

Welcome back to the new term, we are very much looking forward to continuing your child's educational journey with them.

We do ask that your child comes into school ready for the day and ensuring they have the items they need daily:

- **Reading book**
- **Home School Diary**
- **Full PE kit**
- **Wellies to stay in school**
- **Appropriate clothing (for all weathers!)**

This term we will be sending home weekly spellings and encourage the learners to read with or to their adults at home.

We look forward to meeting with you at the Parent Progress Meeting (04.02). This is a great opportunity to discuss your child at length to ensure we are all working together to meet the needs of your child in the best possible way.



Thriftwood School

Curriculum Summary Spring Term 2026

India



Year 7 & 8

Jay, Rook, Swift, Magpie and Crow



Educate, Challenge, Prepare.

Middle School - India - Spring Term 2026

RE and PSHCE

RE: Hinduism – special places, special people, special books. Compare and contrast with special places, people and books which we might engage with.

Y7 PSHCE: Personal hygiene – brushing teeth, healthy eating habits, exercise, healthy mindset. Keeping safe in the environment, knowing what to do in an emergency, reciting address and postcode, understanding basic human rights.

Y8 PSHCE: Healthy living, mental health awareness, effects of medicine, alcohol, energy drinks, strategies for managing emotional and mental health. Keeping safe in the environment, knowing what to do in an emergency, understanding human rights, strategies to keeping safe, peer pressure and understanding how sexual activity is viewed in eyes of the law

ART & DT

Colours, sounds and images; symmetry and simple pattern making; shapes and symbolism; line and mark-making; exploring expressive and sensory colour play; textures and repeating motifs; form and decoration; festival masks.

PE

Year 7 - Hand/eye co-ordination skills and spatial awareness. Teamwork and good sportsmanship.

Football, basketball and possibly some indoor invasion games depending on the weather.
Swimming – beginning after February half term

Year 8 - ABC, creativity and Core strength, floor work and using large apparatus. Agility, balance and coordination, teamwork, winning and losing, following rules and participation.

Swimming – finishing after February half term

LITERACY

Year 7 & 8 – The Jungle Book (Rudyard Kipling) and Indian Folk Tales

Reading: word level, fluency, comprehension and sequencing

Writing: recounts, character descriptions, film reviews, creating a dictionary.

Speaking & Listening: reading aloud, role play, class discussions, whole class reading.

NUMERACY

Place value, number, multiplication and division, time, money, shape, addition and subtraction, position and direction, data handling.

Opportunities for using maths in ‘real-life’ e.g. using money, spotting numbers in the community, bus timetables, using visual timetables etc.

SCIENCE

Year 7 - Materials – properties, change and chemical reactions

Year 8 – Light and astronomy

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Developing skills: weighing/measuring, cutting, rolling out, cutting out, spooning, baking, weighing/measuring, peeling, dicing and chopping, boiling and simmering, frying

COMPUTING

ICT focuses on developing students’ understanding of sequencing, logical reasoning, and programming skills. Learners will begin by giving and organizing instructions to control digital devices and identify steps in familiar tasks. They will then use logical reasoning to predict outcomes, detect errors, and correct simple programs. Practical activities include programming floor robots and creating programs using software to accomplish specific goals. Students will also learn to modify inputs for different outputs and refine procedures using repeat commands, building confidence in problem-solving and computational thinking.

E-Safety elements will also be addressed at the beginning of each lesson.

TOPIC

Map reading and flags, comparing and contrasting India and the UK, recognising key physical features of India, identifying and describing famous landmarks, native Indian animals and comparing to those in the UK, traditional Indian games.

MUSIC AND DRAMA

Indian musical instruments, Indian dancing, Indian songs, Bollywood dancing, assembly singing, Topic Day

SPECIAL EVENTS & TRIPS

India Topic Day, Colchester Zoo Trip, Hindu visitor, Hindu temple trip.

This term Y7 and 8 will continue to work on our FFF skills. Additionally to this, Year 8 will begin their 'Residential Ready' programme.

Emotional Regulation	Can identify and verbalise things that may be challenging
	Can recognise how change makes us feel
	Can talk openly with a trusted adult about any problem
	Can work with/listen to others to help improve emotional regulation
	Can recognise when they are upsetting others and modify behaviour
Healthy Life Style	Can stop eating when full
	Can get changed for physical exercise independently/ To take part in Physical Education in school
	Knows that getting enough sleep is part of a healthy lifestyle
	Can understand they can say no to keep themselves safe
Lawful Citizenship	Can understand all genders, races and individuals are equal
	Knows that it's against the law to steal, break other people's property or hurt someone on purpose
	Knows that breaking or taking other people's property without permission is wrong
	Is able to share online concerns with an adult
Medical Conditions	Can look after personal medical and health devices with support (glasses, hearing aids, visual aid, diabetes equip etc)
Dressing and Personal Care	Can look after and take pride in own uniform
	Can wear appropriate clothing and footwear for the weather
	Can turn clothes the right way round
	Can independently fasten buttons
	Can distinguish between clean and dirty clothes
	Can consistently pick up and take care of belongings
	Can understand and show how to behave in a changing room
	Can shower and wash effectively
	Can dry body and hair with a towel
	Can use deodorant
	Can manage sanitary routines (incl. using sanitary bin) during periods (girls)
	Can appropriately use a urinal while maintaining dignity
Eating, Food and Organisation	Can set a table
	Can use a mirror to gauge dirtiness or smartness
	Can pour drinks from jug or bottle
	Can know how to tidy own bed/sleeping area
	Can independently put rubbish in the bin
	Can do the washing up and filling/emptying the dishwasher
	Can independently collect equipment
Safety	To pack items into a bag
	Can understand signs and symbols for community hazards
	Can know what a health and safety sign looks like
	Can safely take part in a fire drill
	Can call a trusted adult when in difficulty
	Can safely plug in and charge a device

Accreditation and Awards	Can take part in class-based tests and assessments
	Can respond well to stickers and certificates
Responsible Citizen/Work behaviours	Can independently use a class timetable
	Can independently get to lesson on time
	Can follow 3 step instructions
	Can collect class equipment and resources
	Can initiate an activity with a familiar peer / adult
	Can work in a pair or group to reach a common goal
	Can follow a series of simple tasks (task planner)
	Can recognise, understand and respond well to leaders
	Can understand school and college have a hierarchy of job roles within the staff (just like any workplace)
	Can consistently follow an adult agenda when prompted to do so
	Can take part in peer-to-peer marking
	Can bring appropriate clothing for PE or Forest school
Communication	Can complete a task in the given time
	Can maintain a simple 2-way conversation
	Can listen to others and respond appropriately
	Can be able to tell someone about themselves
	Can carry a written message to another class teacher/tutor
	Can answer a direct question
	Can talk to others and wait until others have finished eating during a shared occasion
	Can speak and listen on the phone
	Can ask for help or clarification making it clear what the problem is
	Can seek help in an emergency
Community	Can travel on public transport with support
	Can cross a road safely
	Can know how to use a pedestrian crossing
	Can follow a simple map
	Can say own address and postcode
	Can behave appropriately in public
Relationships	Can know how to queue appropriately
	Can access a safe adult when needed
	Can attend a club with friends
	Can have and share a personal interest
	Can have an awareness of belonging to a group
	Can make a new friendship at a club
	Can meet up with a friend with support
	Can accept people hold different opinions
	Can independently turn take in a game
	Can show care towards a peer when hurt
	Can have sustained respectful friendships and be polite