



Year 8

What we are learning in the Autumn Term 2026

The following shows the topics we are teaching in school over this term and some links that students may find useful in supporting their learning.

Please note that all learning is supported by resources which are placed daily on Showbie. Home Learning will also be listed in [Classcharts](#) and Science are supported by e-Textbooks on [Kerboodle](#).

Subject	Topics students are learning in the summer term	Useful links
English	Theme of Conflict: we begin by studying a short story <i>On the Sidewalk Bleeding</i> and participate in an academy-wide short story writing competition. We then move onto <i>Now is the time for running</i> by Michael Williams - study of a full novel in class - developing comprehension and critical reading skills. In November, the students will prepare for an unseen poetry CTA; the poem they will read and write about links to our theme of conflict. Reading for pleasure - library time focused on the importance of reading - students choose their own reading books with support from our librarians linking to students' home learning.	Book Trust info on the novel <i>Now is the time for running</i> More info on the research behind 'faster read' method UKLA - book recommendations and literacy support Book Trust - supporting young readers Books for Topics - Book lists for Year 8 readers.
Maths	<u>Decimal Calculations & Finance</u>: decimal work, estimating, multiplying and dividing decimals, averages and a look at real life finance. This will include budgeting, bills, offers and deals. <u>Understanding Accuracy</u>: rounding, converting decimals and fractions, truncation, estimation and calculator skills.	Maths Genie Corbettmaths
Science	Students will begin the year continuing with their learning from Year 7 on P2 Forces and Space and B2	B3 Photosynthesis

	Reproduction and Inheritance in order to prepare for their BET assessment in November. Students will then move on to the following topics: B3 Photosynthesis and Respiration. This covers: Plant reproduction, Leaf adaptations, Photosynthesis, limiting factors, structure and function of the respiratory system, aerobic respiration, anaerobic respiration, and lung volume. C3 Chemical Reactions. This covers: Acids, alkalis and neutralisation, exothermic and endothermic reactions (including combustion and thermal decomposition), gas tests and conservation of mass.	Respiration C3 Chemical Reactions
Art	World Appreciation Pupils will be investigating various artists who use their art to express their culture and beliefs. Exploring different media and techniques.	Laolu Senbanjo artwork
Design Technology	In Year 8 students will learn the theory and practical skills for the following practical projects depending on their rotation. Copper Pendant Funky Monster Cushion Metal skills and theory: Working with copper, cutting, shaping and finishing metal. Introducing Sewing machine skills, building on hand sewing skills.	https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/design-and-technology-ks3-explain-this/zhwdjlv
Creative Design	A new branch of Design Technology. In Yr 8 students will learn about the work of others creating a design for their own T-shirt featuring an inspirational person of their choice. They will also design the packaging. They will print their own T shirt and take it home when finished. Paper and Board theory and Sublimation printing theory reinforced. Graphics and Typography skills also covered	
Drama	1. Romeo and Juliet (Status & characterisation - script) 2. Silent Movies (Melodrama/Silent Movies) Cultural & Historical awareness Theatrical genres e.g. Shakespearean theatre, mime, melodrama Drama techniques e.g. stage-fighting, monologue, mime,	

	physical theatre Literacy - Shakespearean language Status Memory/recall Characterisation Rehearsal techniques e.g. improvisation Performance skills - Physical, Vocal, Spatial Devising work	
Food Preparation and Nutrition	• Theory - revisit the eat well guide. Extend knowledge on macro and micro nutrients, their functions and source of them in our diet. • Practical - increasing confidence in independent and safe use of all equipment and appliances. Building on variety and level of technical skills.	https://illuminate.digital/edu/qasfood/
French	Unit 1 -use a range of structures to ask and answer questions about myself and others -use a variety of question words and form questions -form negative sentences using 'ne-pas' -use adjectives in correct place in sentences– -continue working on phonics skills -explore French culture and customs Unit 2 -use the verb “to go” as well as modal verbs to describe my future plans and intentions -form the near future: I am going to eat in a restaurant. = Je vais manger dans un restaurant. -form the negative with two verbs. I am not going to eat in a restaurant. Je ne vais pas manger dans un restaurant. -form questions with modal verbs: Veux-tu manger en ville? = Do you want to eat in town?	Oak National Academy https://classroom.thenational.academy/units/year-7-unit-5-1377 https://classroom.thenational.academy/units/year-7-unit-6-125c
Geography	Ecosystems Development	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/ztgw2hv https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/ztgw2hv

		esize/topics/zvwtsbk
History	- British Empire - The Slave Trade	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z7kvf82/articles/zpjb3j6 https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z2qj6sg
Music	- The Blues - context and history alongside learning how to play the key elements of Blues on keyboards. - Soundtracks music for film unit learning about how music is used in film and composing to moving image using garage band on ipads.	
PE	In Key Stage 3 students will build on and embed the physical development and previous skills learned, become more competent and confident in their techniques, and apply them across different sports and physical activities. This term, pupils will focus mainly on invasion games such as netball, handball, rugby and football, developing their knowledge and understanding on rules and skills involved within each sport covered alongside how to start outwitting their opponents using basic strategies and tactics. Pupils will also lead their own warm ups and cool downs.	
RE	Prejudice and Discrimination	Prejudice and Discrimination
Spanish	Unit 1 -form the present tense of regular -AR, -ER and -IR verbs, as well as key irregular verbs to talk about what I and others do --continue working on phonics skills -explore Spanish culture and customs Unit 2 -use the verb “to go” to describe travel and my future plans. -describe what people can do using the verb ‘poder’ -describe what people must do using the verb ‘deber’ -describe where people go using the verb ‘ir’	Oak National Academy https://classroom.thenational.academy/units/year-7-unit-5-d26b https://classroom.thenational.academy/units/year-7-unit-6-0f28

	-describe possessions using the words 'my' and 'your'	
Computer Science	Understanding Computer Systems • Computer Hardware • Binary/decimal • conversions and binary • addition • How instructions are • stored and executed • Software (Applications) • Searching/Sorting • Algorithms (Linear/Binary • search and Bubble sort)	Oak National Academy https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-key-stage/key-stage-3/subjects/computing