

Parent Information Sheet

Topic Overview

Class

S4

Term

1

Topic overviews are provided to aid parental involvement and support. • Your child has entered into their Senior Phase of education ie studying for their National qualifications.

XSQA

• Qualification level is dependent on pupil attainment as evidenced: in class during the year, homework and prelims.

Curricular Area	Subject	Topic(s)			
Languages	English	DA: Critical Reading: read discuss and analyse short story; plan and draft critical essay. Portfolio of Writing: Writing that is Broadly Creative: planning and drafting creative writing pieces for portfolio.			
		CM: RUAE and Discursive writing - Explore RUAE and its importance in real-world contexts. Close reading will be practiced with short texts and articles - to develop strategies for active reading, annotation, and identifying main ideas; argument analysis and will develop the ability to identify claims, evidence, and reasoning in texts. Explore discursive essays (argumentative, persuasive, opinion); breaking down the structure of a discursive essay and analysing model discursive essays. Homework: RUAE tasks to develop skills needed to become more successful readers.			
	French	Using language (Writing and Speaking) and Understanding language (Reading and Listening) will be based around family, friends and relationships.			
Numeracy	Maths	Solving simultaneous equations and quadratic equations. Trigonometry – the Sine Rule, the Cosine Rule and the area of a triangle. Consolidation of indices and surds.			
HWB	PE	Core PE - Learning about sports leadership N4/5- Performance Skills - Volleyball – improving range of movements/skills. Portfolio – learning about factors that impact on performance.			
	Life Skills	Careers education including input from SDS Careers Advisor (Scott Summers) Study skills & Mental Health Awareness			
Sciences	Biology	Cell structures and transport across cell membranes through osmosis and diffusion and the impact on respiration; DNA and proteins – how they are made, Genetic engineering and its impact on life.			
	Chemistry	Hydrocarbons and their families – alkanes, alkenes, cycloalkanes Alcohols and carboxylic acids –their use as fuels and energy we get from fuels			
	Physics	Consolidation of nuclear radiation and nuclear power. Newton's Laws of motion: forces and their effects, work done, kinetic and gravitational potential energy.			
Social Studies	Geography	Human Environments: Urban – comparing the characteristics of the CBD, inner city and suburbs. Case study of Glasgow as a developed city and Mumbai as a developing city.			
	History	Recap of the Atlantic slave trade and a further look at the abolitionists and the end of the slave trade. Then moving on to Hitler and Nazi Germany: The problems created in Weimar Germany after WW1 and the appeal of the Nazi Party.			
Expressive Arts	Music	Broadening their musical listening through recordings and music available online to assist with ideas for developing composition techniques as this has been reintroduced to the SQA course this year.			
	Art	Pupils will be completing their design unit by the end of this term focusing on development of ideas. There will also be theory work focusing on art literacy and artists work once a week to prepare for their exams.			
	Comp Science	Computer Systems – data representation, computer architecture and environmental issues. Web Design & Development – complete the WDD cycle, learning HTML, CSS and Javascript.			
	Graph Comm	Review of work covered. Looking at nets/developments Continued practice of N5 assignments. Familiarisation with N5 question papers			
	Woodwork	Continuation with the frame construction project which demands high accuracy to ensure a square and stable product. Practice with theory questions for N5			
	Practical Cookery	Pupils will focus on building practical skills. They will begin to work on a combined unit to test their skills.			

Comments

This is a critical year for your child. Help them by encouraging revision and exam practice.

National SQA past papers and marking schemes are freely available from www.sqa.org.uk/





