



Curriculum Information  
Autumn 2017-18  
Year 9

*Non Mihi, Non Tibi, Sed Nobis*

**Science (Mr. Anthony Binger)**

This term in Science we will be looking at the importance of plants and studying how plants form the basis of all the food chains in the world. Investigative skills will be extended along with planning and analysis of data from first-hand experience and secondary sources. Afterwards we will be looking at one of the most fundamental tools in Chemistry as we study how the periodic table evolved and how it can be used to make predictions as well as its importance in everyday situations. Finally, we look at Electricity and build upon the ideas encountered earlier in grade 7.

**English (Mr. David and Miss Leanne)**

This term the pupils will be studying the novel 'Of Mice and Men' by John Steinbeck. Within this unit of work the pupils will learn about the social and historical context of the novel, specifically 1930s America, and they will begin to develop an understanding of how the events of that time, including the Great Depression, influenced John Steinbeck's writing. Furthermore the pupils will develop a clear understanding of the key characters and themes in the novel. They will be working towards an assessment where they must analyse the language used by the writer to create a particular theme or character, and so the pupils will also be revising the key criteria of an iceberg paragraph, and how to write in a developed and analytical way.

**Maths (Ms. Yogeswari Boghan)**

This term, students will be learning five main components: Numbers (fractions and indices), Expressions (factorising, two linear expressions, substitution, changing subject, solving linear equations, inequalities, simultaneous equations), Shapes (maps and scale drawing, bearings), Geometry (parallel lines, angles in a polygon, Pythagoras, tessellation, loci) and Measurement (area and volume). These topics are all underpinned by problem solving which provides a structure for the application of mathematical skills. Besides that, mental strategies are also a key part of the Numbers content. The students will also be exposed to actual Cambridge Checkpoint exam-type questions as part of their continuous preparation for the exam.

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

The themes for this term include "Keselamatan Jalan Raya, Kemajuan Malaysia and Nilai Murni". The main objective is for students to acquire 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 three major components throughout the semester, Essay writing (Penulisan), Reading comprehension (Pemahaman) and Grammar (Tatabahasa). In addition to this, such lessons will also help students improve their presentation skills through essay writing and oral presentations.

**Personal, Social and Health Education (Mr. Chris Terry)**

This term students will explore the first two Round Square IDEALS: Internationalism and Democracy. In the first half term students will investigate the work of different international bodies and organisations as part of the Internationalism unit. This requires students to collaborate in groups to research and synthesize information in order to effectively present their findings to the rest of the class in an engaging way. Meanwhile the second half term will explore the concept of parliamentary democracy with the unit culminating in a “mock parliament” in which competing political parties attempt to persuade the electorate that they are best equipped to run the country!

**French (Mr. Michael Hayes)**

This term, Year 9 will be developing their existing French, notably by expanding their knowledge of French grammar in order to communicate in the present, past and future tenses. The students are starting to prepare to take on IGCSE next year and become more independent in their learning and work. We will be studying different topics such as free time and leisure and future plans and projects. Throughout each unit of work, students will be using key vocabulary and structures such as expressing justified opinions, connectives and adverbs of time and frequency. We will be using a variety of mediums to study such as authentic French and Francophone articles and literature, text books and songs and poetry.

Edmodo Code: dhc49p

**Sejarah (Ms. Pattmagowri Muniandy)**

The topic of focus for this term will be ‘The Formation of Malaysia’. Year 9 students will be learning about the factors that contributed to the formation and analyse the problems towards the formation. They also will be learning about the issue of the separation of Singapore from the Federation of Malaysia. Activities for this term will focus on discussion, group work, project and presentations which will help the students to develop their interpersonal skills. The values of ‘Straits Seven’ and ‘IDEALS’ will be taught to them during the teaching learning process.

**Business Studies (Ms. Lily Ho)**

In the Autumn term students will learn about basic business trading. They will investigate how individuals and groups attempt to satisfy basic needs and wants by utilising scarce resources. Students will also be able to describe characteristics and skills associated with successful businesses and demonstrate an understanding of the contributions to global businesses. Students will evaluate the work done by the Research and Development department by reinventing an existing product and marketing it.





### **History (Mr. David Geary)**

This term students will explore World War I through two depth studies. The first study will be an enquiry about what trench warfare was like, uncovering the experiences of soldiers who endured such conditions. This will allow the class to hone their source handling skills and begin to evaluate the usefulness of primary evidence as a way of learning about the past. Meanwhile the second study will explore the reputation of General Haig, the “Butcher of the Somme”. Through this investigation pupils will explore the topic of differing interpretations in history and use this as a basis of constructing a balanced historical essay assessing whether Haig really deserves such a moniker.

