

TURTON

Year 9 Christmas Update

A Christmas update on what year 9 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:** Conflict, The Fundamentals of Poetry, Letters of War (*Orwell, Blake, Byron, Shelley*)
- **Maths:** Forming and solving an equation, plotting linear and non-linear graphs, testing conjectures and financial Maths.
- **Science:** Inheritance, Variation & Selection, Atomic Structure & Forces (*gravitation fields*).
- **History:** Rise of Dictators, Holocaust, WW2 and Cold War
- **Faith&Ethics:** Islamic Practices: The 5 pillars of Islam. Christian Practices
- **Geography:** Planet Earth, Human Populations, Hazards
- **Spanish:** Present tense review, Future activities at home, Talking about TV
- (*French: Talking about mobile phone use; using direct object pronouns; using three-time frames*)
- **Drama:** Devising: Responding to a Stimulus, John Godber 'Teachers' from page to stage, Interpreting a Script
- **PE:** The muscular system **Dance:** Alvin Ailey's Revelations, exploring repertoire, stimuli, intent and motif development
- **Computing:** Python Programming
- **Music:** Britpop, Music Production, Genre Performance and Composition
- **Technology:** Plastic & metal processes, pattern, processes and production, cake making techniques
- **Art:** Marine Conservation, Bauhaus design



"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)



Christmas Message to Year 9

I am delighted to share that our Year 9 students have got off to a strong start this academic year! This year, students will have the exciting opportunity to choose their options, which will shape their educational paths ahead. I want to 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.

Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to celebrating our achievements together throughout the year!

Mr Sykes (Head of Year 9)

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
8:00pm MATHS - HISTORICALS	8:00pm TECH - MATHEMATICS	8:00pm MATHS - AREA & VOLUME	8:00pm HISTORICALS
8:30pm MATHS - QUADRATICS & FREQUENCY			
5:00pm	5:00pm	5:00pm	5:00pm
5:30pm GEOG - POPULATION	5:30pm GEOG - POPULATION	5:30pm ECONOMICS	5:30pm GEOG - POPULATION
6:00pm GEOG - POPULATION	6:00pm GEOG - POPULATION	6:00pm ECONOMICS	6:00pm GEOG - POPULATION

Curiosity Question

Which two wives did Henry VIII divorce? Which one survived? Which two died?

History Department

Recommends

Glasgow Boys by Margaret McDonald

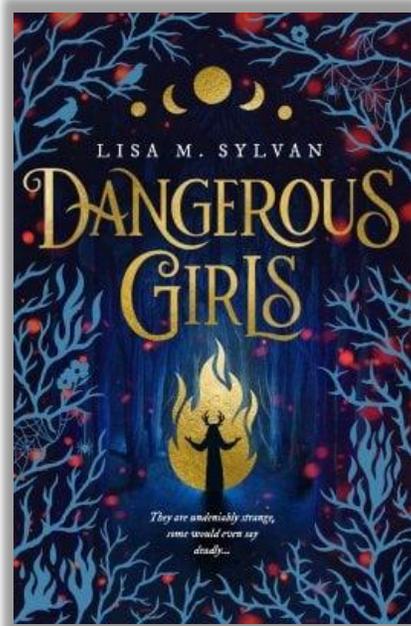
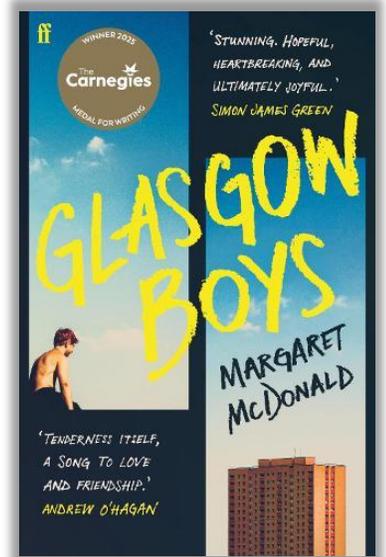
Meet Finlay. He's studying for his nursing degree at Glasgow University, against all the odds. But coming straight from care means he has no support network.

How can he write essays, find paid work and NOT fall for the beautiful boy at Uni, when he's struggling to even feed himself?

Meet Banjo. He's trying to settle in with his new foster family and finish high school. But he can't forget all that has happened, and his anger and fear keep boiling over.

How can he hold on to the one good person in his life, when his outbursts keep threatening his already uncertain future?

This award-winning novel has relatable characters and leaves the reader filled with hope.



Dangerous Girls by Lisa M. Sylvan

Imogen Brine is undeniably strange. Some would even say dangerous.

She can make poisonous flowers grow from her fingertips and her "gift" is becoming harder to control.

However, not long after her arrival, a deer is found dead with poisonous flowers growing from its corpse. And all eyes are on Imogen.

Imogen knows she's been set up. Something on the island feels wrong – and it isn't just the friction with the other girls or the growing tension between her and the son of the island's head of security, Jack. As strange occurrences continue to rock the island, some more dangerous than others, Imogen realizes she will have to work quickly to learn what's causing them.

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 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 Spanish

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)



Spanish



Why study Spanish?

In terms of global importance Spanish is on the increase with more native speakers than English which equates to better job prospects for those that study it. Not only will Spanish students be improving their chances of being accepted to Russell group universities, but they will also be provided with the opportunity to broaden their horizons and develop an insight into a fascinating culture and society. Students will develop their language and grammatical understanding of the subject through a carefully selected curriculum delivered with an aim to promote independence and a love of languages.

Where does it lead?

Many pupils who continue onto university with a Spanish A level have the exciting and enhancing opportunity to study abroad as part of their degree. In professional terms Spanish speakers are invaluable to many industries and organisations including, but not limited to: sport, cinema (dubbing films), interpreting for social services and working for government agencies including the royal army and the EU.

What does it go well with?

Spanish will fit well with any subject however it is particularly complemented by English Literature as the subject reinforces the skills needed to successfully produce analytical essays in Spanish. History and Government and politics are also a good combination with Spanish as they are essay based and cover themes which are studied across the two years of Spanish.

Requirements

Spanish: Grade 6 & English: Grade 5

The Course

A-LEVEL

You will follow the AQA course and study:

Paper 1:

Aspects of Hispanic society including the changing nature of the family and the impact of technology as well as the influence of artistic culture in the Hispanic world.

Paper 2:

A film (year 1) and a book (year 2).

Paper 3:

Oral discussion of a subtheme and presentation of individual research project.

There will be a two and a half hour exam with listening, reading and writing questions, a two hour essay question paper and a fifteen minute oral exam (with an additional five minute preparation time).

"I think it's important to learn Spanish because it exposes you to new cultures and customs. Studying Spanish has opened my eyes to the idea of doing a year abroad at university to embrace the cultures and societies I have studied." - Josh B



Mr Maguire



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One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way. - Frank Smith