



National Teaching School
designated by



National College for
Teaching & Leadership

January 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back and Happy New Year! All students in year 7 and 8 have been given their knowledge organisers for the spring term ahead; these should be available in school each day to support students in class but also used at home as a homework and assessment preparation resource.

To support students in developing effective revision and learning habits, we have created a knowledge organiser homework plan (see overleaf). Week A homework will consist of learning key sections of the knowledge organiser using the read, cover, write, check, correct technique. Guidance on how to do this effectively can be found on page 3 of the knowledge organiser and will be re-iterated with students during assembly and form time. On Week B, teaching staff will set a wide range of appropriate homework activities – these should be recorded in your child’s planner and on the sims app. If you have difficulty accessing the sims app please contact enquiries@greatsankey.org.

The curriculum students study in key Stage 3 has been designed to be engaging and to lay the foundations for successful progression to Key Stage 4 and beyond. The knowledge and skills acquired by students during Key Stage 3 are essential for future success. Towards the end of each term, all student in year 7 and 8 complete the same assessments as their peers. Crucially, these assess all of the knowledge and skills taught to students up to that point. Content within the knowledge organisers forms the basis of these assessments. For example, approximately 80% of the assessment this term will be based on the current spring term and the remaining 20% will be based on the autumn term. Therefore, it is essential students retain their knowledge organisers from each term to support their revision. Spring term assessments for year 7 and 8 will take place between the 9th and 20th March, during normal lessons.



Furthermore, to encourage reading for pleasure, expand vocabulary and improve students' reading and writing skills we have introduced 'Drop Everything and Read' (DEAR). This is dedicated time where, no matter where you are or what you are doing, students and staff spend time reading for pleasure. All Year 7 and 8 pupils will be taking part in DEAR one lesson per week – there will be a rolling timetable to avoid pupils missing the same subjects. Consequently, students will be expected to have their Accelerated Reader reading book with them at all times in school. There is a DEAR reflection log incorporated into the knowledge organisers to support this initiative.

Finally, as part of our drive to expand vocabulary and improve reading skills, the knowledge organisers also contain tier 2 and 3 vocabulary lists. These are key terms that students are expected to define and use within their speaking and writing to be successful at school and beyond. Tier 2 are generic terms used across the curriculum and tier 3 is subject specific vocabulary. We would encourage you to support your child in learning these at home.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. I. Kane', written in a cursive style.

Mrs Kane
Deputy Headteacher

YEAR 7 SPRING TERM	13 th January	27 th January	10 th February	2 nd March	16 th March	30 th March
Monday English & RS	English Box 1 Ingredients of the detective genre RS Box 1 HT 1 Arguments for and against existence of God	English Box 2 Characteristics of a detective RS Boxes 2 & 3 HT 1 Humanism, life after death	English Box 3 Victorian law and order (3) RS Box 4 HT 1 Key terms	English Box 4 Detective fiction – key vocabulary RS Box 1 HT 2 key terms	English Boxes 1 & 2 Ingredients of the detective genre , Characteristics of a detective RS Boxes 2, 3 HT2 Sikhism & Gurdwara	English Boxes 3 &4 Victorian law and order, Detective fiction – key vocabulary RS Boxes 4 & 5 HT 2 Vaisakhi & Khalsa
Tuesday Maths	Maths Box 1 Fractions (simplifying, adding and subtracting, fraction of an amount, multiplying, mixed numbers, calculating)	Maths Boxes 2 & 3 Percentages (percentage of an amount, percentage increase, percentage decrease, percentage change, fraction → %), ratio (3)	Maths Boxes 4-7 Solving equations (4), solving 1-step equations (5), solving with unknowns on both sides (6), solving 2-step (7)	Maths Boxes 8-12 Solving with fractions (8), solving with brackets(9), substitution (10), symmetry (11), plans and elevations (12)	Maths Boxes 13-15 Constructing triangles (13), bisectors (14), locus (15)	Maths Boxes 16-21 Types of data (16), Pictograms (17), vertical line graphs (18), pie charts (19), two-way tables (20), bar charts (21)
Wednesday Science	Science Boxes body systems 1-3 Lesson 1 -3 of Body systems Body systems key vocabulary	Science Boxes body systems 4-6 Lesson 4 -6 of Body systems Body systems key vocabulary	Science Boxes elements 1-4 Year 7 elements lesson 1 -4 Elements key vocabulary	Science Boxes space 1-4 Year 7 space 1-4 Space key vocabulary	Science Boxes waves 1-3 Year 7 waves 1-3 waves key vocabulary	Science Boxes waves 4-5 Year 7 waves 4-5 Waves key vocabulary
Thursday MFL	French Box 3.1 Chez moi Spanish Boxes 3.1, 3.1A My Free time German Boxes 1A.1, 1B, 1B.2 school	French Box 3.2 a la maison des jeunes Spanish Boxes 3.2, 3.2B sports German Boxes 1B.2, 1B.3 ,1B.4 opinions	French Boxes 3.3, 3.4 Les animaux Spanish Box 3.3 sporting opinions German Box 2A.1 I Like playing	French Box 3.5 Mon animal préféré? Spanish Boxes 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 weather, music, social media German Box 2A.2 Das mache ich am liebsten	French Box 3.6 useful verbs Spanish Boxes 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.3A where I live German Box 2A3. Ich liebe Computerspiele	French Box 3.7 connectives Spanish Boxes 4.4, 4.5, 4.6 describing dream homes German Box 2A.4 Was oft machst du das?
Friday Geography & History	Geography Key terms History Boxes 1 & 2 Timeline and keywords	Geography Box 1 Africa History Boxes 3-8 Castles, jobs in a castle	Geography Box 2 Tanzania History box 9 Castles from around the world	Geography Key terms History boxes 10 & 11 Timeline, keywords	Geography Boxes 3 & 4 Ecosystems in the Masai Mara, Tribes in the Masai Mara History boxes 12 & 13 Route of the crusades, what crusaders looked like	Geography Box 5 Biomes in Africa History boxes 14 & 15 Crusades

