

Year 8

Term 2 Curriculum Overview



English

Head Teacher: Tristan Carey

Topic: My Belonging Story

Overview: Students will explore the different ways that poetry can express a sense of belonging. They will examine expressions of belonging from a variety of topics and perspectives, including Aboriginal, Asian and other multicultural communities. They will write a range of poetry expressing their own sense of belonging.

Education Perfect: Every fortnight in class, students will complete lessons from the Education Perfect program. Education Perfect is an online literacy program which develops students' comprehension, grammar, punctuation, and spelling skills.

Assessment: Students will present a pitch to the class and an excerpt of the work in progress of their own performance poem. Students selected from each class will perform their original composition at the BGHS Year 8 Poetry Slam Competition.

Mathematics

Head Teacher: Gavin Parker

Overview: Students will learn content from the following topic areas:

- Measurement and Pythagoras' Theorem
- Fractions, Decimals, Percentages and Financial Mathematics
- Ratio and Rates

In addition, every fortnight in class, students will be utilising the Mathspace program to check-in and revise selected areas of the mathematics curriculum.

Assessment: Students complete a common test for these topics.

Science

Head Teacher: John van Leeuwen

Topic: *Chemistry Rocks*

Overview: Students learn about the indicators of chemical change and the properties of chemical compounds and mixtures. They carry out many practical investigations to discover the properties of compounds and resources found in the Earth's crust.

Assessment: Students will have skills tasks as well as a written assessment.

Human Society and Its Environment

Head Teacher: Alecia Brown

Topic: Place and Liveability (Geography)

Overview: Students discuss factors that influence people's perceptions of the liveability of places. They investigate features and characteristics of places across a range of scales that support and enhance people's wellbeing such as community identity, environmental quality and access to services and facilities. Students assess the liveability of places and propose strategies to enhance the liveability of a place in Australia.

Assessment: Students will complete fieldwork to gain an understanding of liveability of their local area.

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education

Head Teacher: Jan Gianotti/Kristen Lee

Topic: Relationships

Overview: The unit focuses on investigating effective strategies to promote inclusive, equal and respectful relationships. Students will explore help seeking strategies and positive behaviours to enhance their health, safety and wellbeing.

Assessment: Students reflect on a current meaningful relationship in their life and identify strengths and challenges within that relationship. They will design, implement and evaluate a strategy to enhance the chosen relationship.

Music

Head Teacher: Amy Yongsiri

Students have elected to study either Music or Visual Arts in Year 8. Not all students will be studying Music in Year 8.

Topic 1: Blues and Jazz

Overview: Students learn about the genre of Blues and its harmonic and melodic structure. They do this via performance, composition and listening skills exercises. They will briefly look at Dixieland Jazz and the use of Dorian Mode in jazz improvisation.

Assessment: Students will perform in the style. They will have a composition task (writing a blues verse) and a listening assessment. Students will also engage in a range of aural and musicology tasks throughout the term.

OR

Topic 2: Instruments of the Orchestra

Overview: Students learn about the instruments of the Orchestra through studying music of various ensembles and performance styles featuring orchestral instruments. Students learn to identify monophonic, homophonic and polyphonic textures in repertoire studied.

Assessment: Students will arrange a piece for orchestral instruments. Students will research an orchestral family and analyse repertoire performed by ensembles and soloists. Students will also engage in a range of aural and musicology tasks throughout the term.

OR

Topic 3: Music in Advertising

Overview: Students learn about the genre of Blues and its harmonic and melodic structure. They do this via performance, composition and listening skills exercises. They will briefly look at Dixieland Jazz and the use of Dorian Mode in jazz improvisation.

Assessment: Students will create an original piece to be performed/recorded in the style of a Jingle. Students will prepare and perform a piece of music and voice over (from provided scripts). Students will also engage in a range of aural and musicology tasks throughout the term.

OR

Topic 4: Music of the Stage

Overview: Students learn how to develop a concert program and performance for an audience. Students study styles such as: Opera, Musical Theatre, Comedy Performance, Dance and Circus

Assessment: Students will create an original piece to be performed. Students prepare and perform a piece of music that is within ability range to an audience in a class concert. Students will also engage in a range of aural and musicology tasks throughout the term.

Technology

Head Teacher: Rosemary Patonay

Topic: Let's Accessorise

Overview: Students experiment with and design accessories using a variety of materials and technologies. They then produce/manufacture an array of marketable accessories. Accessories may include woven bracelets, laser cut and resin jewellery.

Assessment: Accessories and Design and Production Portfolio

OR

Topic: Pyjama Party

Overview: Students work with fibres, yarns and fabrics to develop machine manufacturing skills in the construction of a woven piece of apparel ie. pyjama pants.

Extension Work: Decorated pyjama top and other sleepwear accessories

Assessment: Pyjama Pants and Design and Production Portfolio

OR

Topic: Delicious Dairy

Overview: Students explore the Australian dairy industry and gain an understanding of the nutritional value food and focusing on healthy eating for adolescents. They develop an understanding of commercially available dairy products and their use as they further develop their food preparation skills. Using this knowledge they will create an eRecipe book.

Assessment: eRecipe Book

Visual Arts

Head Teacher: Amy Yongsiri

Students have elected to study either Music or Visual Arts in Year 8. Not all students will be studying Music in Year 8.

Students spend the year rotating through a number of different Visual Arts topics. This is dependent upon the classroom to which they are allocated. Throughout Term 1, students will be involved in ONE of the following:

Topic 1: Sea Sculptures (ceramics)

Overview: Students learn about historical and contemporary approaches to using clay to create a vessel inspired by the flora from the sea.

Assessment:

- 1x sea inspired ceramic sculpture/vessel
- 1x related written/research assessment
- NB: only one research assessment per Semester in VA

OR

Topic 2: Urban Environments (painting)

Overview: Students investigate local historical and contemporary examples of architecture and develop a vibrant and expressive painting inspired by these architectural forms.

Assessment:

- 1 x Digital Architectural
- 1 x Architectural Painting
- Visual Arts Process Diary
- 1x related written/research assessment
- NB: only one research assessment per Semester in VA

OR

Topic 3: Mural Project (Painting)

Overview: Students collaborate with Year 10 Visual Arts students to create a vibrant mural that will be installed in the BGHS environment.

Assessment:

- 1 x Painted Mural Tile
- Visual Arts Process Diary

Languages

Head Teacher: Ed Kent

In Year 8 Languages, students have chosen one of the following languages to study: Chinese, French, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, or Korean. The work is differentiated depending on the prior knowledge of students. Language is studied through topic-based situations situating the learner as a potential candidate for an in-country exchange program, with a focus on building a sound basis of communicative skill in order for students to be able to talk about aspects of their personal world.

Topic: My Friends and My Pets

Overview: Students learn to talk about their friends and their pets, using adjectives to describe someone's character and also their physical attributes. Students explore similarities and differences between an Australian teenager's activities with friends and those of a teenager in a country where the target language is spoken. Students encounter language and grammatical structures through diverse media, including realia, textbooks, quizzes, songs, TV shows, movie excerpts, poetry, games and other language-building activities.

Assessment: Understanding Texts: Listening and Reading in-class task