

Curriculum Overview

Year 8	Subject – Mathematics	Terms – Lent & Trinity
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Topics covered	<p>All the CE topics studied since Year 6 will be reviewed this term. The official complete CE syllabus can be downloaded here. A short summary is given below.</p> <p>Number</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four operations with whole numbers, decimal numbers, proper and improper fractions, mixed numbers and negative numbers • Factors and multiples, prime factors. HCF & LCM. Powers and roots • Order of operations (BIDMAS) • Rounding and significant figures • Standard form (Level 3 only) • Percentages and fractions including percentage increase calculations • Measures (length, mass, time, money, capacity) • Ratio, scale and speed problems <p>Algebra</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simplification, factorisation and expanding brackets • Substitution and rearranging formulae • Writing and solving equations • Create graphs of linear and quadratic (Level 3) equations • Simultaneous equations (algebraically and graphically) (Level 3) • Sequences (including nth term of an arithmetic sequence) • Solving linear inequalities and simple quadratic (Level 3) equations <p>Geometry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perimeter and area of 2D shapes including circles. • Volume of prisms (Level 3) • Transformations • Angle laws, angles in parallel lines, angles in polygons • Pythagoras' theorem (Level 3) • Construction: triangles, perpendicular bisectors, perpendicular lines, angles bisectors • Bearings <p>Additional topics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Probability of single and combined events • Grouped data (pie charts, bar charts, frequency tables, scatter graphs, conversion graphs) <p>Pupils should use the WCCS Maths Anthology with worked examples to support their revision</p>
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For more information about mathematics contact Delphine Riviere or Dominic Hudson.

Email driviere@choirschool.com dhudson@choirschool.com

Curriculum Overview

Year 8	Subject – English	Terms – Lent & Trinity
Topics covered	<p>Class texts <i>Great Expectations</i> – Charles Dickens <i>Lord of the Flies</i> – William Golding <i>Hamlet</i> – William Shakespeare <i>Decline and Fall</i> – Evelyn Waugh</p> <p>Comprehension (prose and poetry) Boys will be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • find information or ideas • identify meaning beyond the literal • explain the writer’s choice of words (verbs, adjectives, adverbs) and imagery (similes, metaphors, personification) • write under timed conditions • identify all parts of speech and comment on their use • analyse the text as a whole • select short quotations and embed them correctly <p>Composition Boys will be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describe characters • create a vivid and clear setting • base ideas on personal experience • use a wide range of literary devices (similes, metaphors, onomatopoeia) and a broad vocabulary • develop a simple plot with a short time frame • use a range of sentences and sentence lengths • be original in their response to a written or visual prompt • demonstrate their ability to correctly use a range of punctuation marks <p>Essay writing Boys should</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • know <i>Great Expectations</i>, <i>Lord of the Flies</i>, <i>Hamlet</i> and/or <i>Decline and Fall</i> well and be able to refer to key events, themes, comment on characters and provide some specific quotations • structure essays clearly and offer their own opinions • use a variety of punctuation marks correctly and spell words accurately • be able to answer a range of questions. (The questions will be broad in nature and will focus on what makes the texts enjoyable, on the characters in the text or on its themes) 	
Lent assessments	<p>In the Lent term there will be a 35-minute Shakespeare comprehension assessment</p>	

For more information about English contact Lucinda Higgle or Ed Graham.

Email lhiggle@choirschool.com

egramham@choirschool.com

Curriculum Overview

Year 8	Subject – Science	Terms – Lent & Trinity
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Topics covered	<p>Revision of CE 13+ syllabus</p> <p>Biology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cells and cell functions • Humans as organisms (nutrition, movement, reproduction, breathing, respiration, health) • Green plants as organisms (nutrition and growth, respiration) • Variation, classification and inheritance <p>Chemistry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classifying materials (solids, liquids and gases; elements, compounds and mixtures) • Changing materials (physical changes, chemical reactions) • Patterns of behaviour (metals, acids and bases) <p>Physics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electricity and magnetism • Forces, motion and density • Light and sound • The earth and beyond • Energy resources and energy transfers
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For more information about science contact Beth Marshall or Sarah Pope.

Email bmarshall@choirschool.com spope@choirschool.com

Curriculum Overview

Year 8	Subject – French	Term – Lent & Trinity
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Topics covered	<p>Vocabulary – unlimited possibilities but focus within these topics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal description, family, friends and pets • House, home, daily routine and chores • Life and work at school • Free time, holiday activities, meeting people • Visiting a café, restaurant • Simple health problems • Description of a town, shopping • Directions, tourist information • Weather, environment • Time, dates, numbers, prices <p>All of the vocabulary topics can be found in the blue French vocabulary book</p> <p>Grammar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present tense of regular and common irregular verbs • Future tense (aller + infinitive and simple future) • Question forms (qui, quand, pourquoi etc. + est-ce que) • Past tenses (perfect and / or imperfect) • Gender and plural of common nouns • Definite and indefinite articles • Agreement and position of adjectives • Common adverbs • Possessive articles (mon, ma, mes, son, sa, ses, leurs, nos etc.) • Common prepositions and conjunctions • Infinitives after <i>il faut</i> • Negative expressions • Pronouns (subject, reflexive, relative, disjunctive) • Numerals
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For more information about French contact Anna Rippe.

