

Prep: Autumn 2

This half term your child will be set a homework project for Drama, English, Geography and R.E.

Drama

Students will be enquiring into the topic of Darkwood Manor which they will be working on in class. Students have been asked to complete tasks to support what they are learning in lessons. This will help prepare them for GCSE by developing their understanding of the elements that support work on character and develop performances. The students have been advised to break down the project into the following small tasks:

- * 1) Make a research information sheet based on different methods of creating atmosphere on the stage.
- * 2) Creating a script or storyboard for a scene based in Darkwood Manor.
- * 3) Making a poster or programme for a performance based on Darkwood manor.
- * 4) Evaluating a performance from their drama lessons that they have seen **and** a performance that they have been in which is based on Darkwood manor

Religious Education

Students will be enquiring into the Rites of Passage. They have been asked to look at different religious practises and to assess their importance and the impact on people's lives. This will help prepare them for GCSE by explaining and evaluating religious practises and linking them to different religious beliefs. Students should focus on Christianity but may consider other religions. Students have been advised to break down the project into the following small tasks:

- 1) Research and explain the 10 Commandments
- 2) Research and explain Christening/Baptisms
- 3) Research and explain Confirmation/First Holy Communion
- 4) Research and explain a Christian/Muslim Wedding
- 5) Research and explain a Christian/Muslim Funeral

Geography

Students will be enquiring into a country within Africa. They have been asked to look in detail at a country within Africa, have a go at locating it and looking at its human and physical features.

This will help prepare them for GCSE by teaching them research skills, independent learning, analysis and considering how human and physical features interact with one another. The students have been advised to break down the project into the following small tasks:

- 1) Choose a country within Africa- it can be anywhere. They will be studying this country for the next 6 tasks.
- 2) For that country, describe the key physical features- what are the main mountain ranges, are there rivers? Are there rainforests? Deserts? Challenge: Can students do a sketch map to show where these are located?
- 3) For that country find out: Literacy Rate, Life Expectancy, Doctors per 1000, GDP (Gross Domestic Product)
- 4) How developed do students think that country is? Why do students think this? Challenge: Can students use some of the facts from task 3?
- 5) Research a city within that country- how many live there, how many school, famous buildings and attractions? Challenge: Would students like to visit there? Why?
- 6) Create a collage of pictures which sums up what has been learnt about that country.

English

Your Child is completing a project for Year 7 English

Task: Book Review: Writing for different purposes. The deadline for all students is Monday 10th December.

English students will be choosing a suitably challenging fiction text to read during Autumn 2. They will be writing for a particular purpose and audience, using their reading and writing skills to interpret/decipher text and plan and write for a range of purposes. This will culminate in a book review about their chosen fiction text. These aspects link to the GCSE curriculum in providing opportunity to read and respond to texts, identifying key information and developing a personal response to texts. There is a booklet to complete but we would encourage students to extend themselves and be creative with their responses to these tasks.

General guidance for parents

The teacher will provide your son/daughter with individual deadlines and talk through the task in lesson time.

All information is available on Moodle including differentiated worksheets, extension tasks, a mark scheme and help resources.

Homework must be handwritten.

Homework club runs afterschool between 3-4pm to support students and help them access resources.

The Moodle webpage can be accessed through the main school page or directly at moodle.mayfield.portsmouth.sch.uk/moodle

Students should spend half an hour completing homework for each subject each week

The below chart outlines common problems a student might face and how to overcome them

<i>What your child might say...</i>	<i>Guidance</i>
'I can't log onto Moodle...'	Your child should contact their ICT teacher.
'I can't work out how to find things on Moodle...'	Your child should attend Homework club.
'I don't understand the task...'	Your child needs to speak to the subject teacher.
'I'm falling behind with my deadlines...'	Your child needs to speak to their tutor.

Should the issue not be resolved or your child continue to struggle then please contact the Head of House.