Curriculum Information
Autumn 2016-17
Year 7

Non Mihi, Non Tibi, Sed Nobis
English as 1st Language (Ms. Emily and Mr. David)

Students are currently studying Non Fiction texts, specifically focusing on advertisements. They will be developing their analytical skills by analysing the effects of language and presentational devices in two advertisements studied in class. This will be their first introduction to the point, evidence and analysis structure which is critical to success at IGCSE. In addition, they will be learning about the language used in marketing and promotion and they will create their own product to promote.

Mathematics (Mr. Shahrul Afzanizam)

This term, the students will be learning about four main components: Numbers (whole number decimals, negative numbers, laws of arithmetic, HCF and LCM), Algebraic Expressions (simplifying expressions, expanding brackets), Shapes (lines and angles, measuring and drawing angles, triangles and quadrilaterals, polygons), Measurement (length, mass, capacity, reading scales). These contents are all underpinned by problem solving questions which provide a comprehensive structure for the application of mathematical skills. Besides that, mental strategies are also a key part of the Numbers topic. The students will also be exposed to actual Cambridge Checkpoint exam-typed questions as part of their continuous preparation for the exam when they reach Year 9.

Science (Ms. Hui Yen)

Students will start the new academic year with Biology, cells. We will learn the main features and differences between animal and plant cells and use the microscope to observe specimens of cells. This will be followed by a short revision of the Chemistry component of acids and alkalis and some chemical reactions that results in the formation of gases. This includes finding out what happen when metal is burned. After the half term break, students will then delve into the topic of energy resources, how and where energy comes from, and what is the law of conservation of energy. We will then end the term with electrical circuits and gain a deeper understanding about electrical current, resistance, fuses and the differences between parallel and series circuit.

Edmodo Code: 287sxm (new)
**History (Ms. Jan Crompton)**

This term we will be studying English history from 1066 to 1500. We will begin by investigating the Battle of Hastings, considering the important question of why William won, before examining the impact that the Normans had on England. We will focus on causation and significance. We will also look at the struggle for power between the Church and King, including the murder of Thomas Beckett, as well as the struggles between King John and his nobles, which resulted in the signing of the Magna Carta, an early example of the limitation of Royal power. We shall look at a range of types of evidence to help us with our enquiries, including a focus on different interpretations.

**Performing Arts (Ms. Ellie Saunders)**

Music this term will be an opportunity for pupils to develop their piano skills and performance skills, then move onto a composition topic on Peter and the Wolf. Pupils will focus mainly on performance and review skills in half term one, and then composition and listening skills in half term 2. They will also develop their keywords vocabulary through homework.

Drama this term acts as an introduction to Secondary drama and the three key areas of Creating, Performing and Reviewing. We will develop physical skills such as body language, movement and facial expressions which we will use in mime and freeze frames. We will also build confidence using speech on stage through short warm ups into longer devised scenes.

**Business Studies (Ms. Michelle Courtney)**

Students will be learning about money, prices and the banking system during this term. They will understand why money is a measure of value, explore the different forms of money through history and identify different sources of funds available to consumers. Students will also learn about different ways of managing money, including savings, spending and borrowing. Students’ cognitive skills in economic wellbeing are developed through role play and team work problem solving exercises.

**Geography (Mr. Jeffrey Elliott)**

Students will be learning about the key concepts of physical, environmental and human geography. They will understand their own place in the world and learn about different countries and continents. Students will identify how geography is related to them and they will be encouraged to use maps as much as possible during this term. The second half of the term shall focus on how weather and climate vary from place to place. Students will learn how these variations are due to many different physical and human factors and the impacts they have on people.
**Personal, Social, Health Education (Mr. David Geary)**

During the first half-term, students will explore the theme of internationalism. They will focus on learning about the six major inhabited continents and the various cultures, peoples and geographical features of each. Through structured discussion pupils will, students will reflect on their own attitudes toward other cultures. As they progress through the unit, students will develop collaborative skills and essential literacy skills through planning, producing and presenting a group project focusing on the different continents studied. In the second half-term they will focus upon the topic of adventure and concepts relating to resilience and strategies for emotional well-being which will also provide further opportunities for extending their literacy skills through the production of a leaflet promoting strategies for emotional well-being.

**Mandarin as a 1st Language (Mrs. Pang Sook Yee)**

This term students will study a variety of topics including school life, lifestyle and family relationships. Students will begin by learning the inverted pyramid writing method, moderation method and narrative skills. They will have an opportunity to write and present these methods and skills in their writings. The students will improve their Chinese vocabulary by doing weekly spelling tests. Students will also look at the conventions of the genre and the different types of texts that exist within it, including instructional texts, recount texts and evaluative texts. They will be asked to read those texts in this unit and will need to write their own texts. In addition, they will also explore Chinese culture through calligraphy writing. Students are encouraged to read more Chinese story books and recording these in their Mandarin Reading Report Cards.

**Mandarin as a 2nd Language (Ms. Soon Saw Imm)**

During this term, students will learn how to introduce themselves and family members. Our focus will be on sentence building which will subsequently leads to a better understanding of using and varying sentence length in speaking and writing components. For the reading component skills - which include pronouncing Pin Yin, linking phrases and understanding the implied meaning - students will cover various reading topics and articles. Through exposure to a variety of texts, they will be able to develop their reading and spelling skills, extend their vocabulary and improve their Mandarin pronunciation. Their listening and speaking skills will be improved by using the Chinese Made Easy CD. The students will be expected to write 20-50 words by using appropriate vocabulary and sentence structures.

