



St Benedict's Catholic School

The Catholic Secondary School for West Suffolk

GEOGRAPHY CURRICULUM GUIDE

Year 7 Autumn

Students will study a unit called 'Fantastic Places' which will introduce them to a variety of local, national and international places which display unique qualities on a global scale including the following:

Svalbard
Racetrack Playa (California)
Sky Walk (Grand Canyon)
Stonehenge
The Totem Pole (Tasmania)
Yosemite Valley
Masdar City (Abu Dhabi)

Assessment: Students will complete a source based assessment on the physical and human factors which make a place 'fantastic'.

Ordnance survey Maps

Students will examine different maps and identify the usefulness of each map in our everyday lives. They will also cover the following topics:

Ordnance Survey Maps, Scale and Symbols
4 and 6 digit grid references
Relief on OS Maps with the help of Harry Potter!
Straight and Curved Lines Distances

Assessment: Students will create a charity fun run in their local area using Ordnance Survey Skills learnt throughout this unit.

Homework: Students can expect to be set one piece of homework per week which may involve research, reading or writing.

Year 7 Spring

Topic 3: Our Restless Earth

Throughout this topic students will develop an understanding of:

- Pangea and the layers of the earth

- Plate Tectonic Theory and Plate Boundaries
- The global distribution of volcanoes and earthquakes
- Life in a hazardous zone
- Icelandic Volcanic eruption and Haitian Earthquake
- Managing the risk posed by Volcanoes and earthquakes

Assessment: Individual assessment 'The day disaster struck'

Topic 4: The Geography of our Stuff

Throughout this topic students will develop an understanding of:

- Interconnections and inter-relationships that link teenage consumers living in the UK with societies and environments overseas.
- The moral, ethical and environmental issues that are associated with global trade in consumer goods
- The growth of the teenage consumer and the online consumer
- Overseas labour – specific focus on child labour
- What can we do as global citizens.

Assessment: Is western consumption destroying parts of the world?

Year 7 Summer

Weather and Climate

Students will develop their understanding of weather and present their very own weather forecasts. Students will also investigate climate using real world examples and undertake microclimate fieldwork on the school grounds. Students will explore the natural and human causes of climate change and the impact of sea level rise on coastal communities.

Assessment: Students write up their fieldwork findings in a short report.

Continent Study: Africa

Students will have their preconceptions challenged in this new unit which explores and investigates the diverse and exciting continent of Africa focusing on contrasting countries, cultures and climates. Students will be introduced to development studies and trade. Pupils will investigate the use of technology and what the future may hold for Africa.

Assessment: Pupils will play the 'Chocolate Trade Game' based on chocolate production in Ghana and write a diary about their experiences and the winners and losers of the trade in chocolate.