

Holy Rood RC High School



S2

PARENT/CARER LEARNING INFORMATION

To support you in discussing aspects of your child's learning please find a summary of areas being covered and skills being developed, for each subject, during term 1.

We hope you find this helpful. Do not hesitate to contact the school if you have further questions.

S2 UPDATE – November 2020

Head Teacher



Dear Parents and Carers

It has been fantastic to see the S2 pupils return to Holy Rood this term enthusiastic about their learning and engaging so well with teachers. By early in the new year, your child will start to think about subject choices for S3 and we will conduct a review of learning. There will be more detailed information about this in due course.





We value being able to work in partnership with you and in this booklet you will find detailed information to assist your understanding of your child's learning in school. We also hope that this enables you to further support your child at home with his/her learning/homework and allow you to enter into a deeper dialogue about his/her subjects. We very much appreciate all you are doing to encourage good routines.


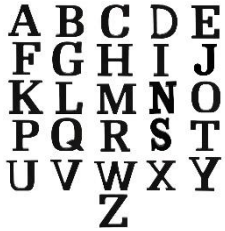

We are investigating options in order to ensure we continue to communicate effectively with you regarding your child's progress and will provide a further update next term. In the event that your child has to self-isolate due to covid, he/she will be able to access his/her learning via TEAMS and we will be in touch with you by email regarding supports on offer.


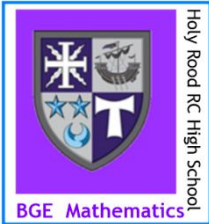

Please contact your child's Year Head, Mr Kiernan, if you have any questions regarding your child's learning or health and wellbeing - year2head@holyrood.edin.sch.uk



Best wishes

Mrs Daly
Head Teacher

Subject	Learning focus by subject	How can you help at home?
<p>ART & DESIGN</p>  <p>Art and Design</p>	<p>The S2 Art & design Course consists of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working on set tasks that build on skills. • Looking at Expressive and Design approaches. • Drawing tasks from observation. • Learning about the visual elements. 	<p>Pupils should be working with their sketch books, sketching using pencils where possible at home. Checking TEAMS regularly for homework tasks is important</p> <p>Having conversations about what pupils have done in class.</p>
<p>BUSINESS MANAGEMENT</p>  <p>Business Studies</p>	<p>Pupils have been working on a Business IT Skills unit of work. They have been learning how to create and present a range of business documents – business letters, displays, business cards, logos – using Word software. They have created and sent emails with attachments and have been learning about the use of different features in the Outlook software package.</p> <p>The next unit of work for this course is Introduction to Spreadsheet software. Pupils will learn how to create Excel spreadsheets with basic formulae.</p>	<p>Remind pupils to complete homework tasks – these can be completed on paper/jotter or in their Office 365 class team.</p> <p>Ask the pupils to demonstrate how to use some of the features of Word or Excel that they have used in class.</p>
<p>COMPUTING SCIENCE</p> 	<p>Pupils have been learning about computer hardware and software, and different Input and Output devices. They have also improved their IT skills by learning to use different PowerPoint features including action buttons, hyperlinks, slide numbers, headers/footers, transitions and animations.</p> <p>Pupils will start on their next unit of work in Oct/Nov when they will be completing programming tasks/activities using Scratch.</p>	<p>Remind pupils to complete homework tasks – these can be completed on paper/jotter or in their Office 365 class Team.</p> <p>Encourage pupils to explore the different features of software packages to help them improve their skills and confidence.</p>
<p>CRAFT & DESIGN</p>  <p>BGE D.E.T.</p>	<p>Learners have been working on a project called ‘Buggy Races’. They have been learning about types of motion and energy. Pupils have been building and testing the buggys.</p> <p>Over the next few weeks learners will be moving onto either the wooden toy train project or the cookie cutter project. The toy train project will focus on developing the use of wood tools and working to the correct size from a drawing. The cookie cutter project will focus on developing CAD skills and DTP skills with learners.</p>	<p>Asks pupils about their practical activities to be able to explain what they have done.</p> <p>Look on TEAMS for theory tasks and revision PowerPoints.</p>

