



Below you will find useful information about the work your teachers expect you to be doing this half-term in preparation for the start of your GCSE study.

English:

This half-term you will be doing work based on John Steinbeck's classic American novel, 'Of Mice and Men'. This is what you would have been doing, had you been in school. All of the work you have been doing throughout Key Stage 3 has been helping you prepare for Key Stage 4, but through this unit, your teacher will be really focusing in on GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature skills, which will help you throughout Years 10 and 11. In addition, please take full advantage of the work provided for Year 9 on the Key Stage 3 English BBC Bitesize website, focusing especially on Reading and Writing skills.

Maths:

All students should continue to study the work set which will build on their previous learning so regular revision prior to and throughout the course is imperative.

Science:

All students should continue to study as normal in Science irrespective of their option choices as all the work that we are covering is already part of their final GCSE for science.

Geography:

This half-term you will be working on very important geographical issues - you will be learning about the Geography of **The Middle East** and also studying a topic called **Climate Change and the Earth's Future**. This is what you would have been doing, had you been in school. All of the work you have been doing throughout Key Stage 3 has been helping you prepare for Key Stage 4 and your GCSE Geography curriculum has been designed to build on the Geography you have learnt in Key Stage 3. Climate Change is interleaved into every topic you will study during your GCSE Geography course so it is important that you understand the key causes, consequences, evidence and responses to Climate Change. Your teachers will be setting work that will build your geographical skills and knowledge to give you a sound base for starting your GCSE Geography course.

History:

Pupils who have chosen to study GCSE History will need to join the Google Classroom, 'GCSE History Preparation for Year 9 Pupils'. The class code for this will be posted in Class Charts. You will then need to complete the lessons that are set in this classroom over the last half term. These lessons will form an introduction to the GCSE course and the first unit that we will study which is 'America, 1920-1973: Opportunity and Equality'.

Religious Studies/Religion, Ethics and Philosophy:

Please continue with the work set as usual for REP as this will help you all, whether you have specifically opted for GCSE Religious Studies and/or are continuing with the more general Core REP you will into Year 10.

Travel and Tourism:

This vocational course will start in September. If you wanted to do some extra reading and preparation, you could think about why London and The Lake District are appealing to a range of different customers. You could write a list of visitor attractions, natural attractions and facilities that encourage people to visit. We will use this and expand it during our first term of studying the course when we look at the UK as a destination.

MFL:

Students who have opted for either French or Spanish at GCSE should continue to study the work set by the teacher which will revise and cover the skills and vocabulary covered throughout KS3 as well as be vital preparation for KS4 study.

Creative Arts – GCSE Options:

For those students taking a Creative Arts GCSE course next year (Music, Fine Art, 3D Product Design, Photography, Hospitality & Catering, Construction and/or Performing Arts), your current Y9 teacher (Mr Shillitoe, Mrs Angell, Mrs Giles, Mr Williams, Mr Cropper or Mr Grundy) will post some wider reading/suggested independent study ideas that you can access and carry out prior to starting your course(s) in September. This work will not be marked by your teacher; this post will simply point you in the direction of optional wider reading/studying that you can carry out now to prepare yourself ready for September.

GCSE Business Studies:

As this will be a new subject to you it is a good idea to get an understanding of what businesses do and issues that they face. You could keep up to date with Business news on websites such as BBC news. You could also watch episodes of Dragon's den (BBC), The Apprentice (BBC) or Ramsay's kitchen nightmares (Channel 4). There are also some great documentaries on Channel 5 which focus on specific Businesses.

BTEC Enterprise:

This is a vocational course so we will start our learning in September however if you wanted to do some background reading or research then here are some ideas. You could watch TV programmes such as Dragon's Den, The Apprentice or Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares. You could read about entrepreneurs such as Alan sugar, Richard Branson or Karren Brady and find out about their background. You could also watch films such as 'Kinky Boots', 'The Social Network' or 'The Greatest Showman' which are all linked to Enterprise. We look forward to meeting you soon.

Health and Social Care:

This is a vocational course and so we will start our learning in September but if you want to do something in preparation here are some ideas of TV programmes and films that are worth watching. You could watch TV programmes such as 'The Secret Life of Four and Five Year Olds' (Channel 4), 'Old People's Home For Four Year Olds' (Channel 4) 'The Nine To Five

with Stacey Dooley: Caring and Sharing' (BBC). The film 'Three Identical Strangers' is also worth a watch. We look forward to meeting you soon.

GCSE Computer Science and Creative iMedia:

The current choice of tasks that have been set for your Computer Science lessons are designed to help you develop some of the skills that will be needed next year on the pathway that you have chosen.

Computer Science - To develop your skills further for next year you could brush up on your Python skills by completing all the tasks on the Learn Learn website. This will develop your problem solving and coding skills.

Creative iMedia – You could develop your skills on graphic editing by using Photopea to help you with the first assignment next year. You could practise explaining the tools you have used to help to develop your written skills in this section.

Physical Education:

If you have opted for GCSE or BTEC PE please join the Google Classroom for this option where you will find lots of tasks to prepare you for your examination course in PE next year. The Google Classroom code is 4sd4grt.

There are also hard copies of these tasks in school, on the tables at the back of the hall.