All knowledge organiser homework is set on a week A. Students have 48 hours from the day it is set to read, cover, write, check the knowledge. Knowledge organiser use in form time should be additional revision to that completed for homework. Subject staff to check that homework has been completed through quizzing – this should be clearly identifiable in student books. Week B homework is to be set by class teacher.

YEAR 8 SPRING TERM	13 th January	27 th January	10 th February	2 nd March	16 th March	30 th March
Monday English & RS	English Box 1 Key vocabulary RS Box 1 HT 1 Key terms	English Box 2 Big questions about war poetry RS Boxes 2 & 3 HT 1 Situation ethics, utilitarianism	English Box 3 Contextual information RS Boxes 4 & 5 HT 1 Is it right to eat animals?, forgiveness	English Box 4 How to analyse poetry RS Box 1 HT 2 key terms	English Box 5 Poetic Techniques RS Box 2 HT 2 Hinduism key info	English Box 6 How to structure paragraphs for poetry RS Boxes 3 & 4 HT 2 Worship, Divali
Tuesday Maths	Maths Boxes 1-3 Pictograms, correlation, pie charts	Maths Boxes 4 & 5 two-way tables, pie charts,	Maths Boxes 6-10 Solving equations, solving 2-step equations, solving with fractions, solving with UOBS, solving with fractions, solving quadratics	Maths Boxes 11-15 Inequalities, inequalities on a number line, solving inequalities, simultaneous equations, change the subject	Maths –Boxes 16-21 Angles, Pythagoras, trigonometry	Maths Boxes 22-30 Probability, venn diagrams, frequency
Wednesday Science	Science Boxes metals & acids 1-4 Metals & acids key vocabulary	Science Boxes metals & acids 5-8 Metals & acids key vocabulary	Science Boxes ecosystems 1-5 ecosystems key vocabulary	Science Boxes ecosystems 6-9 ecosystems key vocabulary	Science Boxes energy 1-4 energy key vocabulary	Science Boxes energy 5-8 energy key vocabulary
Thursday MFL	French Box 2.1 La télé, ma réalité Spanish Boxes 3.1, 3.2 Digital generation, TV German Box 2B.1 hobby's	French Box 2.2, 2.3 La musique, ma muse, Le ciné, ma passion Spanish Boxes 3.3, 3.3A, 3.4 interests German Boxes 2B.2, 2B.3 Describing hobby's	French Box 2.4, 2.4A, 2.5, 2.6 opinions Spanish Boxes 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 careers German Box 3A.1, 3A.2 The body	French Boxes 3.1, 3.2 Accro à la technologie ? Spanish Boxes 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.3A, 4.3B clothing German Box 3A.3 Keeping fit	French Box 3.3 Les ados et les réseaux sociaux Spanish Boxes 4.4, 4.5 shopping German Box 3A.4 food	French Boxes 3.4, 3.5 gadgets Spanish Boxes 4.6, 4.7, 4.8 Winning the lottery German Box Grammar
Friday Geography & History	Geography Key terms 1 History Boxes 1 & 2 Timeline and keywords	Geography Key terms 2 History Boxes 3-4 Key people	Geography Boxes 1, 2 and key terms 1 History boxes 5 & 6 The gunpowder plot, causes of the English civil war	Geography Boxes 3,4 and key terms 2 History boxes 2, 7 Keywords, the English civil war	Geography Boxes 5,6 and key terms 1 History boxes 8 & 9 Life under Cromwell, The restoration	Geography Boxes 7 and key terms 2 History boxes 10 & 11 The restoration

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