

Tolkien Summer 2 2026



Acorn Park

History

The learners will be beginning to look at GCSE history. They will begin by studying the topic of the history of medicine. Starting in the Middle Ages, they will compare the attitudes to medicine in the Christian and Muslim Worlds, before looking at the impact of the Renaissance. They will begin to look at key figures in the development of medicine such as Hippocrates, Galen, Ibn Sina, Hildegard Von Bingen and later Andres Versalius.

Art

This half term in Art, pupils will continue working within the theme “Come Outside”, using ecosystems as a starting point for creative work. They will explore ideas linked to food webs, pollination, photosynthesis and reproduction, while developing drawing, observation and making skills. Pupils will experiment with a range of materials and processes to create thoughtful visual responses inspired by the natural world and the relationships found within it.

Computing

In computing Tolkien class will be looking the hardware inside the computer and how the components work.

Maths

Tolkien will be working on non-linear graphs this half term, learning how to recognise, plot and interpret different curved graphs. We will then move onto sets and probability, using organised methods to understand outcomes and calculate probabilities in different contexts. Students will also be revisiting transformations, including reflection, rotation, translation and enlargement, helping them strengthen their geometry skills and prepare for future GCSE-style work.

RE

This term, students are exploring a range of religious, ethical, and philosophical questions. They will examine how different belief systems respond to contemporary issues, including environmental responsibility, abortion, and euthanasia, through the perspectives of Buddhism, Christianity, and Humanism.

Students will also be studying key ideas in philosophy, focusing on questions such as "What is reality?" and comparing different worldviews, including Christianity, Idealism, Materialism, and Platonism. More recently, they have considered modern philosophical debates such as the simulation hypothesis ("Do we live in a computer simulation?").

In addition, students will be studying the Biblical account of Noah's Ark in depth, exploring its narrative, theological themes, historical and cultural context,

English

Students will finish their study of Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde in preparation for their GCSEs. They will complete the novel before exploring the theme of duality, which runs throughout the text. Students will also learn how to structure and compose a GCSE-style essay response and will complete an end-of-unit assessment before the summer holidays.

Science

This half-term, students will study content from the AQA GCSE curriculum, including Physics: Particle Model of Matter and Chemistry: Using Resources. In Physics, students will explore the properties of solids, liquids, and gases, changes of state, density, and how particles behave. In Chemistry, they will learn about the sustainable use of Earth's resources, recycling, potable water, and life-cycle assessments. Lessons will include practical investigations, demonstrations, and real-life applications to help students develop a deeper understanding of scientific concepts. These hands-on activities will support engagement, confidence, and accessibility for our SEN learners through visual, interactive, and practical learning experiences.

and the different ways it has been interpreted within Christian thought.

Overall, the course encourages students to think critically about how beliefs and values shape people's understanding of the world, ethical decision-making, and the nature of reality, while developing their knowledge of significant religious texts and traditions.

PE

This term in PE, students will be learning athletics and tennis. In athletics, they will continue to refine their running, jumping and throwing techniques, focusing on improving performance, confidence and personal bests. In tennis, they will develop their serving, rallying, shot selection and tactical play in singles and doubles games. The focus will

DT

This term, students will be beginning to learn about resistant materials. This will include learning all about plastics, woods and metals and how they are used in real world production. In practical lessons, students will be learning about the more technical aspects of TinkerCad and how it can be used in a professional capacity to design and how different types of plastic can be used to make different products, with respect to their many different properties.

PSHE

Personal strengths, health goals, SMART planning, the world of work, links between body image and mental health, non-financial dreams and goals, mental health and ill health, media manipulation, self-harm, self-esteem, stigma, anxiety disorders, eating disorders, depression

be on teamwork, resilience, sportsmanship and encouraging students to take responsibility for their own progress and participation.

Geography

This half term Tolkien Class will be exploring Russia in a factual way. Students will be able to locate Russia and to be able to identify different biomes in Russia, as well as being able to link them to their climates and biodiversity. We will be able to understand how physical geography decides a country's success and how it can explain how a country's physical geography help or hinder its success. Finally, students will try to describe Russia's economic state and explain how energy supplies have affected politics in Europe

Outdoor Education

In the final term of this school year, we will use binoculars and field guides to help them identify birds and trees. They will continue to develop their skills using tools such as saws, hand drills, bill hooks, loppers and secateurs to create some jewellery, decorations and come up with their own projects.

Citizenship

explore how young people can participate in democracy and influence decision-making at school and in the wider community. Students learn why pupil voice is important and how they can influence decisions within their school. The lessons also examine local democracy, including the role of Youth Councils in representing young people's views. Students consider the debate around voting reform by exploring arguments for and against lowering the voting age to 16 across the UK. In addition, the lessons explain how democratic processes can be used to influence those in power and evaluate different

Animal Care

Over the last few weeks of the academic year all groups will be experiencing the changes in the weather and of course the seasonal change from Spring to Summer. We will be expanding our animal tasks to include all the animals at school. We will be experiencing the changes we need to make, to ensure the animals have all they require as the weather starts to heat up. We will be building on pupils already expanding confidence and allowing individuals to develop their independence.

methods of creating change and running successful campaigns. Finally, students investigate the importance of local council elections and discuss whether young people should have the right to stand as local councillors.