



2023–24: Term 3 Overview

Our Overview newsletters contain the key information you'll need each term.

Briefing on curriculum content, extra-curricular opportunities, current school messages and more, parents and carers can use this outline to support students and help them succeed at school.

Learning

ENGLISH: <i>Girl. Boy. Sea.</i> Students will study a modern young adult novel. They will explore its cultural and contextual links, as well as analysing its language, form and broader structure. They will produce an analysis of a key extract.
MATHS: This term is focused on learning more algebra and starting to see the connections between this topic and the tapestry of mathematics it enables us to access. It is a key topic at this stage so pupils can revisit and extend their knowledge as they work through other topics later in year 7 and into year 8.
SCIENCE: Students will complete a Biology topic on Genes, variation and the adaptation of organisms. They will also complete a Physics topic on Waves, looking at the behaviour of light and sound waves, and vision and hearing.
ART: Students will continue with work around producing small ceramic sculptures inspired by a mythical creature theme and the wood carvings of Oaxaca in Mexico. As well as developing their ideas in clay, students will also hone their drawing skills, taking inspiration from myths and monsters found in stories.
COMPUTER SCIENCE: Students will come to understand how the hardware and software components make up computer systems. They will learn how instructions are stored and executed within a computer system.
DRAMA: Students will continue their work on <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> , performing a scene between Romeo and Balthazar in Act Three Scene Five of the play.
FRENCH: <i>A Midsummer Night Dream</i> – Revisiting Shakespeare French-style! Students will study the present tense of regular verbs, negatives, and partitive articles. They will make cross-curricular links with English.
GEOGRAPHY: <i>Exploring the UK</i> – How does the UK vary? Exploring the physical and human geography of the UK.
HISTORY: Students will study what medieval life was like all over the world. They will first be analysing what medieval life was like in England and then compare this with life in Asia, Africa, and South America during the same period.
MANDARIN: Students will consolidate and rehearse character recognition learnt in Terms 1 and 2. They will also learn about family members which leads into description work in the next term.
MUSIC: <i>Folk Music</i> – Pupils will be learning about traditional folk music from the UK.
PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS: <i>What are key Buddhist beliefs?</i> An investigation into key aspects of Buddhist belief including origins of Buddhism, teachings including enlightenment, and the life of a Buddhist.
PHYSICAL EDUCATION: The focus for all will be on high levels of activity and participation as well as establishing consistent routines and encouraging independence. Students will explore Gymnastics, Invasion Games, and Net Games during Term 3 on a rotational basis.
PSHE: We will explore how our choices influence our dreams and goals. Through lessons on identifying personal aspirations, developing coping strategies, and understanding the impact of responsible and risky choices, students will learn to navigate challenges and take proactive steps towards achieving their desired future outcomes.
TECHNOLOGY: Students follow a rotational system, all starting at different points. Key topics covered across year 7 are: a Christmas cracker project, designing a phone pod, making a drawstring bag, and key knife skills for cooking.

For a full breakdown of subject curriculum content, please visit our [Curriculum Maps](#) webpage.

News

School website: [Home page](#)
 Facebook: [@fitzharrysschool](#)
 Instagram: [fitzharrys](#)
 X: [@fitzharrys](#)

Key Contacts

Head of Year 7 & Transition: **Ms K Emeny**
 Year 7 Student Wellbeing Manager: **Mr T Clarke**
 Assistant Head, Personal Development: **Mr T Edwards**

Queries

Any queries, please [contact](#) the school.
 Email: office.4127@fitzharrys.school
 Phone: **01235 520698**

Aspiration

ACHIEVEMENT ASSEMBLY

Term 2 ended with an Achievement assembly which celebrated all the fantastic progress made by students since September. Over 37,000 House points have been awarded to Year 7 students already this year! 119 students received their bronze House point award. 22 Year 7s received 3 or more subject award nominations, and 51 students received recognition for 100% attendance. Students that were absent for only one day due to a medical or other urgent appointment also received a 100% achievement award. Well done to form 7H who had the best attendance average across the year group for terms 1-2. The Achievement assembly was an inspiring review of all the hard work and dedication shown by our students. Year 7 have made a flying start at Fitzharrys – congratulations to all!

100 BOOKS – READING CHALLENGE

Students are being encouraged engage with our [100 Books to Read Whilst You're at Fitzharrys](#) booklet. Each time a student has read ten books from our list, they will be entered into a prize draw to win book vouchers from local bookstore, Mostly Books. Reading Award badges will be given out when students reach the milestones of 25 books, 50 books and 75 books. Any student who reads all 100 books before leaving Fitzharrys will receive a Platinum Award.

Opportunity

CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

Our [extra-curricular offer](#) is online and is regularly updated. Why not try a new club or activity this term?

NETBALL & FOOTBALL TEAM TRIP – HOLLAND 2025

A letter regarding the planning of our bi-annual trip to Holland is being sent out to parents of students in years 7-9. The letter will contain a link to an electronic form to register expressions of interest; please note this must be completed by 18th January, to help with planning.

Integrity

UNIFORM

Please be reminded of our school uniform policy:

<https://www.fitzharrys.oxon.sch.uk/assets/POLICIES/Uniform-Policy-March-23-v2.pdf>

We will be focussing on ensuring all students meet our high expectations. For support with uniform, please contact your child's tutor in the first instance.

FITZHARRYS COMMUNITY: FSA JUMBLE SALE

Thanks to all intending to support the [FSA Giant Jumble Sale](#) (Sunday 28th January, 10am-12pm). The FSA team are looking forward to helping our community find a few bargains whilst helping the planet by reducing waste, reusing and recycling. They would love volunteers to help set up (on Saturday 27th) or on the day of the sale. [Email FSA here](#). Further details on how to donate items or volunteer help can be found in [this letter](#).

Key Dates

Sunday 28th January, 10am-12pm
Tuesday 6th February
Friday 9th February, 3.15pm
Monday 12th – Friday 16th February
Monday 19th February

FSA Giant Jumble Sale, Fitzharrys Main Hall
Year 7 Chinese New Year Celebration event (signed up students only)
End of Term 3
HALF TERM HOLIDAY
Start of Term 4 (Week A)