



Whytrig Middle School

Year 8 Summer 1– What are we learning?

Art - We are studying the work of the Artist Claes Oldenburg and being inspired to make our own Public sculptures using clay and fabric.

DT - We are exploring Pewter casting and making a collection of pewter pieces inspired by a collection of different pewter artists.

Food Tech – We will be learning about the concept of ‘Barn to Bake’, looking at where key ingredients in cake making are farmed and processed and using methods such as creaming to make a chocolate cake and gingerbread.

French- we will be learning to talk in French about how things we do in our leisure time, such as watching TV programmes, using digital technology and going to the cinema.

Geography- we will be studying the human and physical geography of Brazil, focussing on tourism, the development gap and the importance of rainforests.

Music- we will be learning about blues music and how it evolved into Rock and Roll. We will appraise, play and perform 12 bar blues rhythms, walking bass lines and drum patterns of well-known blues songs.

PE- our focus this half term will be on athletics; running, jumping and throwing with a focus on improving our personal best times and distances.

Computing – We will be learning about AI and cyber security; the laws surrounding cyber security, threats to data security and actions we can take to protect our data.

English - We will be reading ‘Trash’ - by Andy Mulligan. We will be studying the themes of the book, analysing characters and understanding the author’s use of language to create suspense. We will be focussing on descriptive writing, writing from different perspectives and narrative structure.



History- We will be learning about how the British Empire was established and considering whether the British Empire was a positive or negative ‘force’.

Maths- we will be developing our skills in calculating with fractions and learning about straight-line graphs.

Science- we will be beginning our biology topic with a focus on nutrition, healthy eating and the digestive system.

SMSC- In RE, we will be investigating what happened in the aftermath of the crucifixion and in PSHE we will be studying relationships and sex education.

How can I support the curriculum at home?

Encouraging daily reading is one of the most effective ways to boost your child’s academic progress, as it strengthens skills that benefit all areas of the curriculum. Staying up to date with current events also helps your child develop critical thinking and enhances their understanding of the world around them. Additionally, talking to your child about what they are learning further supports their development by encouraging them to reflect on and engage with their studies. The following websites are useful sources of revision and extra information about the KS3 curriculum:

- [BBC Bitesize KS3](#)
- [Study Smarter](#) - create a free account to produce flash cards and summary sheets of all topics in the curriculum.
- [Quizlet](#) – download the free app to access interactive revision quizzes and flash on all KS3 curriculum topics