



Parent information: Year 8

Topics

Pupils have a topic list in their books which details the events and individuals we are studying in Year 8. This includes a study of the What is History, the Succession Crisis in 1066, Battle of Hastings, William I, Castles, Feudalism, Normans in Ireland, life in medieval towns and villages.

Assessment

MATs and other work in class and exams continue to assess knowledge understanding and skills in history. In year 8 pupils are expected to show their knowledge of events and begin to explain their viewpoint. In source work they are expected to quote from the evidence to support their answers. They should be able to write extended answers up to a page long about the key topics.

How to help your child prepare for assessment?

In order to do well in history pupils first need knowledge so they can show off their skills. They should try to learn information using techniques such as:

- magic 10 (ten key facts about an event).
- key facts cards.
- look say cover write check – create a mind map and re draw it several times until it is learned.
- create a mnemonic to learn key facts.
- test them on events – ask questions from their notebook / textbook.
- Under Parental supervision access revision videos linked to the topics on YouTube.

*There is a display in the history corridor helping them understand the steps to learning.

Developing interest

Why not visit Dunluce Castle to understand a little more about castle defences, Inch Abbey in Downpatrick, Clotworthy in Antrim, The Ulster-American Folk Park, Omagh.

Books to read

Horrible Histories, My Story series.