

BLACKFRIARS ACADEMY CURRICULUM PLAN



BRIDGEWATER - SPRING 2020

The anchor that is being explored as a whole school is **CELEBRATION**

When deciding what anchor we wanted to develop as a team of staff working in a school for young people with varying needs and abilities, our starting point was 'What is the point?' – Why would we choose 'this' as an anchor. In order to answer this question, we went back to our core moral purpose as a school which we believe is to educate our students because education has the power to transform lives. By educating our young people, we can help them to be more independent, for some it may mean helping them to use their 'Voice' to ensure that their views, needs and wants are heard and for others that they can become critical consumers of information.

This rationale drove our choice of anchors, the second of which is 'Celebration'. No matter what pathway our students are working in, exploring the notion of celebration is vital to all of them.

Not only is a **celebration** a special enjoyable event that people organise because something pleasant has happened or because it is someone's birthday or anniversary, the meaning of the word has far greater significance for us at Blackfriars: we want to try to help our students to live 'in the moment' to actively seek out what is good and should be appreciated, this could be the ability to appreciate a great piece of art, the strength to walk or the opportunity to sing out loud. Celebrations provide opportunities for us to recognise that we are not alone in the world and that other cultures have their own traditions, customs and acts of remembrance. By the end of the term, we hope that students will have started to explore ideas about what do we need to value and celebrate.

Subject	Content to be covered
English	Pupils will be exploring speaking and listening skills to allow them to communicate safely with unfamiliar people. They will be focusing on listening to replies from questions asked to allow them to ask a responding question. These skills will then be tested out in the community and around the school environment.
Maths	Pupils will be exploring money - Recognition of money - Addition and subtraction. Also the language around money such as more, less and equal. This will then be trialled both in school and in the community in a practical manner.
Science	We will be celebrating the diversity of species and habitats, we will be looking at animals and their environments and how things grow. Following this, we will be looking at the forces that impact upon everything that we do (pushing, pulling, gravity etc) and power and pollution, recognising that not everything that we are responsible for can be celebrated.

Art	Using Pop Art as the inspiration to introduce the whole school anchor. We will be exploring and looking at the theme of celebratory food this term. We will experiment with different media to produce artworks of food typically associated with the anchor of celebration in traditional British and other cultures.
Lifeskills	We will be celebrating success in small meaningful tasks from everyday life. Making a drink, tying shoe laces, using a washing machine for their PE kits and Swimming kits.
Humanities	<p>For the students in the Exploratory Pathway, Celebration is an essential anchor because it provides us with the opportunity to celebrate in class! We will be using our 'Thinking Moves' to explore different celebrations in history and religions in an interactive and practical way, focusing on communication.</p> <p>The pupils have all celebrated something in their lives and it is therefore a theme they can relate to. In Humanities we will build on their prior experiences and explore different religious celebrations as well some major celebrations in history.</p> <p>Pupils will enrich their knowledge and understanding of how people celebrate special events. They will develop their use of 'Thinking Moves' to develop their ability to focus on learning. Pupils will further be able to work both independently and in groups, communicating their thoughts and ideas and responding to others.</p>
PE	Pupils will be exploring the game of table top cricket through rules, actively taking part in bowling, rolling and fielding. Through the anchor of celebration we will also be participating in dance.
Swimming	The objectives of our swimming sessions are to experience the sensory and physical aspects, to become as independent in dressing as they are able, to become confident in the water and to be aware of the rules of water safety where appropriate.

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