Subject	Learning focus by subject	How can you help at home?
<p>DRAMA</p> 	<p>S2 Drama explore creating, presenting and evaluating drama.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teamwork - students work in groups to develop their confidence when working with others. All Drama classes develop teamwork skills such as communication and co-operation. • Confidence - through practical activities such as taking on a character or leading discussion, students develop their confidence when working in pairs, groups or as a whole class. • Creativity - Students explore various areas of Drama such as mime, movement, voice, improvisation and characterisation to develop their ideas. In S2 we explore themes and issues such as status, the older generation, and homelessness. • Evaluation - students develop lifelong skills such as learning how to give and receive constructive criticism, peer and self-evaluation. 	<p>You can help by ensuring that pupils have kept up to date with homework tasks given at the end of each unit.</p> <p>You can also quiz pupils on Drama Terminology by using the 'Drama Terminology Booklet' which is on the pupils' TEAMS channel.</p> <p>This booklet can also be made available via email if you want to request one from the Drama Department.</p>
<p>ENGLISH</p> 	<p>The focus for the last couple of months has been continuing our Close Reading Skills course and starting on our first S2 literature text – this might be poetry or prose. We've also started regular book borrowing from the library. Classes have completed an extended Personal/Reflective piece of writing and are now underway with the S2 Writing Programme.</p>	<p>Encourage personal reading – all pupils should have a library book. You can also encourage reading nonfiction either online or in print.</p> <p>Read over written homework activities and discuss the work they have completed. Encourage your son/daughter to correct any errors and consider using alternate vocabulary.</p>
<p>FOOD & TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY</p> 	<p>In S2 the course has 5 topics. The pupils started with a short Food Choice unit looking at seasonality and food miles. The pupils are now working on a Food Product Development unit where they are researching and making a chilli con carne. They will use the computer to produce a nutritional label and a food label for their final product.</p> <p>The next topics include Keeping Food Safe, and Nutrition.</p>	<p>Pupils should be encouraged to make simple dishes at home including the cleaning up. This helps to make them more confident and efficient.</p> <p>Homework is given out monthly. Homework is straightforward and all pupils should be able to complete it and return it on time.</p>

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<p>FRENCH</p> 	<p>Pupils have been learning about the theme of Hobbies and Free Time using the skills of reading, listening, writing and talking. They have worked on the topics of sports, and leisure activities and have been learning about how to express opinions and reasons for these as well as talking about how often, when they do the activities and with whom. We have also worked on the irregular verb faire and been practising use of present tense. Pupils recently sat assessments in reading, listening and writing covering all language covered in the unit of work.</p> <p>Next, we will be focusing on the new topic of Home and Home area and pupils will complete a speaking assessment at the end of this block of work.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage your child to practise and learn vocabulary at home using vocabulary booklets and the website www.linguascope.com Username: holyrood55 Password:20twenty 3 x 15 minutes a week Encourage your child to complete all homework tasks set on TEAMS and also on www.pearsonactivelearn.com <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To practise for the speaking assessment at the end of the unit of work.
<p>MATHEMATICS</p> 	<p>We started the term developing our knowledge of Shape and Space through the study of Angle properties. We then moved on to calculating Speed, Distance and Time and enhancing our problem-solving skills in this area.</p> <p>Algebra was our next topic where pupils learned to simplify and factorise expressions as well as thinking critically to ‘Complete the Square.’ We have now started investigating and learning the Properties of Quadrilaterals.</p> <p>We have taken part in a Sumdog competition and awarded certificates to pupils who achieved high scores. Our Numeracy Ninjas program has just started – let’s see who can make it to the coveted Numeracy Black Belt!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage pupils to complete ‘finishing off’ homework on the days they have Maths by checking posts on MS TEAMS. Ask to look at Maths jotters to see how they are doing and what they have been studying. Talk positively about Maths to help them develop high expectations and a positive mindset. Sign their yellow formal homework jotter and read teacher comments. Encourage them to use SumDog at home for at least half an hour per week. Help them to celebrate their achievements in Maths.
<p>MUSIC</p> 	<p>S2 Music is made up of three units</p> <p>Understanding music – We have been doing a unit of work on Queen, pupils have been learning music concepts related to the band and their music.</p> <p>Performance skills – Pupils have been learning to play Queen songs, due to currently restrictions they have only been allowed to play the keyboard.</p> <p>Composing Skills – Creating basic music using technology</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk about what pupils have learnt in class Ask them to check TEAMS

