

Year 8 Home Learning Autumn 2

	What are students learning in lessons?	Home Learning tasks to expect (compulsory) - parents will be able to view these on Edulink	Frequency and Amount	Main Purpose of the tasks set	Enrichment Home Learning (optional): Big Questions for discussion at the Dinner Table.	Enrichment Home Learning (optional): Read/ Watch/ Listen.
Maths	Working with fractions	Digital Platform - Sparx	30 mins Weekly	Retrieval practice	• Was maths invented by humans, or discovered in nature? • Can you actually count to a billion? • Is it ever smart to buy a lottery ticket?	• Watch: Hannah Fry's Magic Numbers - Mysterious World of Maths (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bhqUTKX6P9c&t=2618s) • Watch: Hannah Fry's The Secret Genius of Modern Life (IPlayer). • Watch: An oldie but a goodie: Disney - Donald Duck in Mathmagic Land https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8BqnN72OlqA&t=1332s; • Book: Simon Singh, The Simpsons and Their Mathematical Secrets
English	How can I develop my writing skills?	Digital Platform - Bedrock - Grammar and Vocabulary	30 mins Weekly	To deepen, extend or enrich knowledge	• Is Odysseus' journey just a story?	• Like a Girl by Rebecca Westcott • Wink by Rob Harrell • I Must Betray You by Ruta Sepetys • Chinese Cinderella by Adeline Yen Mah • The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins • Lockwood & Co. by Jonathan Stroud • Girl Missing by Sophie McKenzie
Science	How can a tiny pressure make a huge difference?	Digital Platform - Educake	30 mins Weekly	Retrieval practice	• How can something invisible carry sound, light and information?	• BBC Sounds - https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/w3cswvx1 • RI Christmas Lecture https://www.rigb.org/christmas-lectures • IOP - https://www.google.com/search?q=https://spark.iop.org/forces-and-motion

French	8.1.2 – Quelles seraient mes vacances de rêve? What would be my dream holiday?	Vocab Test Fortnightly	30 mins Weekly	To consolidate learning and review content of current topic	•Who owns a language?	•Book: Le Petit Nicolas by René Goscinny – Short, funny stories using accessible French and introducing French school and family life. •Film: Ernest et Célestine – A gentle French animated film with clear language and useful everyday vocabulary. •TV programme: Extra French – A beginner-friendly French series designed for language learners, with simple dialogue and subtitles. •Music: Listen to French songs by Kids United, then try to identify familiar words and phrases in the lyrics. •Website: 1jour1actu – A French news website aimed at children, with short articles and videos on current topics, making it a good way to practise reading French while learning about the world.
Spanish	8.1.2 – La escuela, ¿el mejor lugar para aprender? Is school the best place to learn?	Vocab Test Fortnightly	30 mins Weekly	To consolidate learning and review content of current topic, Retrieval practice	•Why learn a new language?	•Book: Manolito Gafotas by Elvira Lindo – A funny, accessible Spanish novel about a young boy's everyday life, family and adventures in Madrid. •Film: Coco – A colourful animated film featuring Mexican culture, family traditions and useful Spanish vocabulary. Try watching it with Spanish audio and subtitles. •TV programme: Extra en español – A beginner-friendly Spanish series designed for language learners, with simple dialogue and everyday vocabulary. •Music: Listen to songs by Álvaro Soler, Rosalía or Aitana, then try to identify familiar Spanish words and phrases in the lyrics. •Website: News in Slow Spanish – A website offering Spanish news and audio designed for learners, helping you practise listening and expand your vocabulary. BBC
Geography	How are weather and	Google Forms	30 mins Weekly	To consolidate learning and	•How does climate shape the world?	•Read: The Last Bear by Hannah Gold •Watch: 2040 (Directed by Damon Gameau) •Listen: BBC Earth Podcast