**Malay Language (Mrs. Rabiliahtul Bazariah & Mrs. Pattmagowri)**

Our main objective is for students to acquire a balanced proficiency in reading, writing, listening and speaking. New vocabulary will be introduced from time to time to enhance their foundation in grammar, reading comprehension, conversation and essay writing. In addition, they will also learn the language by reading newspapers, educational articles and academic papers. During lessons, students will be exposed to 3 major components throughout the semester, such as Essay writing (Penulisan), Reading comprehension (Pemahaman) and Grammar (Tatabahasa). In addition, such lessons can also help students to improve their presentation skills through essay writing and oral presentations.
### French (Mr. Michael Hayes)

This term year 7 will be consolidating their knowledge of French from primary and use their prior learning to adapt to new vocabulary and expand their work. We will be focusing on the four key skills in each lesson: listening, reading, writing and speaking. Students will learn how to communicate about French festivals, parties and gifts, exchanging personal information and descriptions in French as well as expressing and justifying their own opinions using connectives. They will develop their ability to construct accurate sentences independently and conjugate verbs in order to talk about other people as well as themselves.

The students will be studying French through a variety of mediums; not only the text book Tricolore 1, but also authentic French stories, songs, plays and poems as well as creating their own as a class and individually.

Edmodo Code: jicgrq

### Physical Education (Ms. Rowan Barrow, Mr. Dennis Lee & Mr. Vinod Shanmugam)

During the first half of term, students will participate in and complete activities based on the unit of ‘Football’. Students will participate in activities to develop Football skills. Through the use of drills, students will improve knowledge of game play and rules play such as corner kicks, goal kicks, throw ins and ball control. In the second half of term, students will be introduced to Badminton and learn the basic rules and skills required to be successful. They will work on personal skills for singles games and doubles, improving skills such as batting, serving, and receiving. When batting, students will improve their hand-eye co-ordination when striking the shuttle and improve their tactical thinking when positioning themselves in the court. Both groups will participate in a Swimming unit, where they will learn how to be safe and confident in the water using swim and survive techniques. They will learn how to enter and exit the pool safely and begin to complete activities designed to improve their freestyle, breast stroke and back stroke techniques.

### Performing Arts (Ms. Ellie Saunders)

Music this term will be an opportunity for pupils to develop their piano skills and performance skills, then move onto a composition topic on Peter and the Wolf. Pupils will focus mainly on performance and review skills in half term one, and then composition and listening skills in half term 2. They will also develop their keywords vocabulary through homework.

Drama this term is directly linked to the English curriculum, with the focus on Autobiographical texts in half term one, moving on to the non-fiction topic of advertisements in term two. Pupils will develop their characterisation techniques, script writing and devising techniques. They will undergo a research project and work as part of a group.

### Art (Mr. Mohd Shahrul Hasfis)

This term, students will learn about drawing and painting. For the first half term, they will learn about Penang landscape drawing. They will learn about the types of seaside, urbanscape, hillside drawings. They will focus on the skills in drawing such as sketches, idea development, drawing details and many more. For the other term, they will learn about abstract art based on the western artists and how to create a good abstract painting. They will also learn about art critics in order to create a story of their work, improve their ideas and fix their weaknesses.
**Humanities (Mr. Jeffrey)**

This term, students will be learning about different living environments around the world and the impacts that these environments have on the people that live there. We will begin by focusing on case studies of the favela’s in Brazil and the slums of Dhaka. With a foundation of knowledge, students will begin conducting their own research into unique living environments and understanding how people are adapting to the challenges that they face in these environments. Other skills learned during the term will be descriptive writing, mapping skills, and evaluating solutions that have been created to help people living in these harsh environments.

**ICT (Mr. Lee Wooder)**

During this term, students will learn two main topics, ‘Refining resources’, and ‘Introduction to Web designing’. For the Refining Resources topic they will get to focus more on case studies involving fake information published on websites, and in turn, evaluate them. They will be asked to identify the validity and reliability of resources mainly from commercial websites. They will also learn how to export and import data from other Microsoft applications.

**Malaysian Studies (Mrs. Rabiahtul Bazariah)**

This subject will involve project based learning, which requires students to find information about the tasks or topics given. This term, students will be exposed to Malaysia and Malaysian History, society, culture, politics and economics. Students will be exposed to industrial areas in Penang which help to develop the state and country. Students need to be familiar with premier and tertiary industries in Malaysia as well. Students have to prepare portfolios or powerpoint slides to be presented during lessons. The values of ‘Straits Seven’ and ‘IDEALS’ will also be taught to them during the learning process.
## Upcoming Events

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>24 August</td>
<td>First day of term</td>
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<tr>
<td>31 August</td>
<td>National Day <em>(Public Holiday)</em></td>
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<td>5 September</td>
<td>Malaysia Day <em>(Public Holiday)</em></td>
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<td>12-13 September</td>
<td>Hari Raya Haji <em>(Public Holiday)</em></td>
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<td>16 September</td>
<td>Malaysia Day <em>(Public Holiday)</em></td>
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<td>19 September</td>
<td>Mooncake Festival Celebration</td>
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<td>3 October</td>
<td>Awal Muhaarram <em>(Public Holiday)</em></td>
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<td>25 October</td>
<td>Twilight Concert</td>
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<td>27 October – 1 November</td>
<td>Mid Term Break</td>
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<td>4 November</td>
<td>Deepavali Celebration</td>
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<td>8 December</td>
<td>Twilight Concert</td>
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<td>12 December</td>
<td>Prophet Muhammad’s Birthday <em>(Public Holiday)</em></td>
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<td>16 December</td>
<td>Christmas Celebration</td>
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<td>16 December</td>
<td>Last day of term</td>
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