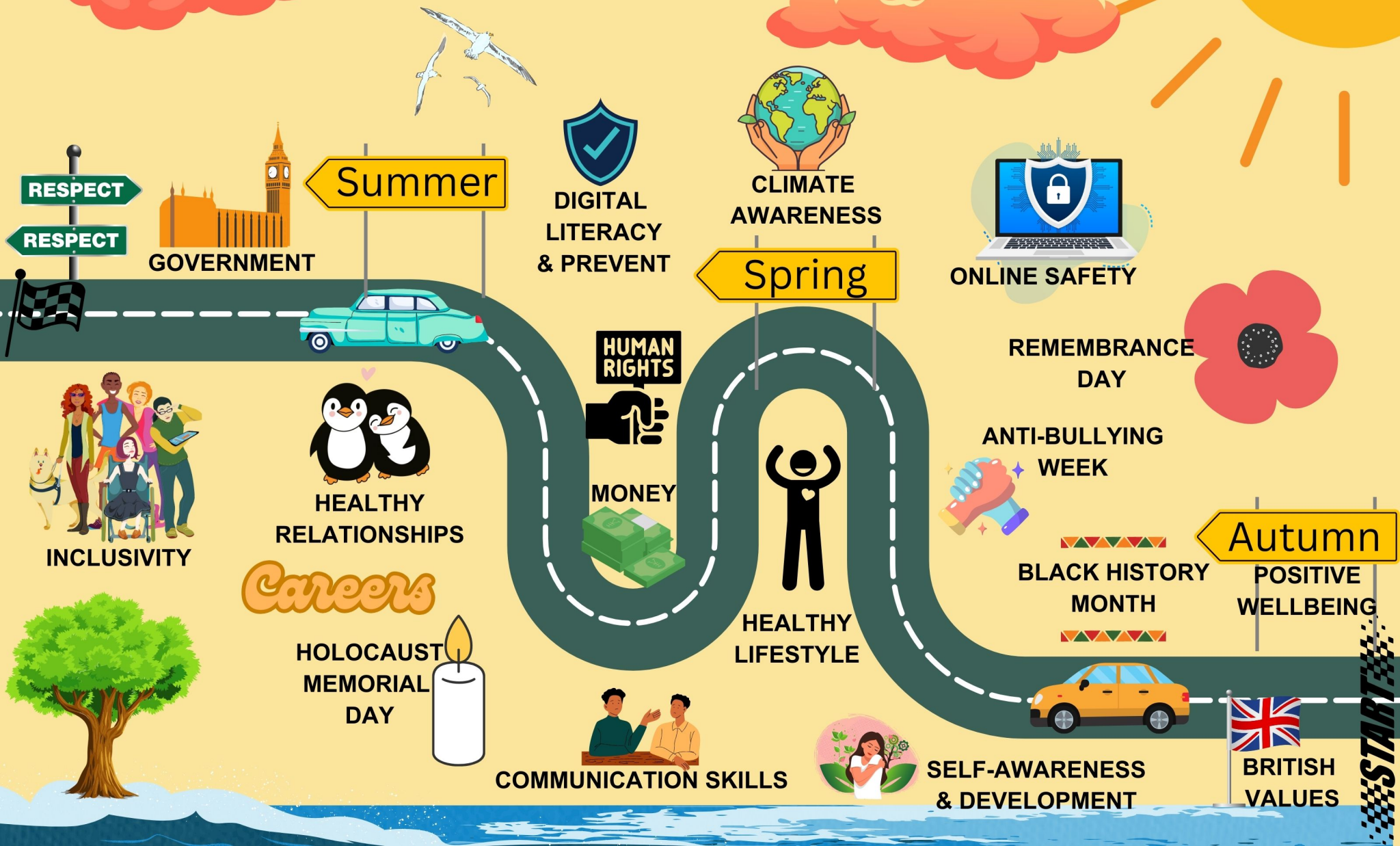
Below are the fixtures we compete in across the year

- Cross Country
- Athletics
- Basketball
- Badminton
- Football
- Netball
- Rugby





