

TURTON

Year 8 Christmas Update

A Christmas update on what year 8 pupils have been learning this term, just in case they have entirely stopped talking to you by now and only have Christmas on the mind! 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:** The Flawed Self, Othello, Aristotle's Tragic Hero, The Fundamentals of Drama
- **Maths:** Ratio and scale, multiplicative change, Cartesian plane, multiplying and dividing fractions
- **Science:** Nutrition and Digestion Acids and Alkalis and Electricity (*Treating Heart Disease*),
- **History:** Early modern, Industry/Empire and Civil rights
- **Faith & Ethics:** Sikhism and Sikh Ethics (*Utilitarianism, Deontology, Metaphysics*)
- **Geography:** Ecosystems, Coasts and Coral
- **Spanish:** Free Time, Talking about activities and sports (**French:** *Talking about fashion and clothes, describing your house, Describing your town*) (**Latin:** *Nominative, Accusative and Ablative, prepositions, learning about the life of slaves in Roman times.*)
- **Drama:** Macbeth, soliloquy, naturalism (*Soliloquy analysis & Stanislavski's objectives*)
- **PE:** Health and well-being, diet for performer
- **Computing:** Image representation, manipulation and user interfaces (*Web Interfaces & HTML/CSS*)
- **Music:** Performing and Composing film music, Blues, Keyboard practical
- **Technology:** construction techniques/Staple foods/sewing machines and application of colour
- **Art:** Impressionism, Post-Impressionism



"A winner is a dreamer that never gives up"

Nelson Mandela



Why Attendance Matters – All Year

Full attendance in the weeks leading up to Christmas is essential. Lessons will continue as normal, key topics are taught, and absences at this stage can make January more challenging. Consistent attendance also supports students' wellbeing by maintaining routine and engagement. Please help by promoting good attendance at home. Enjoy the Christmas break from Friday 19th December.

Miss Barlow (Attendance Lead)



A Year 8 Christmas message

Coming to the end of a long-term year 8 have shown resilience and perseverance. I want to also emphasise the importance of regular attendance. Being present in school is crucial for ensuring excellent achievement and making the most of the learning opportunities available. Let's work together to support our students in making this year a successful one.

We hope they enjoy a well-earned break and I look forward to seeing how they approach the new year.

Mr Lomax (Head of Year 8)

Learning top tip #4 - FOCUS

How to focus when revising? It seems like an easy question but many pupils struggle to focus on their revision and yet become masters in all forms of procrastination. The best tip to help you focus is to **break revision into manageable chunks**. Making a **revision timetable** can really help with this so you do not get overwhelmed. Also have a **set place to revise** that is away from other **distractions such as your phone**.

Top Tip: The **Forest app** allows you to stay focused by planting an electronic tree. Your tree will grow while you focus on your work. Leaving the app halfway will cause your tree to die.

Mrs Lane (Assistant Head)

MON	TUE	WED	THU
4:00pm / MATHS - HISTOGRAMS	4:00pm / TECH - MATRICES	4:00pm / MATHS - AREA VOLUME	4:00pm / HISTORY - NAPOLEON
4:30pm / MATHS - QUADRATIC EQUATIONS			
5:00pm /	5:00pm /	5:00pm /	5:00pm /
5:30pm / GEOG - POLYMERIZATION	5:30pm /	5:30pm / GEOG - POLYMERIZATION	5:30pm /
6:00pm /	6:00pm / GEOG - POLYMERIZATION	6:00pm /	6:00pm /

Curiosity Question

Which US state with two names stretches the farthest South?