Email arippe@choirschool.com

Curriculum Overview

Year 8A	Subject – Classics	Term – Lent & Trinity
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Topics covered	<p>Text Book – <i>Latin for Common Entrance Three</i> by N.R.R. Oulton</p> <p>Grammar and syntax</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irregular verbs: fero, nolo, volo • Pronouns: idem, alius, totus and ipse • Participles: present and perfect passive • Imperfect subjunctive active • Purpose clauses and indirect commands • Dum <p>Vocabulary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All words Chapters 1-7 in textbook <p>Classical Civilisation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roma caput mundi • Ancient models for empire
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For more information about classics contact Matthew Wright.

Email mwright@choirschool.com

Curriculum Overview

Year 8W	Subject – Classics	Term – Lent & Trinity
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Topics covered	<p>Text Book – <i>Latin for Common Entrance Two</i> by N.R.R. Oulton</p> <p>Grammar and syntax</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irregular verbs: possum, eo, noli • Reflexive pronouns and adjectives: se/suus • Connectives: nam, igitur, itaque & autem • Revision of all Level 1 and Level 2 language material <p>Vocabulary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All words Chapters 1-10 in textbook <p>Classical Civilisation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roma caput mundi • Ancient models for empire
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For more information about classics contact Matthew Wright.

Email mwright@choirschool.com

Curriculum Overview

Year 8	Subject – Religious Studies	Term – Lent & Trinity
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Topics covered	<p>Lent term</p> <p>Textbook – Section 3</p> <p>Preparing for section 3 of the Common Entrance paper, The Church and Sacraments</p> <p>Topic 1: Church and Life</p> <p>The Birth and Life of the Church</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Roman Church and the continental/English Reformation • The Pope and Church authority • Prayer: types and purpose <p>The Liturgical Year and Devotion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lent and the Stations of the Cross • Holy Week and Easter <p>Topic 2: The Sacramental Life Community Life in the Church</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marriage and the family • Charity: work of Catholic charities and agencies • Laity: role in the community and in the parish • Issues of life and death: euthanasia and war • Attitudes to non-Christian world religions <p>Trinity term</p> <p>Boys will revise everything covered in the Common Entrance syllabus ready for their exams.</p> <p>Boys will be expected to know all topics covered in Year 7. See online ISEB Religious Studies Theology, Philosophy and Religion (TPR) Roman Catholicism syllabus for a full list of topics included in the Common Entrance exam</p>
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For more information about Religious Studies contact Emily Auger or Ivo MacGreevy.

Email eauger@choirschool.com

imacgreevy@choirschool.com

Curriculum Overview

Year 8	Subject – History	Term – Lent & Trinity
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Topics covered	Textbook – Britain and Empire 1750-1914 (Bob Pace) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agricultural and industrial revolution• Social and industrial reforms• Public health• Abolition of slavery• Prison reform• Victorian England• The British Empire• The road to war
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For more information about history contact Ivo MacGreevy or Mimi Trevelyan-Davis.

Email imagreevy@choirschool.com

mtd@choirschool.com

Curriculum Overview

Year 8	Subject – Art	Term – Lent
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Topics covered	<p>Lent term</p> <p>Art in the modern world</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Avant-Garde and the techniques of 20th century artists • The technique of observational drawing • How to capture the school <p>Theatre Design</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theatre design project – study the history of theatre design • Theatre design in the modern years – The art of the Ballet Russes • How to design a set design including the white card model technique • Create a set, props and a poster design for <i>Hamlet</i>
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For more information about art contact Emily Auger.

Email eauger@choirschool.com

Curriculum Overview / Revision Guide

Year 8	Subject – Class Music	Term –Trinity
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Topics covered	<p>Year 8 Play – Performance in Practice Performed and directed by students Music written by boys</p> <p>Performance Year 8 Play Orchestra Gallery Choir</p>	
Trinity exam details	Exam format	No exam
	Further revision required	n/a

For more information about music contact Josh Cleary.

Email jcleary@choirschool.com

Curriculum Overview

Year 8	Subject – Geography	Term – Lent & Trinity
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Topics covered	<p>Earthquakes and volcanoes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the layers of the Earth and how are they different? • What is the theory of plate tectonics? • What are the different plate boundaries and how do they work? • Case study – the Haiti Earthquake: causes, effects and responses • Case study – the White Island volcanic eruption: causes, effects and responses <p>Coursework</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isle of Arran / Tate Modern fieldtrips and projects <p>Revision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location knowledge • Map skills • Settlement and population (case study: London’s Olympic Park) • Weather and climate • Rivers and coasts (case study: flooding in Bangladesh) • Industry and transport (case studies: Halifax, Nike, Heathrow Airport) • Earthquakes and volcanoes (case studies: Haiti Earthquake and White Island Volcano)
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For more information about geography contact Jon Jenkins.

Email jjenkins@choirschool.com