



Brookfields
Specialist SEN School

Key Stage 3



Autumn 2014 Curriculum

English

English is divided into 3 areas of study: Speaking and Listening, Reading and Writing.

This term the topic is “Reach for the Stars.” Pupils will read and respond to fantasy/science fiction stories or extracts from books related to the topic, ranging from Peter Pan to Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator. Pupils will be given the opportunity to dress up as spacemen/aliens and participate in role play and drama. Using symbols or words, pupils will write short descriptions of an imaginary planet, write simple postcards from the planet or invent their own alien creature. They will also read and respond to a range of rhymes/poems on the theme of space. Some pupils will write simple poems or create space poems in response to pictures or sounds related to the theme. Pupils will also explore factual material alongside fiction texts. This could involve researching the first landing on the moon and describing what the Moon looks like. Some pupils will write short factual reports about the Earth.



Mathematics

Hexagons and Pentagons: will continue to practise number skills working with up to three digit numbers, developing understanding of place value, using addition and subtraction and applying these applications to ‘real life’ problems using money and measurements of lengths or time.

Circles and Triangles: are working on addition and subtraction as well as number sentences; they will be looking at shape and telling the time. Class Café happens every Thursday where pupils get to use real money and buy items using it.

Squares: consolidating their knowledge of place value and using this to support addition and subtraction of larger numbers. Number bonds and number patterns will be used to allow students to apply their understanding to new problems. We will be looking at measuring with precision in metres and centimetres and fractions of centimetres. In addition there will be weekly lessons to develop money handling skills.



PSHE

Year 7

Personal identity

Pupils will be encouraged to recognise both external and internal qualities about themselves. They will celebrate their strengths and recognise things they find more difficult.

Safety In the home

Identifying potential hazards in the home and learning how to be safe.



Year 8

Bullying

Pupils will begin to learn about differences and similarities between themselves and others. They will identify kind and unkind actions, identifying different types of bullying thinking about what to do should they see, or be victim to bullying.

Safety outside the home

Pupils will consider how to keep safe when 'out and about'. This will include road safety lessons and stranger danger awareness.

Year 9

Bullying & transition review portfolio preparation,

Pupils will develop their knowledge from Year 8 and continue to learn about bullying. For some pupils they will also discuss ethnic diversity and racism.

Personal safety

Pupils will build on their knowledge from Year 8, revisiting, and developing road safety skills, their understanding of the emergency services, and asking for help. Some pupils will also discuss safe internet use and mobile phone security.

PSD

PSD is made up of three strands:

- Interacting and working with others
- Independent and organisational skills

Attention

During these lessons pupils work on a variety of activities that will help them to develop a range of skills in these areas.



Science

Light

In Science this term, pupils will be exploring and learning all about light and why it is important. They will be carrying out investigations to test how light travels through different objects, how we see different things, how shadows are formed and changed. They will also be asking bigger questions about how light acts to form a rainbow!

Sound

Pupils will also be exploring sound this term. We will be using different instruments and objects to change the pitch and volume of sound and explore the effect on us. Pupils will be carrying out lots of practical experiments to explore the vibrations of different objects and the effect this has on the sound that they hear. They will even be exploring how thunder follows lightning by linking it to the speed of travel and how light and sound are altered on the moon and in deep space!

Drama

Tarrant are currently using Call and Response and taking it in turns to become Doctor Who and enter his tardis. Later in the term they will be exploring Outer Space using a special sensory story.

Middleton are becoming the stars of their drama lessons by taking part in whole group games where they all get to star in short improvised dramas using simple props and costumes. They will then move on to explore the story of Peter Pan. Fletcher, Madejski, Palmer, Sutton and Winslet are working on key drama skills through the story of Peter Pan. We're starting with exploring creative ways of storytelling, then moving on to characterisation and movement work and, finally, we'll round the term off with some scripted scenes from the stellar new RSC play, 'Wendy and Peter Pan'.



Art

This year students will explore a range of materials, techniques and skills which relate to different Art movements. We will research different artists who show shape and movement in their work and learn methods to re-create those styles. These ideas will be developed into an independent outer space landscape.

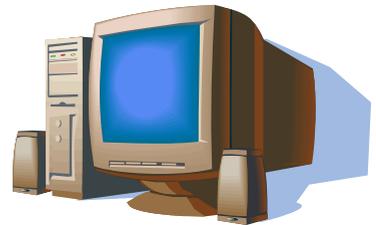
During our studies we will gain understanding of composition, colour mixing and 3D material manipulation skills.

RE

This term in RE the Key Stage 3 classes will be working on the concept of Bhuddism. They will be researching different aspects and recording their findings as pictures, newspaper articles, storyboards and writing. They will also be studying the musical ‘Joseph and His Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat.’

ICT

In ICT this term, students will be looking at a range of skills to develop their ability in using computers and programming devices. Students in Years 7 and 8 will be looking in detail at a range of computing devices, what they comprise of and how they are connected. They will be using other devices such as iPads and digital cameras to transfer content to build comic strips and videos. Students will also be developing their understanding of the implication of being on the internet and taking a serious look at the issues of E-safety.