Geography Department

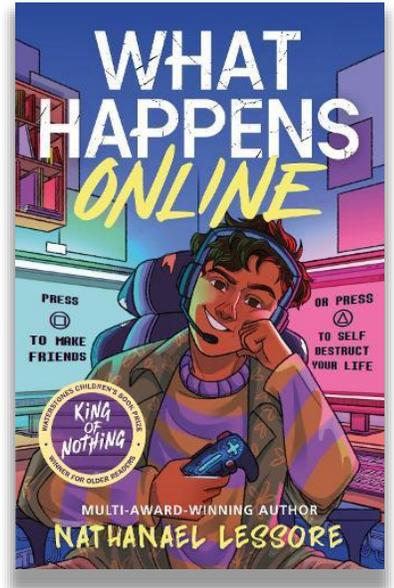
Recommends

What Happens Online by Nathaniel Lessore

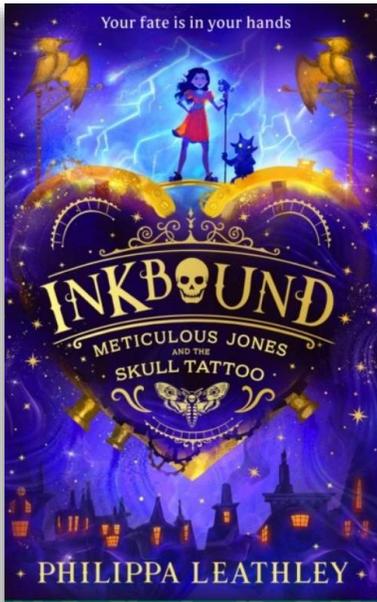
Existor is the most popular guy in school. Fred is the loser with no friends. And nobody knows they're the same person.

Online, Fred's alter ego is the best gamer around - constantly on a winning streak, with tonnes of followers, and the confidence to go with it. But offline, Fred's life is miserable. His dad's always working, his mum's struggling, and at school, everyone looks straight through him.

Soon, Fred is coming up with over the top rumours about his classmates, and everyone's lapping it up.. But it's a slippery slope and Fred struggles to keep track of all the stuff he's posted as his lies start to wreak unexpected havoc.



Inkbound by Philippa Leathly



On her tenth birthday, Meticulous 'Metty' Jones receives her fate, as all children do, in the form of a magical tattoo on her hand. She hopes that her tattoo will reveal an exciting destiny: travel, discovery or adventure. What appears is a skull in the palm of a violet glove – Metty's fate is to be a murderer.

When Metty's father disappears in mysterious circumstances, Aunt Magnificent takes her to the glittering city of New London, filled with magic, wonder and enchantment.

But when Metty hears rumours of a shadowy organisation known as the Black Moths, she begins to suspect they are connected to her own dark fate ...

This magical adventure is a great read for a winter's evening. Let me know what you think! Mrs Taylor (Librarian)

Jump in

Just to let you know about some of the marvellous things going on during January 2026 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)

PE Department: Thursday, 3 – 4pm

Dance, Basketball and Table Tennis – (PE Staff)



Spotlight: A-level – History

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)



The Course

A-LEVEL

History



You will follow the AQA course and study:

A. Paper 1 – Tsarist Russia 1855-1964

B. Paper 2 – The Making of Modern Britain 1951-2007

Each exam paper will be 2.5 hours long and will contain one compulsory source question and two essay questions from a choice of topics. Each paper is worth 40% of your final A level grade.

C. Non-Examined Assessment – The development of civil rights in USA

In addition to the two exam papers, you will also complete an extended essay of approximately 4500 words. This is worth 20% of your final A level grade.

"I like learning about History as it allows me to develop my understanding about the global consequences of events through time. I also like the idea that we can prevent wrongdoings from happening again, all thanks to learning about History." - Erin Gardiner

Why study History?

This course allows you to develop an in depth understanding of the recent history of three global superpowers. We examine the different events that shaped the nations of Russia, Britain and the USA. Studying History also develops your analytical, evaluative and comparative skills, as well as refining your style of written communication. History students are insightful, intelligent and articulate.

Results are fantastic and are consistently amongst the top performing departments in the country.

Where does it lead?

History is a facilitating subject that is well respected by top universities. It opens doors to many different career paths with our alumni studying a range of degrees and courses such as Humanities, Law, Medicine, Finance and Art.

Our students often go to the top Russell Group universities e.g. Oxford, Cambridge, LSE, UCL...

What does it go well with?

History is a facilitating subject so will fit well with any others. However, many of our students also study G&P, English, Economics and Social Sciences.

Requirements

Ideally you will have a 5 or higher at GCSE History. However, if you have not done History at GCSE it is possible to still take it at A level if you have a 6 or higher in English.

"Studying History has allowed me to better understand the 21st century and to see what has shaped modern events. I like how we study a range of historical interpretations, how these emerge and the reasons people have these views." - Lexie Horrocks

Mrs Eccles



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