

Subject: History

Year : 8

Term 1 programme of Study:

In term one students investigate the Tudor period of England from 1485-1603. They begin by studying the first Tudor Monarch, Henry VII and continue on to complete an assessment on his extravagant and controversial son Henry VIII. Next students will learn about Henry's sickly heir, Edward VI before considering different interpretations of the infamous 'Bloody Mary'. Finally students will develop their written essay skills by developing an extended essay on the final Tudor monarch, Elizabeth I.

Term 2 programme of Study:

During the second term students will research the finest explorers from history. Students will have the opportunity to work with others and research an explorer of their choice. They will collate their evidence before completing a presentation in front of the rest of their group. The finest presenters will be invited to show their work at a history presentation evening designed for parents.

Once students have completed their research projects they begin to study the Slave Trade. During this scheme they will consider the different causes of the Slave trade as well as the impact the trade had on the slaves themselves. Furthermore students will consider why the slave trade was finally abolished, and who the significant characters were in achieving this feat.

Term 3 programme of Study:

Finally students will investigate the lives of the indigenous peoples of North America. Students will be able to describe a variety of tribes in the area and explain how each tribe adapted to their surroundings and the threats they faced. Finally students will complete a research project on a tribe of their choice in which they will give a detailed assessment of their chosen tribe's way of life.

Homework:

Students create a variety of homework tasks during year 8 and are required to complete one piece of homework per week. Students might be asked to complete research projects using material from textbooks or the internet. Alternatively students might be asked to complete developed pieces of written homework, which might include extended essays for those higher ability students.

Assessment:

Students will complete an assessment in lessons each half term. Students might also be assessed on their class work or their homework and will gain a grade for both effort and attainment each term.

How parents can support learning:

Parents can encourage students to read further on the topics students are learning in their history lessons. The library is well stocked with material on the Tudors, the slave trade and the indigenous peoples of North America. Furthermore parents could promote media based on historical learning, for example watching films, TV shows and reading historical magazines. There are also some fantastic internet sites with a variety of revision games for students to enjoy.

Learning resources:

Students will be provided with a variety of informative sheets and may receive a textbook for revision prior to assessments. There are a variety of fantastic online resources for students to use such as BBC Bitesize and Schoolhistory.co.uk that offer students plenty of information and revision activities.