TURTON

Year 7 Summer Update

A Summer update on what year 7 pupils have been learning this term. This newsletter in full of ideas to keep you busy over summer and exciting opportunities for September! Additional information about the Scholars' curriculum is in brackets. All of our knowledge organisers, detailing our curriculum are here: https://www.turton.uk.com/ks3revision/

- **English**: Identity Poetry
- **Maths**: Constructions, Geometric Reasoning, Number Sense, Sets & Probability, Prime Numbers & Proofs
- **Science:** Plant Cells & Reproduction, Separating Mixtures, Earth and Space *(comparing eukaryotic and prokaryotic cells, magnification)*
- **History:** The Tudors, religion under the Tudors, the reign of Elizabeth I *(Armada, Mary Queen of Scots, marriage and succession)*
- **Faith & Ethics**: Christianity, the Trinity, creation *(Spinoza and Leibniz)*
- **Geography**: Russia *(why is Russia important- Conflict and Ecosystems)*
- **Spanish**: Free Time *(French: Free Time, Latin: Stage 4 – Dei, Stage 5 – Aqua)*
- **Drama**: Stansislavski, Realism, Blue Remembered Hills *(Magic If, Emotional Memory)*
- **PE**: Fitness training
- **Music**: Samba & Rhythm, Instruments of the Orchestra, Keyboard Performance
- **Technology**: Industrial Revolution, fibres & fabrics, healthy eating, properties of woods
- **Art**: The Renaissance Revolution, telling stories, portraiture and symbolism *(Foreshortening, Sarah Graham, Frida Kahlo, fresco)*
- **Computing**: Programmes, sequence, selection, iteration *(Python, abstraction, Boolean)*

Why Attendance Matters - FOMO

Think one day off won't make a difference? Every absence creates a learning gap that's hard to bridge, impacting your child's confidence and future options. Their best chance of success starts with being here, every single day. If you need support to get your child into school, reach out to us.

Miss Barlow (Attendance Lead)

A job well done

I have been impressed so far with the conduct and work ethic of the majority of year 7 as I've been getting to know them. So many of the students are setting the bar very high and are becoming brilliant ambassadors for their community. I'm looking forward to continuing working with them in year 8 and seeing their progression.

Mr Lomax (Head of Year 7)

Learning top tip #3

Flash cards are one of the simplest, but most effective, revision tools. They are small cards with a question, picture or prompt on one side, and the answer or information on the other. To use them well you need to make them yourself and then test yourself by speaking the answers out loud. You can also get friends and family to test you.

Top Tip: *make a pile of flashcards you get wrong and keep practising until you have no cards left in this pile*

Mrs Lane (Assistant Head)

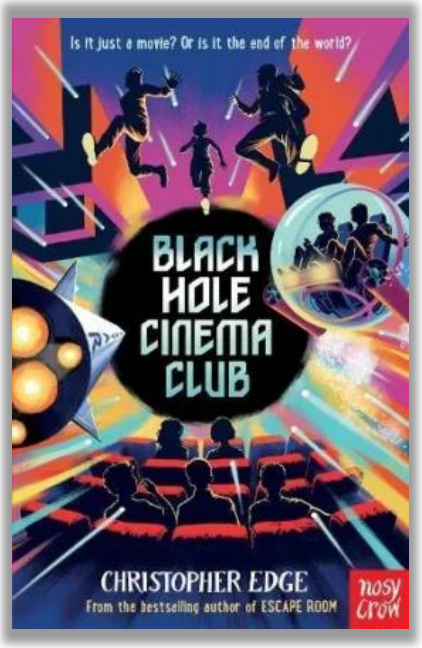
Curiosity Question - PE

Imagine you want to jump as high as a superhero. Which muscles do you think you'd have to train the hardest?

Mr Gilroy – (PE Teacher)

Recommends

Black Hole Cinema Club by Christopher Edge

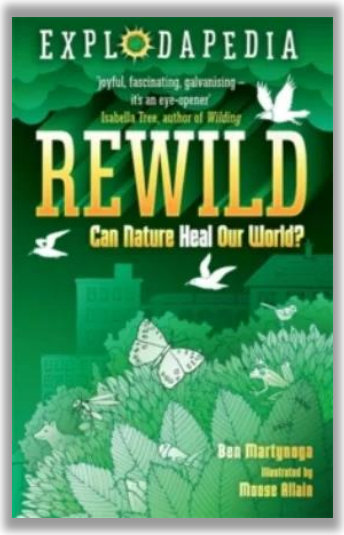


Fans of action and time travel will find just what they are looking for in Hunt for the Golden Scarab. Sim and his mum never live anywhere long. When dangerous strangers appear one night, Sim discovers why. His mum has been keeping secrets: she has the power to open doors in time.

