

Key Stage 4 Homework Ideas – Spring Term 2024

We hope you have all had a lovely Christmas break! Here is some information about what is to come over the next term.

English

Our students will be basing their learning on topic of 'Heroism' as our fiction unit and 'Pets' as our non-fiction unit. The students will either work to the AQA accreditation programme or follow our school SOLAR targets, dependent on which pathway is most appropriate for the young person. All groups will be learning to develop their speaking and listening, reading and writing skills at an appropriate level. We are looking to organise some visits and speakers into school to enhance our curriculum, including Bransby Horse Rescue and Cat's Protection. Letters will follow with more details in due course. There may be some homework sent with your young person for maths and English to reinforce the basic skills. Please let us know if there is any issue with this being completed. Your class team will let you know which pathway your young person will be following and be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Maths

Like English, there will be an AQA and SOLAR route for maths. Over the course of the Spring term, Kate's AQA group will be completing units in Geometry. These topics will build on their previous skills and include specific topics such as:

- Recognising properties of 2D and 3D shapes
- Angles and lines
- Symmetry
- Position and direction

Claire's group will complete the Geometry and Statistics units.

The SOLAR group will consolidate their prior learning and build on this in number, shape and space, data handling and using and applying. The targets for these sessions are based on the student's next steps in their learning journal.

Science

Our Science topic this term is 'Energy, Forces and Structures of matter' for the SOLAR groups. We will be learning about forces and how they act on objects. We will complete a range of investigations using magnetism and air resistance.

To help at home, you could talk about different objects that use magnets around the home.

The AQA group will complete the Chemistry unit: elements, mixtures and compounds, looking at atoms, elements of the periodic table, compounds, mixtures, states of matter and allotropes.

Relationships and Sex Education

This term will focus on friendships, intimate relationships. A letter was sent out last term with more detail. We will continue to reinforce the importance of being a good friend; conflict resolution; healthy and unhealthy relationships; managing harmful behaviours and intimacy. After half term, we will learn about families and people that care for us. This will include working at relationships; committed relationships; relationship breakdowns and the consequences of separation. We fully appreciate that these subjects may trigger emotions and will be delivered in a sensitive manner. If you have any concerns, please contact your class team. To help at home, you could discuss qualities of healthy and unhealthy relationships you see on TV programme or films at home.

Computing

Our computing work focuses on Branching Databases. We will be learning how to sort information using yes/no questions and build these up to create paper and computer-based databases. We will also be learning how to create graphs and charts through our science investigations. To help at home, you could play guessing games using yes/no questions.

Careers & RE

This term we are learning about 'Belonging to Community'. We will explore different communities we personally belong to such as school, clubs, groups, etc. We are planning a visit to the YMCA to explore what their facility offers the local community. Over the course of the term, we will be visited by a number of people who play a part within our local community, including Simon Hill (Devon Park Ranger); Mandie Elson (Chairman of Newark Castle Archers and Local Councillor); Moyra Mathews (Charles Street Church). We are hoping to take part in projects with the Newark Academy's Student Ambassadors to compare school communities and Reach Day Service to strengthen our transition links. We will explore the roles of fundraising in different charities, with visits from Laura Carr from Reach and Becky Dobb from the YMCA to support us in planning a community event.

For RE, we will be learning about religious communities with visits planned to local places of worship. A letter will follow with details soon!

To help at home, you could send in information about any groups your young person belongs to!

DT

This term we will be putting our sewing skills into practise! We will learn different types of stitches and how to sew on buttons. Over the course of the term, the students will create their monsters and tote bags using their skills!

Life Skills

Our Life Skills sessions will take place over a morning. The students will take part in a range of activities including planning, preparing and cooking meals; home skills; travel training; money and budgeting skills.

To help at home, you could get the young people involved in everyday household tasks, meal planning and getting out in the community. We would always love to see any photos!

Vocational

Our Vocational courses will be arts based. The students will be able to choose from hair and beauty, art, music, drama and media studies. Millie from Newark and Sherwood Council will be back to support our drama group!

Thank you for your continued support.

Key Stage 4 Team