Students in Years 8 and 9 will be building structured databases of detailed information and programming characters and devices to achieve specific goals through the introduction of simple computer code.

Throughout all this, keyboard and computer skills will be developed along with a constant theme of E-Safety in all lessons.

Social Skills

Pupils participate in one session of Social Skills each week, in a group with other pupils of a similar ability. Each group follows the Talkabout programme, supported by the Speech and Language Department.

At Key Stage 3, students will study one of four units: self-awareness and self-esteem; body language; conversation skills or friendship.

Each session focuses on giving the students a chance to reflect on and to express their feelings, followed by several different practical activities to illustrate and embed the skills they need for social interaction. The emphasis for these



sessions is on creating an enjoyable environment in which to explore and practise social skills through games, role play and discussion.

Music

In the Autumn Term 2014, KS3 students are exploring the topic, “Reach for the Stars”. They will explore how Stars and Space have been an inspiration to composers across the centuries. They will listen to a broad range of music and try out some of the instruments used to play the pieces. They will begin to identify different instruments of the orchestra. Some children will look at Fanfares and how they are used in music. Most children will play some fanfares and some will compose their own.



Tarrant and Branagh will learn call and response songs about ‘Dr Who’ and play a range of different fanfare music.

This term will particularly focus on listening to a range of music and creating musical effects through the careful selection of instruments.

Life Skills

Rotation plan for the Autumn Term

Subject	Teacher	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
Food Technology	Angie Hunt	Sutton	Madejeski
Horticulture and Cycling	Jane Stokes Matt Bonewell	Middleton	Sutton
History and Geography	Heather Beeney Karen Wallace-Jones	Winslet	Middleton
Digital Citizenship	Bruce Taylor	Fletcher	Winslet
SRE	Sarah Strudley	Palmer	Fletcher
Enterprise/DT	Charlotte Olbrecht	Madejski	Palmer

Through the teaching of Life Skills, we hope to equip pupils with knowledge and experiences that will develop greater independence in the future.

History and Geography

We will become explorers of the world around us. We will start by looking at our school, then where we live and how we get to school. We will then investigate Tilehurst and meet some people local to the area. Then, a visit to Reading town centre will allow us to explore the shops, food, architecture and history. We will then look at England and its place within the UK. We'll round off our exploration by visiting a British park where we will make our very own art installation representing the world we've discovered around us.



Food Technology

Allows pupils the experience of using a range of kitchen appliances safely and appropriately, to prepare ingredients, follow recipes and evaluate their creations.

Horticulture

Develops independence skills in the garden by growing, planting, harvesting and tasting.

Enterprise/DT

Students will be experiencing D.T/Enterprise on a rotation. During their lessons we will be experiencing manipulation of 3D materials, woodwork and ceramics. Their aim will be to design and create a name door hanger, a bird feeder/house and a book marker. We will use a range of tools, materials and skills to make these designs. These items will be available for sale at the next school fair.

Digital Citizenship

Digital Citizenship addresses the increasing need for students to become safe and confident users of computers, the internet, on-line gaming and social media. Throughout Years 7, 8 and 9 students cover issues as broad as:

- Computer hygiene; how to keep your computer “clean” and safe and what can be done to prevent viruses and unwanted downloads
- The implications of being on the internet and what could happen to content (messages, photos or video etc.) that users share and send to others
- Recognising what information is safe to share and what should be kept private
- The nature of “friendship” and how this can be different when they encounter

people on the internet or social media

- The importance of good conduct and the consequences for those who say or send things they should not
- Cyberbullying; how to recognise it and what to do if it happens to them

Each sequence of lessons runs for 6-7 weeks. If you would like to know more or have concerns over your child's use of computers and the internet, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Taylor.

Relationships and SRE

During this academic year Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) will be taught by Sarah Strudley, Bruce Taylor and Sam Raw on a Friday afternoon in single sex groups.

Individual classes will have Relationships lessons on Monday afternoons with Mrs Strudley.

This year the course for KS3 will include sessions on:

- Relationships – important people and friends
- Names of male/female body parts, including reproductive organs
- Puberty
- Menstruation
- Wet dreams and erections
- Appropriate behaviour, private/public places, feeling safe, good/bad touch, saying no and refusing sexual approaches
- Masturbation
- Human reproduction – how babies are made

There will be additional sessions for Year 9 pupils on:

- Contraception
- Sexually Transmitted Infections.

Physical Education

Please could you ensure that all PE kit is clearly labelled with your son/daughters name or initials.

Tarrant

Over the year they will have the opportunity to take part in:

- Rebound Therapy
- Games and activities designed to develop fine and gross motor skills
- Hydrotherapy
- Accessible bikes where appropriate

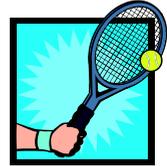
Outdoor activities at The Dolphin Centre, Pangbourne. These will be adapted versions of Canoeing, Archery or Climbing.

All other classes

On Friday mornings Key Stage 3 students from Sutton, Madjeski, Middleton, Winslet, Palmer and Fletcher are split into 4 streamed ability groups.

