

TURTON

Year 8 Easter Update

An Easter 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 chocolate eggs 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:** Lord of the Flies, extracts from: A Christmas Carol, Animal Farm, 1984, The Hunger Games, (*The Road, Never Let Me Go*)
- **Maths:** Brackets, equations and inequalities, fractional and percentage equivalence, standard form & sequences and indices
- **Science:** Respiration, Metals and Non-Metals and Heat Transfer (*All greater depth*)
- **History:** Early Modern, Industry & Empire, and Civil Rights
- **Faith & Ethics:** Social Justice and Equality: Racism. (*Rene Descartes, Political Philosophy*)
- **Geography:** African Biomes, urbanisation and development in Africa (*biomes and place studies*)
- **Spanish:** Where I live (**French:** Town, **Latin:** Britannia)
- **Drama:** Live Theatre Review, Curious Incident Of The Dog In The Night-Time, Theatre Design
- **PE:** Joints for movement, Diet for performers
- **Computing:** Image manipulation and user interfaces
- **Music:** Blues Music & Chord patterns, Film Composition (part 2)
- **Technology:** Dyeing & techniques, food provenance, construction & finishing methods
- **Art:** Linear perspective, (*complex perspective and viewpoints, abstraction*)



"The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall"

Nelson Mandela



Why Attendance Matters

At Turton School, attendance and punctuality remain a key priority, helping students make the most of every opportunity and prepare for life beyond school. This term, we've focused on building strong routines, highlighting how regular attendance, punctuality, and consistency support future success. We have been helping students to understand what attendance percentages really mean. For example, 90% attendance means around 19 days missed—nearly four weeks of learning. We appreciate the ongoing support of parents and carers in helping students develop these important habits.

Miss Barlow (Attendance Lead)

A job well done

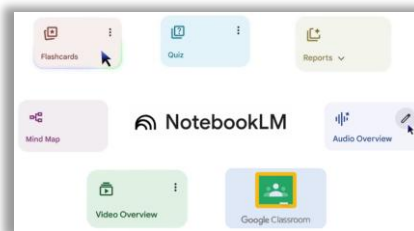
I'm really proud of the effort many of year 8 are showing every day, keep it up! Excellent attendance is key to your success, so make sure you're in school every day and ready to learn. Wearing your uniform correctly shows pride in yourselves and our school, and it helps create a positive environment for everyone. Being organised with your equipment means you can focus fully in lessons and make the most of every opportunity. Let's keep pushing forward together and aim even higher this term!

Mr Lomax (Head of Year 8)



Learning top tip #6 - AI Powered Revision

AI is best used when it is using your mind maps and flash cards. Notebook LM is a great for uploading your revision materials (flash cards, mind maps, class notes). It can then use this information to create revision materials such as quiz questions, audio overviews and mind maps. Also make sure to think critically because AI can be wrong and double checking will help you revise!



Mrs Lane (Assistant Head)

Curiosity Question – IT

Could you be friends with a robot?



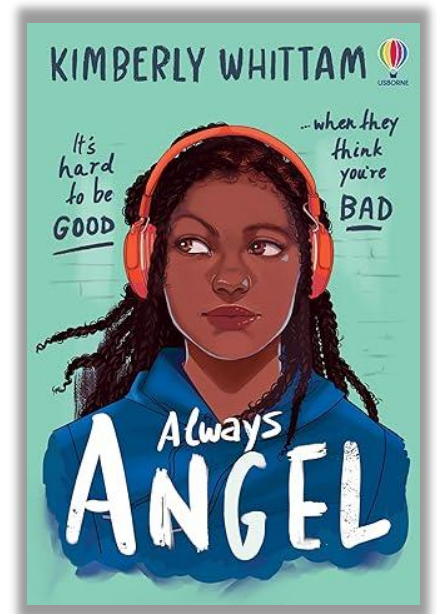
Recommends

Always Angel by Kimberly Whittam

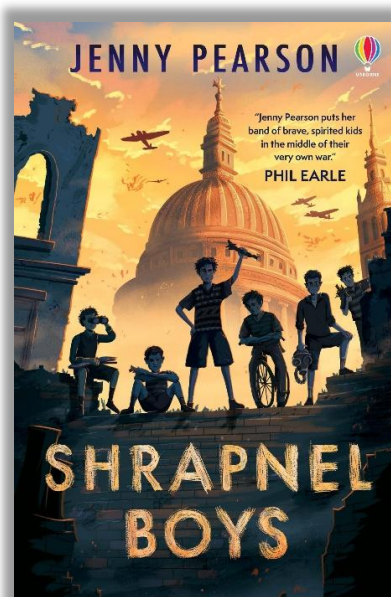
Angel finds school hard.

