Straits International School Rawang
Curriculum Overview
Year 8 Autumn Term 1.2 2024/2025

Autumn Term 1.2	What are we learning?	What KUS will we gain?	What will excellence look like?
Mathematics	**UNIT 4 DECIMALS** **UNIT 5 ANGLES AND CONSTRUCTIONS** **UNIT 6 COLLECTING DATA**	Students explore ordering decimals, where they will understand how to arrange decimal numbers in ascending or descending order with mathematical units. Students learn how to multiply and divide decimals, gaining the skills needed to solve problems involving decimal numbers. To simplify their calculation work, students will study techniques that make decimal calculations easier. In geometry, they will focus on parallel lines, learning their properties and angle fact. Students will also discover the concept of the exterior angle of a triangle and its relationship to the interior angles. Introduced to basic constructions, which involve using a compass and ruler to create geometric shapes. These topics will help strengthen their problem-solving abilities and understanding of mathematics. Students to explore about data collection and sampling.	To prove the sum of the triangles using parallel lines and the angle facts involved. Master decimals, parallel lines, triangle angles, constructions, and data collection, enhancing problem-solving and mathematical understanding.
How will this be assessed?		Class discussions, mental maths, major assessments.	
First Language English	A Midsummer Night's Dream	Knowledge & Understanding: Key facts about Shakespeare's childhood and upbringing; the impact of Shakespeare's education on the topics in his plays; life as a groundling in Elizabethan London; knowing	• Excellence will look like analysing the effects of language and plot points deeply. Students will show a deep understanding of the plot and characters and

		the difference between a novel and a play; the key events and characters and settings of the play. Skills: selecting appropriate evidence from a text; Evaluating the different sides to the love potion; composing an introduction and conclusion; selecting the best quotations for an essay.	demonstrate this through their writing. Students will be able to make pertinent and precise links. All assertions will be supported by relevant evidence. Choices of quotations may be surprising and original.
English as a Second Language	Our society	Understand people's opinions about their city; discuss ways in which a neighbourhood can be improved; consider the advantages and disadvantages of living in the country or a city; discuss ways you can make a difference in your community; discuss what makes a country a good place to live; find out about a school where lessons to promote happiness are part of the school day; write a letter to the town council; do a project; read poems written by school students and a poem about childhood memories.	Learners can give opinions about their city or town; read and understand an article about a project to improve a neighbourhood; discuss an article about the advantages and disadvantages of living in the country or a city; discuss ways to make a difference in the community; use context to understand the meaning of unfamiliar words; discuss and give opinions about how to promote happiness at school; brainstorm ideas about how to improve their neighbourhood; plan and write a charity event; discuss the language, imagery and ideas in the poems.
How will this be assessed?		Teacher/self-assessment, presentation, speaking tasks, projects, group work	
English as an Additional Language (EAL)	Design and architecture	Students will explore shapes and packaging of everyday items, learning vocabulary related to three-dimensional objects and discussing iconic designs. They will describe these objects and participate in a speaking activity on building designs and surroundings. Through reading an article about houses made from plastic bottles and completing a quiz on famous buildings, students will engage with sustainable design concepts. They will practice report writing by focusing on school buildings and facilities and enhance creativity by designing packaging. In groups, students will present a house made from	Demonstrate a strong understanding of three-dimensional shapes and design vocabulary and articulate why certain objects are considered design classics, confidently describe the form and function of objects and actively participate in discussions on building designs and their environments. Their engagement with sustainable design concepts will be evident through insightful analysis of the article on plastic bottle houses and a well-researched quiz performance on famous buildings. The report writing will show clear structure, attention to detail, and thorough

