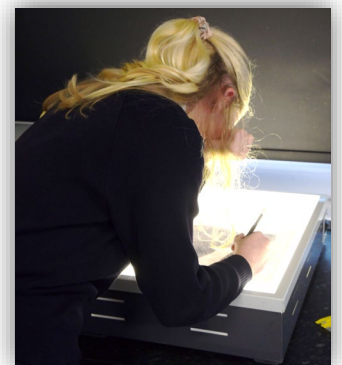


TURTON

Year 9 Christmas Update

A Christmas update on what year 9 pupils have been learning this term, just in case they have entirely stopped talking to you by now and only have Christmas on the mind! Additional information about the Scholars' curriculum is in brackets. All of our knowledge organisers, detailing our curriculum are here: <https://www.turton.uk.com/ks3revision/>

- **English:** Conflict, The Fundamentals of Poetry, Letters of War (*Orwell, Blake, Byron, Shelley*)
- **Maths:** Forming and solving an equation, plotting linear and non linear graphs, testing conjectures and financial Maths.
- **Science:** Inheritance, Variation & Selection, Atomic Structure & Forces (*gravitation fields*).
- **History:** Rise of Dictators, Holocaust, WW2 and Cold War (*Assessing sources*)
- **Faith&Ethics:** Islamic Beliefs, The 5 Pillars of Islam, Islamic Ethics (*Islam and Ethics: Environmentalism/Charity*)
- **Geography:** A brief history of the Earth, human populations, changing coastlines
- **Spanish:** Describing a past birthday celebration
(*French: Talking about mobile phone use; using direct object pronouns; using three time frames*)
- **Drama:** Responding to a Stimulus, John Godber 'Teachers' from page to stage, Interpreting a Script
- **PE:** The muscular system
- **Computing:** Python Programming
- **Music:** Chords & music theory, & keyboard performance
- **Technology:** Plastic & metal processes, pattern, processes and production, cake making techniques
- **Art:** People and Places, Bauhaus design



“We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.”

Winston Churchill



Update - Absence penalty notices

You may be aware that the Department for Education has recently announced national changes to fines issued for unauthorised absence. These changes came into effect on 19 August 2024.

- Penalty notices issued for offences that take place after 19 August 2024 will be charged at £160 per parent per child. This can be paid at £80 if paid within 21 days.
- Any second penalty notice issued to the same parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period will be issued at the rate of £160 to be paid within 28 days.
- A penalty notice must be considered at 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school week period.
- A maximum of 2 penalty notices may be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period, a 3rd offence means another course of action.

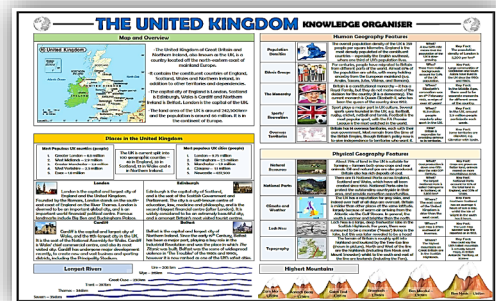
Miss Parry (Assistant Head)

Resilience for success!

Year 9 have made a very positive start to the year adjusting themselves to the expectations of new teaching staff. I have had some great feedback about their high levels of resilience, independence and creativity. It is important that students use this time wisely and really think about which subjects would be a good option for them at GCSE.

Miss Brown (Head of Year 9)

Learning top tip #1



Pupils should use their knowledge organisers to highlight what they are (and are not) confident with. That way they can ask for extra help with the topics that they are struggling with. They will be tested on everything at the end of the school year, so leave no stone unturned.

Mrs Lane (Assistant Head)

Curiosity Question - Geography

Which country in the world has every single vowel (a, e, i, o, u). Clue, you will find this country in a continent with 54 countries.

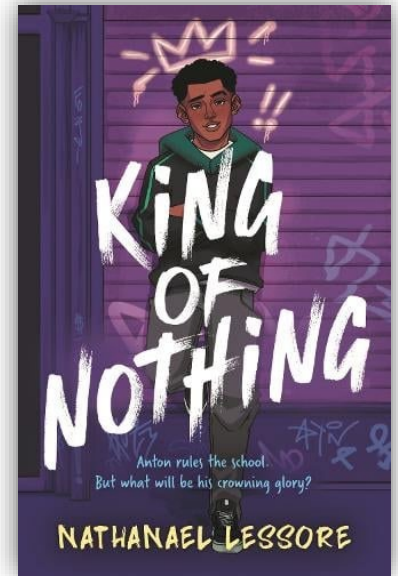
Mrs Bithell (Geography Teacher)

Recommends

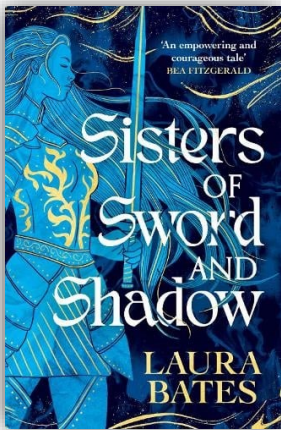
King of Nothing by Nathanael Lessore

ANTON AND HIS FRIENDS ARE THE KINGS OF YEAR 9. They're used to ruling the school and Anton wears the crown. The other kids run away when he's around but that's the way he wants it - he's got a reputation to live up to after all. When his mum decides it's time for Anton to make some new friends and join a local activity group, Anton makes it clear he would quite literally rather do anything else. Even worse – the biggest loser in school, Matthew, is a member! But after Matthew unexpectedly saves Anton's life, Anton figures maybe this kid is worth a shot. Teaching him some games is the least Anton can do to repay the debt.