Over the year they will take part in the following activities

- Swimming
- Gymnastics
- Trampolining
- Sports education/ summer team sports
- Tennis



All students will also attend a series of sessions at the local adventure centre where they will take part in either canoeing or archery and climbing. These activities are adapted to suit all of our students.

We will also be offering cycling training on Monday afternoons, this will include Bikeability Level 1 training in the summer term for those that are capable of accessing it.

Further information will follow when it is your son/daughters turn to access the above activities. If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact the PE department at school.

On Friday mornings Key Stage 3 students are split into 5 streamed ability groups.

Autumn 1

Group 1 – Football and Tag Rugby

Group 2 – Swimming at the Willink

Group 3 – Football and Tag Rugby

Group 4 – Boccia and Rebound Therapy

Group 5 – Kurling and Swimming in the school pool

Autumn 2

Group 1 – Agility and Sports Leadership

Group 2 – Swimming at the Willink

Group 3 – Agility and Tag Rugby

Group 4 – Adventurous activities at Adventure Dolphin, Pangbourne

Group 5 – Boccia and Rebound Therapy



Tarrant Class (Branagh and Tarrant students)

This term Tarrant class will be learning about space for the topic 'Reach for the Stars' by involving the pupils in a range of sensory stories, songs and music. The stories such as 'Winnie the Witch in Space' will have accompanying props/music.

During various lessons this term such as TacPac and Tuck Shop we will learn to take turns, to improve our communication skills and to build relationships.

We will have regular cooking sessions where we will learn new skills and try a variety of food.

The pupils will also take part in creative activities including Art, Drama and Sensory Assemblies where they will be exploring various topics and handling different kinds of materials, and some new textures. Pupils will be involved in regular Rebound Therapy and swimming sessions as part of their PE.



Town Training

Pupils in Key Stage 3 have the opportunity to participate in Town Training, usually in Year 9. This term, pupils are travelling into town, using public transport with 1:1 support, on a weekly basis. You will have received a letter if your child is involved. Individual targets are set for pupils participating in this activity and progress is recorded. If you require any further information please contact your child's class teacher and they will be very happy to help.

Homework & Home/School Diaries

We are once again launching a homework project, centred on our theme 'Reach for the Stars'. This homework is optional, but for those who choose to participate; we are very much looking forward to receiving any writing, data collection, pictures, etc. All files will be shown at our end of term assembly and special awards will be given to the best effort. Information regarding our themes and teacher suggestion notes are now available in the Key Stage 3 Homework Booklet.

Cross-Curricula Days

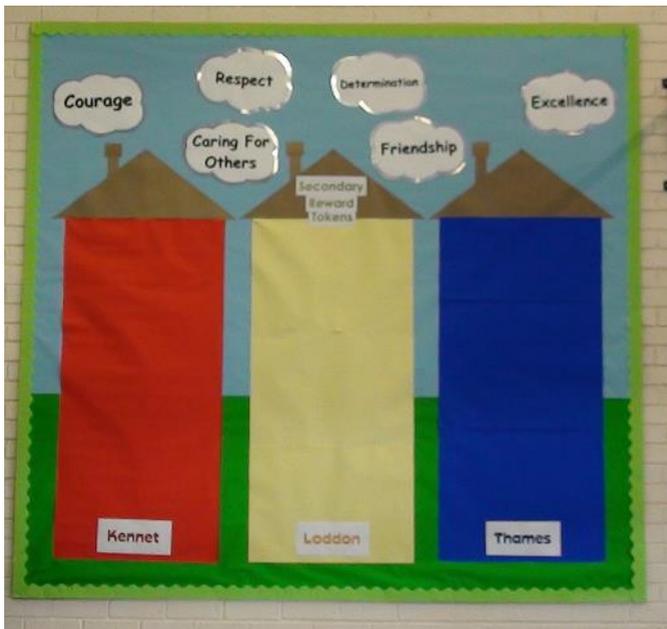
This term we will have two cross-curricular days. The first will be the 8th October to launch our theme for this term 'Reach for the Stars'; our second will be the 3rd December where the theme will be based around Modern Foreign Languages. We will also be having some cross-curricular afternoons this term: we will be celebrating Dawali on 22nd October and Christmas on 17th December as a whole Key Stage.



Rewards

**Friendship
Courage
Determination
Excellence
Respect
Caring for Others**

We hope to encourage pupils to focus on their work, and behaviour every day. Our reward system is based on the 6 values listed above. Key Stage 3 are encouraged to work to achieve these values. Pupils seen to be demonstrating acts that represent any of the values will be presented with a paper brick in a weekly assembly that highlight which value they have achieved. These bricks are added onto their house (Thames, Loddon or Kennet), which is part of a large display in the hall in the Upper School. Other students that are in the same house have their bricks added too. At the end of the year we count up the bricks and award the winning house with a special prize.



Each class also works towards tokens for their class; these are placed on a board in the same hall. Class tokens are awarded when a class is seen to be working very well together, all are trying hard, or getting on together particularly well.

