

PE - Outside activities including: Handball, rugby, football and orienteering. Inside activities including: Sensory circuits, basketball and trampolining. All lessons will include time in the inside gym.

World Around Us- Geography carousel: The students are going to be starting to complete their first set of coursework for their Entry Level. The students will be learning about Threatened Ecosystems around the world (oceans, rainforests and Chalk streams) as well as completing a research project how we can protect the ocean.

Creative Arts - Students will be learning some fundamentals of music, including percussion from around the world, singing, and call and response activities. This will be interspersed with activities aimed at building resilience, communication and self-regulation skills through team games and role play.

Life Skills – These lessons aim to prep students with key independence and community skills to support them growing up. Throughout the year, students will complete a series of ASDAN challenges on a rotation including: textiles & sewing, health & fitness, photography skills, money management, first aid and inclusive cycling.

ICT - Pupils in ICT will revisit Word & PowerPoint, using information from the Internet to reinforce the basic skills acquired in the first year. They will then be introduced to different types of computing devices, together with a basic understanding of how they work. Pupils will be taught file management skills, as well as additional formatting and presentation tools in Word & PowerPoint to further develop their skillset for use in other subject lessons.

Food Tech – Half Term 1: Pupils will be introduced to the fundamentals of food technology. This will include understanding the importance of good kitchen hygiene, healthy and unhealthy breakfasts and kitchen safety. They will then explore making various traditional pastries in line with the theme of ‘Horrible Histories’.

Half Term 2: Students will build on their knowledge and confidence using tools, equipment and principles in order to create meals. The focus this half-term will be on African cuisine including Jollof rice, couscous etc.

English - The themes we will be studying this term are ‘Myths and legends’ and ‘extreme weather’. Students will be reading a range of fiction and non-fiction texts and will focus on writing recounts and diary entries. Pupils will be developing their spelling, punctuation and grammar skills, and some may also be working on phonics.

Maths - The first week of term will be review and assessment. Students will continue do number work focusing on the four operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division as well as problem solving using these operations. Students will also cover geometry and measure topics appropriate to their ability. Assessments will be done periodically to track progress and aid teachers in planning for future learning

Stony Dean School

Year 8

Autumn Term Curriculum 2026-27

PSHE - Self-awareness: What pupils like and dislike in life and in their learning. Lessons link to future career options and setting aspirational goals. Personal strengths, self-esteem and how what people say can affect the mental health of others. Self-Care & Support: Pupils will learn how to keep safe (alongside first aid), survival skills, building resilience, online as well as out of school, how to report concerns and how to identify trusted adults.

Art: Half-term 1 Pupils be using clay and plasticine to explore the theme of mythical creatures. We will be delving into associated stories and the strange creatures that capture our imagination.

Half term 2 Pupils will be exploring extreme weather theme.: hot and cold climates and the colours associated with temperature through painting and collage.

The above is subject to change depending on the needs of each class.

Science - Half term 1: Aligning with the KS3 theme of *Myths and Legends*, pupils will investigate stories and beliefs from different cultures about the Sun, Earth, day and night, seasons, shadows and star constellations, comparing these with modern scientific explanations. Through practical and interactive activities, pupils will model day and night, investigate shadows, explore constellations and learn about the Earth's rotation and orbit. They will also make links to maths through days, months, years and the Earth's journey around the Sun students will learn about Sun safety, firework safety and burns, helping them understand the risks associated with sunlight, heat and fire and how to keep themselves and others safe.

Half term 2: Pupils will be exploring science through the SDS theme of extreme cold. We will learn how to measure temperature, investigate what happens when materials are heated and cooled, and safely use equipment such as thermometers and Bunsen burners. Students will also investigate how to keep warm and discover what happens to our bodies when we get too cold. Along the way, we'll develop our practical science skills by making predictions, carrying out investigations and recording our results. It's going to be a cool term!

DT: Resistant Materials - Half-Term 1: Students are building a ‘Treasure Chest / Pandora’s Box’ project in line with the topic of Myths and Legends. Within this project they will practice basic woodworking skills and will be introduced to various assembly methods also.

Half-Term 2: Students will begin work on a penguin automata project which again will explore working with wood but will tie in learning about gears, cams and converting rotational input power into vertical (linear reciprocating).

Preparation for Adulthood – Students will be exploring a variety of job specific and work ready skills and then think about their own strengths and interests to identify potential work opportunities for the future. They will then be applying the work ready skills discussed in a practical business and enterprise project where they will begin to explore the idea of entrepreneurship.