



06 January 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope you had a wonderful Christmas and New Year with your families and that you are excited for this new year ahead.

I am writing to update you on where we are with our Year 9 students; to share with you what they will be learning this term and what key dates are on the horizon in Term 3.

If at any point, you have any questions about any of the following, please do get in contact:

- If you have questions about a particular subject / subject issue, please contact your child's teacher
- If you have questions about something pastoral related, please contact your child's tutor

What are the key dates I need to be aware of this term?

Over the course of this term, you need to be aware of the following:

Term 3

- Week of 9th to 13th January – Options launch to students during PSHE
- Thursday 26th January – Options evening to be held in school 4.30-7.30pm (more information to follow)
- Thursday 2nd February – Reports issued
- Thursday 9th February – School closes to students at 1.30pm. Year 9 Subject Consultation Meetings (remote via SchoolCloud) 2.30-7.30pm
- Friday 10th February – School closed to students for a teacher training day
- Half term is from Saturday 11th – Sunday 19th February

Term 4

- Monday 20th February – school commences for all students
- Wednesday 22nd February – Options form return deadline. (Parents will then receive a letter at the end of Term 5 outlining the subjects that have been agreed).
- Tuesday 28th February – Black Rock parents information evening 6-7pm, to be held at school in Trinity Hall
- Friday 31st March – End of Term 4 – 1.30 finish.
- Easter Holidays are from Saturday 1st April – Sunday 16th April.

What will my child be learning this term?

Each subject has provided for you a breakdown of what will be studied in each subject this term. This can be found on our website here in the form of a curriculum map: [KS3 Curriculum Map 2022-23 \(st-laurence.com\)](https://www.st-laurence.com/ks3-curriculum-map-2022-23)

Within this document you will find information relating to:

- A summary of the topic studied in each term in Y9
- Other information such as any resources our students may need for the duration of the course, how the students will be assessed and homework expectations.



History

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
EQ1: Was the story of the twentieth century simply one of things getting better? EQ2: Should the British Empire be a source of national pride?	EQ3: How did the First World War cast a long shadow over the 20th century?	EQ4: How far is 'Suffragette' a true picture of the campaign for female suffrage?
Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
EQ5: What was Britain like during the inter-war years? EQ6: How similar were Joseph Stalin and Adolf Hitler?	EQ7: What was the most important turning point of the Second World War? EQ8: How did the Holocaust happen and in what ways was it resisted?	EQ9: What has been the experience of Black people in Britain after 1948? EQ10: Was religion the main cause of the 9/11 attacks? EQ11: Was Eric Hobsbawm right to call the 20th century an 'Age of Extremes'?
Text book	Courses are taught using resources created within the department and a rich variety of film, documentary and other sources from the periods studied	
Setting	Mixed ability learning groups	
Assessment	At the end of each enquiry, students will produce a piece of work that demonstrates their understanding of the disciplinary skills and substantive knowledge that the enquiry has focused on. Four of the 10 end tasks will be formally assessed, but all contribute to a building a picture of the progress students are making. Students will also complete regular knowledge tests for each topic.	
Trips and expenses	A trip to the Normandy beaches is planned for Term 4 to enhance the unit we study on the 'Key turning points of the Second World War'. The cost of the four-day tour is approx. £500.	
Home Learning	History homework will be set approximately fortnightly and may include research/fact-file tasks, presentations, written reports or revision for in-class assessments. Students are expected to spend 1 hour on this homework. Whilst this will not be explicitly marked, it will be used to support your child's progress in lessons	
Extension work	Students are encouraged to extend their studies through visits, film, documentaries and fiction and engaging in their own family history.	

I hope the above goes some way to further supporting your child with their learning. As ever, please keep a close eye on Class Charts to view their reward points, homework and timetables. If you do not have access to this, please contact your child's tutor or Assistant Head of House and they will be able to support you with this.

Kind regards,

Mrs K Rhodes

KS3 Director of Learning and Progress