



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

For a full breakdown of subject curriculum content, please visit the [Curriculum Maps](#) page on our school website.

ENGLISH: *Shakespeare* – students will study the play *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. They will practise dealing with Shakespeare's language and dramatic methods by zooming in on key extracts and will ultimately produce a supported commentary of a scene.

MATHS: This term, Year 7 will focus on angles – finding missing angles in a problem, introducing the concept of bearings, rules regarding parallel lines and properties of special quadrilaterals. Pupils will be using their recently developed Algebra skills to help solve many of these problems.

SCIENCE: Students will look at the structure of the Earth and its place in the Universe. They will also study a topic looking at the energy stored in foods and fuels, and investigate the different resources that we use to generate the electricity that we need, comparing the advantages and disadvantages associated with each.

ART: Painting is our focus this term; we will return to skills learned in Term 2 and apply them to paintings of eyes. Students will learn about colour mixing and explore the possibilities of different types of paint.

COMPUTER SCIENCE: Students will learn about the features, skills and functions of spreadsheets, word processors, email and databases.

DRAMA: Term 5 takes our Year 7 drama students into the world of devising and improvising roleplays and comedy sport improvs. They will perform and create an improvised ending for *The Wrong Side of the Bed*.

FRENCH: *Poetry – Discovering Children's French poetry*. Students will study the near future, and will have opportunities to practise oracy and pronunciation, as well as the creative act of producing poetry in French.

GEOGRAPHY: *Extreme Climates* – What is life like at the poles? Students will investigate the differences in climate zones and biomes across the world, whilst looking at the effects of global warming.

HISTORY: Students will look at what the Tudor world was like and the impact its monarchs had on religion and people.

MANDARIN: Students will learn colours and how to describe what a person's hair and eyes are like, as well as the negation of have/has. Students will learn to count to 100, and to read and write in characters related to this topic.

MUSIC: *Instruments of the Orchestra* – Pupils will be learning about instruments of the Western Classical Orchestra. They will also be using music technology to compare the key instruments and learn how to record.

PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS: *What are key Muslim beliefs?* An investigation into key aspects of Muslim belief including the nature of Allah, Muhammed and the Quran, the importance of mosques, pilgrimage, and Ramadan.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION: Students will explore Strike and Field Games during Term 5 on a rotational basis. The focus for all will be high levels of activity and participation, establishing consistent routines and encouraging independence.

PSHE: *Relationships* – Students will focus on developing social and emotional skills for building positive, strong, and supportive relationships. We'll understand the importance of consent, managing changing relationships, and the role of assertiveness, all aimed at fostering respect, authenticity, and healthy behaviours within any relationship context.

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.

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 J Clelland**

Queries

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

Aspiration

HELP SUPPORT PROGRESS

Year 7 students received their Impact Progress Report at the beginning of last term. Support your child's progress by reviewing and regularly checking it with them to see if they have completed the targets set by subject teachers. Access a digital copy of the report via your [My Child at School](#) account.

BEDROCK LEARNING

Congratulations to all students who received Bedrock awards in last term's Achievement Assembly. Awards were given to all students who were in the 'Green Zone': completing at least 2 Bedrock tasks every single week. Knowledge of vocabulary can unlock the curriculum for students, boosting their confidence and comprehension when they meet new texts, and increasing the sophistication and precision of their own written expression.

[Bedrock Learning](#) uses artificial intelligence to introduce students to appropriate new vocabulary, reading aloud to students to support them, and using a variety of interactive tasks to help consolidate their understanding. Do ask your child about the words they have been meeting through Bedrock, to help them to bring them into their own active vocabularies.

MATHS CHALLENGES

Following the Maths Challenge problem-solving sessions run in school last term, selected Year 7 and 8 students will be taking part in the **Junior Maths Challenge** this term, run by sixth form students from Radley College. This is a 60-minute problem-solving challenge aimed to test students' mathematical thinking, competing against both national and international students. We are also running a Maths Maestros Enrichment Club on a Friday lunchtime for students in Years 7-9, to explore some interesting Mathematical problems – encourage your child to attend!

Opportunity

CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

View our updated extra-curricular offer at: <https://www.fitzharrys.oxon.sch.uk/students/clubs-and-activities/>

WOMEN'S FA CUP FINAL TRIP

This trip offer has been very popular and is already heavily over-subscribed, so registrations have now closed. Communications home are expected imminently regarding the allocation of places.

Integrity

RESILIENCE RUCKSACKS

Resilience Rucksacks is a project by Reading University to equip year 7 students with the tools to successfully rise to the challenges of secondary school. Year 7 classes will be having workshops on a Tuesday afternoon in May. Parents have been sent the details about this project. We hope that it will enable each student to understand how to look after their emotional and mental health now and into the future.

BUDDIES

We have a fantastic group of year 7 Buddies who have offered to support the year 6 students who are due to start at Fitzharrys in September; thank you for your great application letters! We would like each of our Buddies to help at one of the Information Evenings (1st & 2nd May, 5.45-7pm), and to participate in Transition Day activities on 26th June too.

UNIFORM

Students can choose to wear our optional summer uniform during Terms 5-6; full details on our [Uniform](#) webpage. The summer uniform options include a blue school-logo polo shirt and tailored shorts. If students decide not to wear the summer uniform, they should remain in shirt, tie and blazer. We politely remind students that, as always, they should not wear hooded jumpers to school, and they should continue to wear formal school shoes, not trainers. Many thanks for your continued support with maintaining the high standards we expect at Fitzharrys School.

THE WELLBEING HUB

We are pleased to be able to introduce free access for parents to The Wellbeing Hub by Teen Tips. This online platform is crafted with expertise in child and adolescent mental health, offering resources to support your child's social and emotional wellbeing. Benefits include audio/video courses, weekly resources (podcasts, articles, tips), live monthly Q&As with psychotherapists, career advice, and a comprehensive and evolving Q&A library. Additionally, there are self-care resources, member offers, and access to expert webinars on various topics. You will have access to resources which are made for parents as the target audience.

You can find a Guided Video Tour of The Wellbeing Hub for Parents here:

<https://vimeo.com/818403262/d7891fd5a3?share=copy>, and a Visual Guide linked here:

<https://club.teentips.co.uk/app/uploads/2023/04/Parent-Guide-The-Wellbeing-Hub.pdf>

To sign up as a parent, please use this link:

<https://club.teentips.co.uk/register/parents/?ca=b0b22db7c0c44f6ebbe4c320c6fb6ec5>

Pupils were recently introduced to the platform in school. They can access age-specific resources, including educational films, blogs, and career guidance. For any queries, contact info@teentips.co.uk and dwhitley@fitzharrys.school. We hope The Wellbeing Hub enriches your family's experience and look forward to your feedback.

Key Dates

Thursday 25 th April	Y7-8 Junior Maths Challenge (selected students only)
Weds 1 st – Thurs 2 nd May, 5.45–7pm	New Y7 Information Evenings – current Y7 Buddies in attendance
Monday 6 th May	BANK HOLIDAY (school closed)
Wednesday 8 th May, 1–3pm	Y7-8 Carnegie Quiz @ Larkmead School (participating students only)
Sunday 12 th May	Y7-8 trip: Women's FA Cup Final @ Wembley (limited places being allocated)
Friday 24 th May	Last day of Term 5 – school closes at 3.15pm
Monday 27 th – Friday 31 st May	HALF TERM
Monday 3 rd June	Start of Term 6 (Week A)