This story of friendship and growing up is for fans of Alex Wheatle, Jason Reynolds and Patrice Lawrence.



Sisters of Sword and Shadow by Laura Bates



Destined for an arranged marriage, Cass dreams of freedom. So, when a fierce and beautiful leather-clad woman rides up and offers to take her away, Cass doesn't hesitate to join her. She is introduced to the Sisters of Sword and Shadow - a group of female knights training to fight, protect their community and right the wrongs of men. Drawn into a world of ancient feuds, glorious battles, and deadly intrigue, Cass soon discovers she holds a power that could change not only her own fate but that of her entire sisterhood.

This breathtaking novel is Laura Bates' fantasy debut and explores questions about power, courage and the stories we tell about the past. Perfect for fans of Leigh Bardugo and Sarah J. Maas

Pop into the library to check out these exciting titles. Mrs Taylor (Librarian)

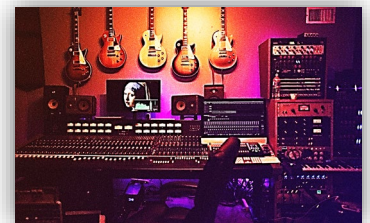
Jump in

Just to let you know about some of the marvellous things going on in January 2025 that pupils can get involved in to really make the most of their time at Turton. A full timetable of activities can be found here: <https://www.turton.uk.com/afterschool/>

Producers Club: 3-4pm Wednesday (MU1)

Come along and create and mix your own tracks. There's lots of hi-tech equipment and 2 specialist music producers who come in from Manchester to guide and inspire you.

Mr Parkinson (Head of Music)



Book Club: Year 9 Lunch, Mondays (Library)

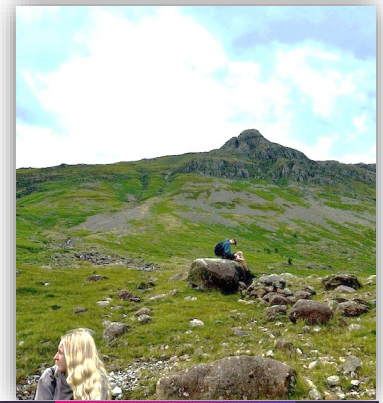
Join our school book club for exciting discussions, new friendships, and to share in your love of reading. Check the year 9 announcements page on teams to find out this month's book. Pop into the library for more details. Mrs Taylor (Librarian)



Spotlight: A-level Geography

Each term we'll spotlight an A-level course at Turton, just in case pupils are wondering where excellent learning can take them. Information about all courses is available in our prospectus here: <http://www.turtonsixthform.uk.com/>

Mrs Bali (Head of Sixth Form)



Geography

Why study Geography?

Geography at A Level allows you to deepen your knowledge of the world in which we live. We teach the dynamic processes of both physical and human geography which have shaped Earth. Over the two year course you will develop analytical skills, map work, numeracy and a clear understanding of how to think and write like a geographer. Students who take geography have a keen interest in current events and questioning minds which never stop wanting to know more about this fascinating planet.

Where does it lead?

This is a well-respected academic course, valued at the top universities, as a 'facilitating' subject. Many of our students go on to geography degrees as well as other areas. Within a geography degree there are many variations and areas of study such as environmental management, geology, biogeography, city planning, population change and sustainability.

Past students are now employed in education, the Environment Agency, town planning and further research at universities.

What does it go well with?

Geography will fit well with all subjects. However, many of our students also study History, Biology, English, Economics, Chemistry and Environmental Science.

Requirements

Geography is a content heavy subject. You therefore need a 5 in Geography at GCSE to have the prior knowledge and understanding to access the course at A-Level.

"Understanding the geography of health and disease helped illuminate the strengths and weaknesses of the UK response to the coronavirus pandemic." - Josh Stewart

The Course

A-LEVEL

You will follow the AQA course and study:

Year 12:

Contemporary Urban Environments - This unit looks at the how a greater proportion of the population are living in towns and cities.

Changing Places - This unit focuses on people's engagement with places, their experience of them and the qualities they ascribe to them, all of which are of fundamental importance in their lives.

Hazards - This unit discusses the theory of plate tectonics, and investigation of a variety of hazards including earthquakes, volcanoes, tropical storms and wild fires.

Glacial Systems and Landscapes - This section focuses on glaciated landscapes.

Year 13:

Water and Carbon Cycle - This unit analyses systems in physical geography, as well as the concepts and their application to the water and carbon cycles.

Global Governance and Global Systems - Students discover the impact of globalisation on people in the world today and how the world can be governed.

Coursework - Each student completes an individual piece of coursework of their choice which is worth 20% of final marks. There will be a variety of fieldtrips throughout the year including a residential at the end of Year 12.



Mr Locke



lockep@turton.uk.com

"Geography blended with time equals destiny." - Joseph Brodsky

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