YR8 PSHE LEARNING JOURNEY



Year 8 Spanish Learning Journey



Module 1—De Vacaciones

- ♦ Describing what you did on holiday
- ♦ Using the preterite tense
- ♦ Using the preterite and present together
- ♦ Giving opinions



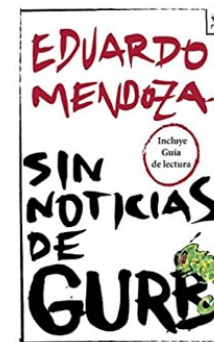
Module 2—Todo sobre mi vida

- ♦ Saying what you use your phone for
- ♦ Giving opinions on music and tv
- ♦ Making comparisons

Mid-year exam
Listening, Reading, Writing & Translation

Module 3— ¡A comer!

- ♦ Describing mealtimes
- ♦ Ordering food
- ♦ The near future tense
- ♦ Making plans for a party
- ♦ Describing a party



Module 4— ¿Qué hacemos?

- ♦ Arranging to go out
- ♦ Making excuses
- ♦ Stem-changing and reflexive verbs
- ♦ Talking about clothes
- ♦ Sporting events

Spring Assessment
Speaking

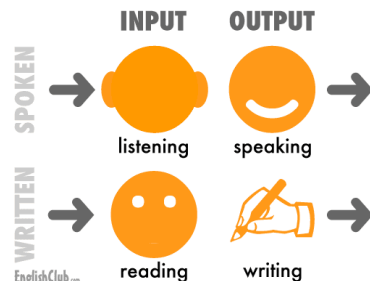
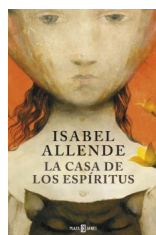
Module 5— Operación verano

- ♦ describing a holiday home
- ♦ Describing holiday activities
- ♦ Asking for directions
- ♦ Summer camps
- ♦ Describing a world trip

Did you know?
USA will become the largest Spanish speaking country by the year 2050 with 132.8 million speakers.

Academic Reading
Please refer to Teams for articles on Gastronomy, Geography, History and Festivals in Mexico.

Did you know?
Spanish is the 3rd most used language on the internet.



Did you know?
The word Spain diverted from the word Ispania, which means the land of rabbits.

End of year exam
Listening, Reading, Writing & Translation

YEAR 8 TEXTILES LEARNING JOURNEY

BASELINE ASSESSMENT

This will help establish your flight path in textiles.

You will be learning about fabrics textiles industry.

You will learn how to make a paper pattern, use the sewing machine and develop your technical skills.

You will develop your design skills by using CAD.

TEXTILES AND INDUSTRY

In Textiles Technology, students combine practical and technological skills with creative thinking to design and make products that meet consumers' varying requirements.

You will learn how to use tools and equipment safely and accurately.

You will learn about the properties of fabric.

You will learn about the colour wheel and how colour is an essential part of design in textiles.

You will produce a production plan for the manufacture of your cushion cover.

DEVELOP YOUR TECHNICAL SKILLS

You will learn how to construct a pattern for your apron.

You will use your mathematical skills to produce a scaled pattern.

You learn about seam allowance and finishing techniques.

You will learn how to set up and thread a sewing machine.

You will learn how to adjust the settings on the sewing machine to create different stitches.

You will be able to competently use the sewing machine to create applique and a variety of seams.

You will learn how to cut around a paper pattern.

You will learn how to hand sew including techniques such as tacking, sewing a button on and producing decorative stitching.

You will be able to neaten your textile product by pressing the fabric and how to neaten loose threads.

DEVELOP YOUR DESIGN SKILLS

You will research abstract art and develop a design idea for you cushion cover.

You will use CAD to design an abstract image to applique on the front of your cushion cover.

Your image will be printed using CAM.

READING SUGGESTIONS

BOOK 1
Christian Dior
by Oriole Cullen



BOOK 2
The Prince and the dressmaker
by Jen Wang



WEBSITES

Pintrest
BBC Bitesize
www.vam.ac.uk

CROSS CURRICULAR: Maths – costing of the final product, measuring accurately./English- writing a production plan./Art – colour wheel, abstract art./Citizenship – ethical production of clothing, recycling, throw away society./