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<p>PHYSICAL EDUCATION</p>  <p><small>gg78929576 www.gograph.com</small></p>	<p>Pupils have been working through outdoor activities since returning in August.</p> <p>The focus for their learning has been on the Physical Education benchmarks as set out by Education Scotland. These have been structured for better understanding into four areas: My Thinking, My Qualities, My Moving and My Fitness. These benchmarks have been delivered through a variety of activities. Pupils have been working within these activities to overtake the associated benchmarks.</p> <p>We aim, as government advice allows, to introduce indoor activities such as badminton, table tennis, basketball and volleyball to further broaden the breadth of experience pupils gain.</p>	<p>Encourage pupils to be as active as possible engaging in physical activity throughout each day.</p> <p>Discuss with pupils what the benchmarks are and how they can overtake them in their daily life. Discuss with them what level they feel they are achieving. This may range from level two to four.</p> <p>Engage with TEAMS to overtake work or to ask questions when unsure.</p>
<p>RELIGIOUS STUDIES</p> 	<p>Pupils are following the National ‘This is our Faith’ Curriculum for Excellence syllabus for Roman Catholic Schools where they are invited to develop an appreciation of faith as well as developing a deeper awareness of other religions. In addition, The ‘Called to Love’ programme “Growing in Love” which is designed for S2, explores the theme of “what it means to love someone and to be loved” through positive discussion and developing a greater understanding of Christian values and the importance of respecting themselves and others.</p> <p>The Scottish Catholic Education Service programme on Equality and Inclusion is also currently being delivered to pupils in S2. The focus of this year’s programme is the Protected Characteristics from the Equality Act 2010. Pupils are encouraged to examine these Characteristics from the perspective of the Christian vision of the dignity of the human person.</p>	<p>Finding opportunities to discuss relationships such as with family and friends. Discussing the importance of respecting themselves and others in all aspects of life.</p>

SCIENCE



Throughout S2 Science pupils work through individual units in the discreet Sciences. They have a subject specialist teacher for each Science.

Biology – Biodiversity and Interdependence, where pupils have been studying habitats, sampling, abiotic and biotic factors and photosynthesis.

Chemistry – In block 1 of the Chemistry unit pupils have been investigating Acids, Alkalis and Neutralisation, Rates and signs of reactions and reactions of metals.

Physics – Forces topic, where pupils have been investigating gravity, balanced and unbalanced forces, hot air balloons and parachutes.

Pupils have also been covering related numeracy and literacy skills required in Science and these are assessed within our problem-solving tests.

Ensure pupils are completing any homework issued. Encourage and help pupils access the resources on the 365site. On the site they have access to all the homework and revision notes for each of the topics of work.

Pupils will have 4 assessments over the course of S2. Two problem-solving assessments, which we have just completed, and two unit assessments (covering Biology, Chemistry and Physics) at the end of Block 1 and Block 2.

Work may also be posted on the classes individual TEAMS page.

SOCIAL SUBJECTS



Social subjects includes the following subjects:

Geography

Pupils are learning about the equatorial rainforest. They are studying the location, climate, wildlife and structure of the forest. They will go on to study people living in the Amazon and threats to their way of life. Pupils will also study the causes and consequences of deforestation.

History

Pupils have been learning about the theme of Persecution by studying the Holocaust. Pupils have been actively engaged in the subject and have enjoyed hearing from eye-witnesses about their experiences of Nazi persecution 1933-1945. The important history skills of identifying sources as primary or secondary and explaining their usefulness has also been discussed. Pupils have been assessed by delivering a speech as a prosecutor at the Nuremberg Trials arguing that the Nazis are guilty of war crimes but selecting evidence and providing reliable sources.

Modern Studies

This term we have been working on the Global Conflict unit, where we focus on the conflict in Syria, analysing the causes, impacts and potential solutions to the crisis. Students complete a detailed report on the crisis and engage in group discussion, individual extended writing and class debate around the issues.

Please encourage pupils to complete tasks in their Rainforest booklet and ask them about their learning in class.

All S2 pupils have a homework booklet with tasks to complete with an adult at home to help them share their knowledge and experiences learnt in class.

Support students with homework assignments and ask them about their opinions and thoughts on what they have been learning about Syria.