Running for their lives, Sim and his friends are determined to outwit the sinister Council of Keys and be the first to find Nefertiti's lost tomb and a powerful door to Ancient Egypt. They must piece together long-hidden clues if they are to solve the mystery of her golden heart scarab.

Can they find it before the Council finds them? Why not find out!

Explodapedia: Rewild by Ben Martynoga



For students who are interested in reversing the effects of climate change, this book is all about the solutions rewilding offers and how we can make it happen.

The book explores everything from the benefits of bringing back beavers, wolves and even mammoths, due to their places in food chains and work they do, to rewilding the sea, to planting the right trees in the right places.

It's all explained brilliantly with amusing illustrations by Moose Allain plus cartoon questions from a child and a particularly helpful know-it-all fungus who answers them. So, although it's a heavy subject, it feels like a light read with no prior knowledge needed.

Pop into the library to check out these exciting titles. Mrs Taylor (Librarian)

Jump in

Just to let you know about some of the marvellous things going on in September 2025 that pupils can get involved in to really make the most of their time at Turton. A full timetable of activities can be found here: https://www.turton.uk.com/afterschool/

Climate Action Group: All Years, 3-4pm Monday (SC5)
Come along and help develop the school to combat climate change and increase our biodiversity!
Dr Hopper (Science Teacher)

School Production: ***Rehearsals: Full Cast (Monday 3:00 – 4:30pm) & Main Roles (Thursday 3:00 – 4:30pm) – Arts Theatre***

School Production starts in September and it will be a musical! This is open to all year groups. Lead role auditions will be held soon. To join the chorus or take on a smaller part, no audition is required. Miss Bimpson (Drama Teacher)

Music Production Group – Wednesday 3 – 4.15pm (MU1) - Create your own sounds with professional music producers

School Orchestra – Thursday 3 – 4pm (Arts Theatre or MU1) - Everyone is welcome – any instrument, any standard.

Miss Semmens (Music Teacher)

Spotlight: A-level Biology

Each term we'll spotlight an A-level course at Turton, just in case pupils are wondering where excellent learning can take them. Information about all courses is available in our prospectus here: http://www.turtonsixthform.uk.com/

Mrs Bali (Head of Sixth Form)

Biology

Why study Biology?

The Biology course considers applications which draw on many areas of Biology, and then moves onto the biological concepts underlying these applications. Over the two years you will develop both analytical skills and a depth of knowledge that interweaves various units. Our students are able to devise practicals and explain data using scientific ideas. They then will apply their vast knowledge to detailed longer biological questions. We have a varied and exciting programme of study with an emphasis on practical skills, which allows us to visit Arran or Ainsdale to study field work and succession. We also visit Manchester University to complete Gel Electrophoresis.

The course follows the latest breakthroughs in science and the medical profession and this allows our students to develop a deep understanding of the scientific world around them.

Where does it lead?

As a highly respected academic course, Biology is valued at the top universities. Our students go on to study a range of degrees and courses including: Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Biomedical Sciences, Nursing, Environmental Sciences, Physiotherapy, Veterinary Science, Geographical Science, Psychology, Nutrition, Forensic Science, Optometry, Paramedics and many other areas.

What does it go well with?

Biology will fit well with Chemistry and Maths. However, many of our students also study PE, Geography and Psychology.

Requirements

Biology: Grade 6 or Trilogy Science: Grades 6 6.

The Course

A-LEVEL

You will follow the AQA A-level Biology course and study 8 key core concepts:

AS:

Students study four of these topics in year 12.

1. Biological molecules
Proteins, carbohydrates, lipids and nucleic acids.

2. Cells
Cell structure, cell division in prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells.

3. Organisms exchange substances with their environment
Digestion, gas exchange, mass transport in both animals and plants.

4. Genetic information, variation and relationship between organisms
DNA structure, protein synthesis, genetic diversity and biodiversity.

A-Level:

In addition to the above units, students will study a further four topics in year 13.

5. Energy transfers in and between organisms
Photosynthesis, respiration, ecosystems and nutrient cycles

6. Organisms respond to changes in their internal and external environments
Homeostasis, muscles and nervous system

7. Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
Inheritance and population

8. The control of gene expression
Gene technology and control of gene expression

There will be three two hour exams with 76 marks for short answer questions and 15 marks for extended questions. Paper 3 will also include one essay question worth 25 marks.

Mrs Kotwal

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"The potential for synthetic biology and biotechnology is vast; we all have an opportunity to create the future together." - **Ryan Bethencourt**