



TIANJIN REGO INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



Year 10

Curriculum Letter

Summer Term 2008-09



Dear Parents,

Please find below the outlines of the work which your child will be doing this term. I hope that you find it interesting and useful in supporting your child's work at home.

If you have any questions at all concerning the curriculum, please do not hesitate to ask either your child's form tutor, myself or the Key Stage Co-ordinator (Year 10 Mr. Taylor).

Regards

David Williams

Principal

English

In Year 10 students begin preparing for their IGCSEs, two separate qualifications in First Language English, and in English Literature. It is hoped that some students will be able to take their First Language English examination at the end of this year.

One lesson a week is devoted to developing students' writing skills. This term we will be focusing on Writing to Argue and Persuade, and analysing some of the rhetorical techniques used in argument and persuasion. Students will learn how to frame their own arguments effectively, and how to structure a discursive essay, which is an essential exam skill. They will also be opportunity for students to cultivate their Speaking and Listening skills, through classroom debate (argument) and individual presentations (persuasion).

This term students will also be studying the novel *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley, a challenging text which will greatly increase students' vocabulary range. In lessons we will be discussing ideas and themes from the novel and exploring aspects of plot, characterisation and language. This course of study will culminate in a further piece of coursework for students' English Language folders, linking in with our work on Writing to Argue and Persuade.

Later in the term we will be turning our attention back to non-fiction, this time to autobiography and journal-writing. Famous names such as Anne Frank, Bob Geldof, Samuel Pepys, and Mahatma Gandhi will feature. Students will look in detail at the craft of the writer, in preparation for producing an autobiographical piece of their own.



ESL

This term year 10 will be studying a well-rounded curriculum, which covers the four key skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening. They will be reading a series of short stories by British and American authors that are graded up to an Intermediate level. They will be studying grammar from the Reward Intermediate textbook, which also includes many speaking & listening activities. The IGCSE textbook will be used to focus on the exam skills needed to tackle the IGCSE examination.

Diploma2 ESL

This term Dip 2 will be studying a well-rounded curriculum, which covers the four key skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening. They will be studying grammar from the Reward Upper Intermediate textbook. They will be reading a series of stories by British and American Authors as graded readers. There will also be targeted sessions focusing on the exam skills needed to tackle the IELTS/TOEFL examinations.

Mathematics

In Year 10, Term 2, students will continue the I.G.C.S.E. Mathematics course in preparation for the examinations at the end of Year 11.

They will study topics from all the key areas of mathematics: number; algebra; shape, space and measure; and handling data.

They will use a variety of resources, appropriate to their ability in mathematics and their level of English.

Topics this term include: Graphs of Functions; Straight Line Graphs; Solutions of Equations and Inequalities; Symmetry; Transformations; and Statistics

Physics

The students will be covering the following topics taken from the Cambridge IGCSE specification: Waves: Refraction and Diffraction, Light and the Electromagnetic Spectrum, Sound, Electricity and Magnetism.

They will be set regular work from 'Physics For You' and other relevant textbooks and worksheets. Homework will include exam style questions.

Chemistry

Year 10 pupils will continue studying the two-year Cambridge IGCSE course in Chemistry. Each pupil is provided with a copy of the IGCSE text book "Chemistry for You". In this third term, pupils will study limestone, acids and alkalis, products from oil then organic molecules. Pupils will be tested to assess knowledge



and understanding and there will be a variety of theory and practical tasks, as usual. Please note that homework is checked regularly to determine students' progress.

Biology

During the summer term Year 10 students will continue their I.G.C.S.E. course leading up to examinations in 2009. They will study homeostasis, reproduction in plants, human reproduction and growth and development.

Geography

The spring term will be taken up with the third IGCSE section on economic development, leisure activities and tourism, energy and water resources and, finally, environmental risks and benefits of resource conservation and sustainable management. This will prepare the students for their second piece of compulsory coursework.

History

Year Ten are completing their study of the Cold War.

This term, students will be looking at Soviet expansion in Eastern Europe, the occupation of Germany and the Berlin Blockade. Students will explore how effectively the USA contained the spread of Communism through case studies of America in Cuba, Vietnam and Korea. Another section of Cold War study entails analysis of USSR control over Eastern Europe from 1948-1989. This unit is completed by a look at how effective the United Nations has been in Korea and the Congo. Students will continue to use examination papers as preparation for their forthcoming end of year exams. This will enable them to improve their writing techniques and develop their source analysis skills.