### **Mandarin as a 1<sup>st</sup> Language (Ms. Pang Sook Yee)**

During the first half term, students will study Charity Heart and analyse the characters and themes. They will have the opportunity to respond to a variety of writing tasks using narrative skills. They will learn a lot of descriptive language from the article and apply it in their writing. In the second half term, they will continue to focus on their expository writing and they will produce an extended writing practice in conjunction with this topic. They will learn the analogy argumentation and example demonstration in their expository writing. They will also distinguish similar words from content by creating phrases and making sentences. Students are encouraged to read more Chinese story books.

### **Mandarin as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Language (Ms. Soon Saw Imm)**

During this term, students will learn about “Body Parts” and “Sickness”. Our main foci will be on the writing and speaking components. Reading will be used as a means of complementing the development of writing and speaking skills. The students will also be exposed to a range of texts which require them to elicit implied meaning as well as making deductions of the writer’s purpose. Vocabulary in context will also be introduced as a means of developing students’ writing skills on subject specific topics. Other than writing skills, the students will be expected to complete oral tasks in pairs or in group discussions on a given topic. Students will practise their listening using the Chinese Made Easy CD. The students will be expected to write 60-80 words using appropriate vocabulary and sentence structures.

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

In music, pupils will begin by consolidating their pre-existing theory knowledge by practically exploring melody writing. Later on in the term, the pupils will compose their own Theme and variations inspired by Mozart’s “Ah, vous dirais-je, Maman”. They will learn to play the theme, then carefully compose their own contrasting variation using specific compositional techniques. At the end of the unit, the pupils will perform their compositions.

In Drama this term, the pupils will continue to look at the three key areas of Creating, Performing and Reviewing. We will develop physical pieces of theatre using slapstick and comedic performance as a starting point. Pupils will increase their physical performance skills alongside subtle facial expressions.

**Art and Design (Mr. Mohd Shahrul Hasfis)**

This term, students will learn about drawing and painting. For the first half term, they will learn about still life drawing. They will learn about types of drawing and skills. They will focus on skills in drawing such as sketches, analytic drawing and drawing detail. During the second half term, they will learn about Self-portraits by studying Andy Warhol's style of painting. By studying different styles of art and design, along with related paintings, they will learn skills, how to develop ideas and how to critique their work.

**Geography (Mr. Jeff Elliot)**

This term students will begin studying topics that are covered at the IGCSE level of Geography. This benefits students because they are both able to gauge their ability at IGCSE Geography and give them a head start on the content. The first half of the term will see students studying population themes such as reasons for distribution and density, key terms, and the spread and impact of disease. Once this first topic is completed, students will move onto the unit of Settlement which focuses on the growth of settlements and land use in cities.

Edmodo code: uutjqy

**Humanities (Mr. Jeff Elliot)**

For the first term students will be learning how to conduct and inquire their own geographical investigation. After revising the inquiry process, students will then gather their own information and make predictions about their findings. Students will learn a number of different methods for displaying their findings and analyse the strengths and weaknesses of each of these methods. Finally, the term will end with students presenting individually their own findings to the class.

Edmodo code: n9kqc4

**ICT (Mrs. Haniza Hussin)**

This term, our students will learn about working with podcasting, where they will have experiences in creating their own podcast and editing them using audacity software and make a short movie using Windows Movie Maker. They will be exposed to editing sound clips and working with various online free music editors. In the game-making topic, they will be introduced to Gamemaker 7 free software. They will briefly look into areas such as creating layouts and creating timelines and other designing tools within Gamemaker software. They will experience planning the game-making project by applying the system life cycle methodology.

**Physical Education (Ms. Rowan, Mr. Dennis & Mr. Vinod)**

During this term, students will participate in Touch Rugby and Ultimate Frisbee. Students will learn techniques to improve accuracy for throwing and catching while on the move during modified games and team play. Students will develop an understanding of how to score points, while improving agility for defence and teamwork. During the second half of term, students will participate in a variety of running events, ranging from short to long distance and learn how to be competitive. Students will learn the correct technique for a crouch start in sprinting events and how to run more efficiently by co-ordinating the movement of key body components. Throwing and jumping techniques will be a focus for field events within the Athletics unit.





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## **Upcoming Events**

28 August 2017	First Day of Autumn Term
21 September 2017	Malaysia Day School Celebration
22 September 2017	Awal Muharram (Islamic New Year)
13 October 2017	Deepavali School Celebration
14-22 October 2017	Half Term Break
18 October 2017	Deepavali
26 October 2017	Halloween Disco
1 December 2017	Prophet's Birthday
18 December 2017	Parents Evening
19 December 2017	Christmas School Celebration
19 December 2017	Last Day of School