	climate different?			review content of current topic, Retrieval practice		
History	Are leaders great?	Google Forms	30 mins Weekly	To consolidate learning and review content of current topic	•Was Elizabeth I a good leader?	•Read: Maid of Secrets by Jennifer Bradbury •Watch: The Time Traveler's Guide to Elizabethan England •Listen: Homeschool History (BBC) / Episode: Queen Elizabeth I
Religious Studies	How do different religions view the use of mind altering-substance?	Research/ presentation on different religious approaches to the use of mind altering substances.	1 project for the term	To consolidate learning and review content of current topic	•How does religion shape our morals?	•Watch: BBC My Life, My Religion •Listen: BBC Radio 4: Moral Maze (Student/Introduction Edits) or Philosophy for Kids
Computing	Cybersecurity and visual design	Digital Platform - Educake	30 mins Fortnightly	To consolidate learning and review content of current topic, To deepen, extend or enrich knowledge	•Can visual layouts influence consumer choice?	•Carole Vorderman, Computing Coding for Kids •BBC documentary - Code Breakers: Bletchley Park's Lost Heroes •BBC Podcast - The Interface
Art	How emotive are landscapes?	Independent artwork in response to a given task	1 Project for the term	To deepen, extend or enrich knowledge	•Can landscapes or places prompt memories? •Is winter always bleak? •Can a landscape tell a story?	•BBC documentary: Nature and Us: A History through Art
Design Technology	What properties does wood have?	Research, recording or analysis tasks, set according to	1 Project for the term	To deepen, extend or enrich	•Why do you think wooden toys are still popular when children	•Is wood a sustainable material? https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zbq2qfr#zr8gwsq

	Clocks project.	classwork.		knowledge	have so many plastic and electronic alternatives? • If a wooden chair breaks, should you repair it, replace it or recycle it? • Is it ever ethical to cut down a tree to make something purely decorative?	
Food and Nutrition	Where does food come from and how is it processed?	Work sheet hand out.	1 Piece of work for the term	To deepen, extend or enrich knowledge	• How much processed food do we purchase?	• Watch: Problems with ultra-processed food https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T4PFt4czJw0
PA: Acting	Historical-based Drama	Digital Platform - Seneca	1 Piece of work for the term	To consolidate learning and review content of current topic	• What makes a good performance?	• How performers use their body https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zhtgscw/revision/1
PA: Dance	Props choreography	Digital Platform - Seneca	1 Piece of work for the term	To consolidate learning and review content of current topic	• Who is the better dancer: someone with natural talent or someone who practises for hours every week? • Should dance be a compulsory subject in schools, just like PE or music?	• Choreography knowledge organiser https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_hO0pHAdgqB_1gzNLDjHPNBCuW7u4TQu/view?usp=drive_link • Article on choreography https://www.backstage.com/magazine/article/how-to-choreograph-dance-75520/ • Article on Bob Fosse and his use of props in dance https://www.acacia-avenue.com/6-the-fosse-way/
PA: Music	How does music from the past shape the music we hear today?	Google Forms	30 mins Fortnightly	To consolidate learning and review content of current topic	• Why does popular music change over time? • Who has had the biggest influence on the history of pop music?	• Writing Songs https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z3dqhyc/articles/zrx3vk7 https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z3dqhyc/articles/zknqwtv

Physical Education	Netball, Badminton, Table Tennis	No formal homework tasks set			•How can a netball team use movement, speed and accurate passing to break down a strong defence? •How could a badminton player use a combination of drop shots, clears and smashes to exploit their opponent's weaknesses? •Why might placing the ball into an opponent's weaker side be more effective than simply hitting it as hard as possible?	•Netball: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z8yvfrd •Badminton https://www.youtube.com/badmintoninsight
PHRSE	Why is good mental health so important? and Why is good physical health so important?	Optional homeworks found in booklet	1 piece of work for the term (optional)	To deepen, extend or enrich knowledge	•Importance of talking about mental health. •Importance about being active - and building activity into everyday life. •Highlighting risks around smoking/vaping/drinking alcohol/caffeine/drugs	• Mental health in young people: https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/children-and-young-adults/ Here there is advice for young people, for parents.