

## Humanities

### **History**

In KS3 History the focus is on equipping students with the skills required for a deep understanding of historical issues so that they may pursue the subject to GCSE level if they wish at Upper School. Year 7 start with the topic 'What is History'. This involves practising skills such as chronology and sequencing- all of which are fundamental to being a good historian. Other topics studied during this year include the Black Death and the Norman Conquest.

The National Curriculum states that 'a high-quality history education will help pupils gain a coherent knowledge and understanding of Britain's past and that of the wider world'. Accordingly in Year 8 students start with the topic 'From Catholic to Protestant'. Other topics studied this year include a unit on the issues surrounding Terrorism to help students gain an understanding of modern day History.

History at KS3 aims to help pupils to understand the complexity of people's lives, the process of change and the diversity of societies and relationships between different groups. All of the topics and skills will equip them to live in the complex society around us.

### **Geography**

In KS3 Geography students begin to develop a curiosity and fascination about the world and the people that inhabit it. Teaching focuses on providing students with knowledge about diverse places, people, resources and natural and human environments, together with a deep understanding of the Earth's key physical and human processes.

In Year 7 students begin with an 'Introduction to Geography'. Other topics studied this year include mapping skills as well as a study of evolution.

Year 8 starts with a study of Africa and then a unit on Asia, before we look at the issue of Natural Resources.

Geography at KS3 is structured so that students deepen their understanding of the interaction between physical and human processes, and of the formation and use of landscapes and environments. In addition to this, it is also designed to help them develop a passion for the world around them that will remain with them for the rest of their lives.