She talks back to teachers, she storms out of lessons, and she's had more detentions than any other Year 8 student...ever. But really, Angel wants to be good. She wants to fit in, she wants to make friends, and she even wants to win the school baking contest. But it's hard to be good when everyone expects the worst. And with her mum not well enough to look after her, and Angel making more and more bad choices, she's starting to run out of chances...

Fans of *Quiet Storm* will love this new book from Kimberly Whittam.



Shrapnel Boys by Jenny Pearson



There's a war going on out there, and I'm missing it.

When war comes to London in 1939, Ronnie Smith is scared and excited: scared of the bombs that fall at night, but excited to race his friends to collect the best bits of shrapnel every morning.

But for Ronnie, the battles aren't just in the sky and on the streets. They're at school and at home too. His little brother is up to no good with a secret job and dangerous new friends, and Ronnie's worried he's getting himself into big trouble.

Ronnie's desperate to help his little brother. But he isn't expecting to uncover secrets that could change the fate of the whole war...

Jump in

Just to let you know about some of the marvellous things going on in April 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/>

Book Fair: All Years, Break and Lunch, (Library)

Scholastic Book Fair in the Library from **April 28th to May 2nd**. Students will be able to visit the fair at break, lunchtime and after school to browse and purchase books and stationery.

Mrs Taylor (Librarian)

Sports: Check out the summer schedule in PE to see what you could get involved in this term. (PE Department)



Spotlight: A-level – Product Design

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)



Product Design

Why study Product Design?

Design and Technology makes a unique contribution to the development of young people by preparing them to participate in, think about and to intervene creatively to improve the quality of tomorrow's rapidly changing technologies.

AQA's new GCE specification in Product Design provides candidates with exciting opportunities to develop their capabilities through combining their designing and making skills with knowledge and understanding, creating quality outcomes and becoming informed users of products.

Our students are enthusiastic, well read and become fully committed to the subject. Results are excellent and above the national average for this course.

Where does it lead?

This is a well-respected course, valued at the top design universities. Our students go on to study a range of degrees and courses including Fashion Design, Marketing, Retail & Manufacturing, Product Design, Architecture and a wide range of Engineering routes.

Past students are now employed in education, marketing, retail, manufacturing, design houses and the media.

What does it go well with?

Product Design will fit well with any subject. However, many of our students also study Science, Maths, Art and Graphics.

Requirements

Technology, Art, Graphics at GCSE Grade 5 or Technical Award at Merit.

"Turn your ideas into physical products through many skills that you learn as you progress, whether welding, using electronics or much more. You can also choose to focus on the subject areas you are aiming to get into after college meaning the skills you develop, aren't just learnt to pass an exam. They are life skills." - Jude Turnbull

The Course

A-LEVEL

You will follow the AQA course and study:

Technical principles:

- Materials and their applications
- The requirements for Product Design, development and manufacture
- Design communication
- Digital design and manufacture
- Efficient use of materials
- Health and safety

Designing and making principles:

- Design methods and processes
- Design theory
- How technology and cultural changes can impact on the work of designers
- Design processes
- Critical analysis and evaluation
- Selecting appropriate specialist tools, techniques and processes
- Accuracy in design and manufacture
- How to evaluate products taking account the views of potential users
- Responsible design
- The characteristics and working properties of materials
- Performance characteristics of materials
- The use of adhesives and fixings
- The use of surface finishes and coatings
- Forming, redistribution and addition processes

There will be two exams with a mixture of short answer, multiple choice and extended responses.

Paper 1 (2.5hrs): core technical principles (30% of final mark).

Paper 2 (1.5hrs): Designing and making principles (20% of final mark).

Non-exam assessment: consists of a design and make activity of your choosing for a client. (50% of final mark)



Miss Clare



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"Design is not just what it looks like and feels like. Design is how it works." - Steve Jobs

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