



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 our [Curriculum Maps](#) webpage.

ENGLISH: *Girl. Boy. Sea.* 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 Chemistry topic investigating mixtures, solutions, and separation techniques. They will also study a Physics topic on electricity and magnetism.

ART: Students will be producing small ceramic sculptures inspired by our 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 *Romeo and Juliet*, performing a scene between Romeo and Balthazar in Act Three Scene Five of the play.

FRENCH: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* – 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: *How do rivers shape our land?* Students will study the journey of a river from its upper to its lower course, whilst exploring its key landforms, and the opportunities and of challenges settlements near rivers.

HISTORY: Students will study what medieval life was like all over the world. They will first analyse 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 characters recognition and pinyin learnt in Terms 1 and 2. They will also learn about family members which leads into description work in the next term.

MUSIC: *Folk Music* – Pupils will be learning about traditional folk music from the UK.

PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS: *What are key Buddhist beliefs?* 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, making a drawstring bag, healthy eating, and key knife skills for cooking.

News

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

Key Contacts

Heads of Year 7 & Transition:
Mrs E Sharman & Mrs A Wintle-Gregory
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

ACHIEVEMENT ASSEMBLY

Term 2 ended with an Achievement assembly which celebrated all the fantastic progress made by students since September. Over 47,000 House points have been awarded to Year 7 students already this year! 143 students received their bronze House point award, and 2 students achieved their silver. Well done to form 71 who had the highest House Point total with 9384 points for Terms 1-2. Many Year 7s received 3 or more subject award nominations, and 47 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 awards. The 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 to 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.

BEDROCK BRILLIANCE

An email from Bedrock was received last term to congratulate Fitzharrys School for being in the top ten schools internationally for tier 2 vocabulary learning and engagement. Out of approximately 900 schools, this is an amazing achievement! A huge well done to all students for working hard and completing your Bedrock activities!

HOMEWORK

Homework is an important part of what we do at Fitzharrys School. Research suggests that meaningful homework supports the acceleration of progress in students of secondary school age. We aim, through homework, to promote a culture of scholarship, setting purposeful homework for revision, preparation, and consolidation. Specific homework details can be found on [Epraise](#), where you can also see whether your child has completed and handed their work in.

To support students with this important aspect of their scholarship, we offer a wraparound service where students can complete work on school premises:

- Our computer room S1 is open on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning from 8am;
- Our Library is usually open every breaktime and lunchtime;
- We offer [Homework Club](#) in West Block until 4pm each day;
- Our computer room S1 is also open on a Tuesday until 4pm and a Thursday until 4:30pm.

For more details, please visit our website, where you will find a helpful video, and a full document detailing how much homework, and what kinds of homework, you can expect your child to be receiving: [Homework - Fitzharrys School](#).

SUPER CURRICULAR CHALLENGES

Our subject leaders have put together some ideas for extra challenges and enrichment opportunities that students could undertake, to sit alongside their studies this term: see our [Super-Curricular Challenges - Term 3 list](#).

Opportunity

CLUBS & ACTIVITIES

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

CROSS COUNTRY

All students in Years 7, 8 and 9 took part in cross country in their PE lessons at the end of term 2. The highest finishers will be invited to the County Cross Country Championships at Cokethorpe School on Thursday 30th January 2025.

Integrity

YEAR 7 KEY CONTACTS

With Ms Emeny now on maternity leave, Mrs Wintle-Gregory been appointed as Head of Year 7. She will share the Head of Year 7 and Transition role with Mrs Sharman, and will work Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday each week, with Mrs Sharman continuing to lead the year group on a Thursday and Friday.

Should you need to contact us about your child, the normal routes for communication will be in place. Initial queries should be directed to tutors, with any further concerns raised by emailing Year7team@fitzharrys.school or contacting the school directly.

UNIFORM

Please be reminded of our school uniform policy: <https://www.fitzharrys.oxon.sch.uk/school-life/uniform/>

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.

FSA: JUMBLE SALE & GOFUNDME

The Fitzharrys School Association (FSA) regrets to announce there will be no Giant Jumble Sale fundraiser at the end of January this year due to unforeseen circumstances but is looking forward to being able to run it again in 2026. The FSA would love your support across the year as fundraising efforts continue; a new [GoFundMe](#) was launched last term to help jumpstart targets for this academic year and has been a huge success – many thanks indeed to all who so kindly donated. Find out more about the work of the FSA here: [FSA webpage](#).

Key Dates

Monday 20 th January	Y7 & Y8 Mandarin Celebration Event (Periods 1 / 2)
Friday 14 th February	End of term, school closes at 3.15pm
Monday 17 th – Friday 21 st February	HALF TERM
Monday 24 th February	Start of term (Week B)

Absence

To report a student absence, please telephone the dedicated *Student Absence Line* as soon as possible: **(01235) 538243**. Thank you.