ICT

During years 10 & 11 students undertake a variety of practical tasks to build up a portfolio in a range of applications. (See year 9). The aims of the curriculum are set out below and describe the objectives of a course in Information and Communication Technology for the IGCSE examination.

The aims are to:

- Help students to develop and consolidate their knowledge, skills and understanding in Information and Communication Technology
- Encourage students to develop further as autonomous users of Information and Communication Technology
- Encourage students to continue to develop their Information and Communication Technology skills in order to enhance their work in a variety of subject areas



- Provide opportunities for students to analyse, design, implement test and evaluate Information and Communication Technology systems
- Encourage students to consider the impact of new technology's on methods of working in the outside world and on social, economic, ethical and moral issues
- Help students grow in their awareness of the ways in which Information and Communication Technology is used in practical and work-related situations.

Art

Year 10 are working on a mixed media project incorporating still life painting, printmaking, collage and digital media. This project is partly inspired by the artist Patrick Caulfield and will explore how different textures and images can be combined.

Graphic Design

Graphic Design students will be continuing with their illustration project, learning how to develop work for a childrens story. In the second half term they will be helping design the school yearbook. They will be developing their skills in page layout and improving photographs and most importantly working to deadlines to help with their time management skills for their exam next year. The students will later be learning new tools and options with short tasks all using Adobe Photoshop.

French

Students in years 10 and 11 follow the METRO 4 French course, which comprises 6 modules divided into 24 units arranged by topic.

This course represents full GCSE in French and requires students to perform in Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing.

This term the topics covered are

-work experience and weekend jobs

Spanish

This is a two year course (GCSE) leading to an external examination at the end of it.

In the two years we will cover all the topics required for the exam , as well as all the grammar necessary to pass the Exam.

In this term we will:



-Talk about school , (subjects, timetable, opinions, uniform, facilities, and we will talk about our daily routines).

-Talk about holidays(talk about the weather, asking for information, booking hotels, restaurants and food, describing past holidays).

-Talk about directions and places in town

Chinese

Diploma group:

In this term, Year 10 is going to study the teaching material “New Practical Chinese Reader” volume 2, approximately 3 lessons. In these lessons, student will learn a large amount of Chinese basic and useful characters and phrases in order to have basic ability to speak, read and write in Chinese.

Advanced group:

Y10 top group’s textbook is Zhongwen Duben vol. 1 and some extra material. The goal is to train them to function successfully in Chinese culture because most of them already reached the high level in Chinese. They will focus on reading and writing skill meanwhile to enhance their spoken ability and prepare for the IGCSE exam.

Beginning group:

The lessons are based on *Ni Hao* (book 3/unit3 –unit 6). Students could demonstrate understanding of the main ideas and some specific details in different types of texts on a limited number of topics, and respond appropriately.

PE

The programmes of study set out what pupils should be taught in physical education at key stage 3 and 4, provide a basis for **knowledge, skills and understanding**. Under these three headings the PE Department are able to identify aspects of PE in which pupils make progress, these 4 strands are:

- Acquiring and developing skills
- Selecting and applying skills, tactics and compositional ideas
- Evaluating and improving performance
- knowledge and understanding of fitness and health

During Year 10, pupils tackle complex and demanding activities, applying their knowledge of skills, techniques and effective performance. They decide whether to get involved in physical activity that is mainly focused on competing or performing, on promoting health and wellbeing, or on developing physical fitness. This term, the



students have had the opportunity to choose from various activities including football, rugby, softball and fitness work in the gym. They also decide on which roles suit them best including performer, coach, choreographer, leader and official. The view they have of their skillfulness and physical competence gives the confidence to get involved in exercise and activity out of school and in later life. For the Autumn Term the students will study **Athletics, softball, Ultimate Frisbee & Hockey**

GCSE PE

The subject has two components, practical and Theory. The practical element contributes 50% of the final grade and is based on formal assessment of the candidates “Effective Performance and Analysis of Physical Activities.” Candidates will complete modules of theoretical aspects of physical education concerning ‘factors affecting performance and participation on physical activity,’ and topics such as anatomical systems. Candidates must also analyse their own performance. Topics which are studied within this subject are: Body systems, diet & nutrition, factors affecting performance, sports injuries & prevention, training methods, health fitness & exercise, sport in society. **This Summer Term the students will study Respiratory & Circulatory Systems, Effects of Training on the Body and complete their Personal Training Programmes Coursework.**