		recycled materials and conclude the unit by reading extracts on the history of pictures and writing a description of a selected image.	observation of school buildings and facilities. Creativity will shine through in their packaging design, and their group presentation on a house made from recycled materials will be collaborative, innovative, and informative. Lastly, their description of a picture, based on historical extracts, will be detailed, reflective, and well-articulated, showcasing a deep understanding of design and architectural history.
How will this be assessed?		Quiz, worksheets, presentation, speaking tasks, projects & group work.	
Science	Inside Atoms and Respiration and the respiratory system	**Knowledge -** Students will gain a foundational understanding of atomic structure, including the components of atoms such as protons, neutrons, and electrons, and the organization of these subatomic particles. They will explore the discovery of electrons and the significance of the nucleus in atomic theory. In the context of respiration, students will learn about the processes of aerobic and anaerobic respiration in plants and animals, the role of diffusion in gas exchange, and the anatomy of the respiratory system, including the lungs and alveoli. They will also understand how exercise affects breathing rates, the implications of asthma, and the transport of gases in the blood. **Skills -** Students will develop practical skills through hands-on investigations of atomic structures and respiration processes. They will conduct experiments	Students will demonstrate excellence in their abilities to explain the fundamentals of respiration and atomic structure. They will conduct thorough investigations, demonstrating their skills in scientific inquiry and critical thinking. Through well-organized written reports and engaging presentations, students will showcase their understanding of atomic models and the respiratory system, including gas exchange mechanisms. By synthesizing their research, they will reflect their mastery of both topics and their commitment to connecting theoretical knowledge with practical application.

		to observe diffusion in biological systems and measure the effects of exercise on breathing rates. Students will engage in activities to explore gas exchange in the lungs and analyze the structure of alveoli. They will also learn to interpret data related to respiration and understand the implications of asthma on respiratory function. In the context of atomic structure, students will analyze proton and nucleon numbers and their relevance to understanding elements. **Understanding -** This integrated curriculum will foster a deep understanding of the relationship between atomic structure and biological processes. Students will recognize how the arrangement of subatomic particles influences chemical behavior and how respiration provides the energy necessary for life. They will appreciate the significance of gas exchange in maintaining homeostasis and understand the physiological responses to exercise and asthma. This holistic view will enable students to connect theoretical concepts in chemistry and biology, fostering a comprehensive understanding of how matter and energy interact in living systems.	
How will this be assessed?		Students will be assessed through various methods, including hands-on experiments, quizzes, and tests for both topics. Written reports on their investigations will evaluate their analytical skills. Peer and self-assessments will encourage reflection on their learning, while project-based assessments, such as creating	

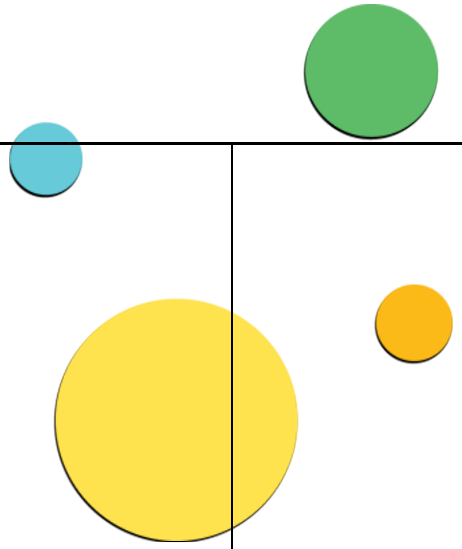
		models of atomic structures and presentations on respiratory processes, will promote the practical application of knowledge.	
History		In studying the Making of the UK, particularly the Tudors, students gain a deep understanding of how Edward VI, Mary I, and Elizabeth I shaped religion and society. They learn about Edward VI's Protestant reforms, Mary's efforts to restore Catholicism, and Elizabeth I's attempts to balance religious tension. Students develop critical skills in analysing historical evidence and sources, making reasoned judgments about the impacts of these monarchs, and understanding how their decisions influenced modern British identity.	Excellence in this study means students can explain the complex religious changes of the time, assess whether Mary I deserves her title "Bloody Mary," and evaluate Elizabeth I's reign in terms of diplomacy, religious settlement, and governance. Students showing excellence are able to present balanced, well-reasoned arguments, use evidence effectively, and understand the wider context of the Tudor period within British history.
How will this be assessed?		Essays, Quizzes and the Major Assessment	
Enterprise	SWOT Analysis & PEST Analysis	Knowledge - SWOT analysis: Students will learn how to identify and evaluate a business's internal strengths and weaknesses, as well as external opportunities and threats. PEST analysis: Students will understand the impact of political, economic, social, and technological factors on a business environment. Understanding - Students will understand how SWOT and PEST analyses are used in strategic planning to make informed decisions. Students will develop a deeper understanding of the factors that shape a business environment and how they can change over time. Skills - Students will develop the ability to analyze complex information and identify key trends.	Students can clearly define SWOT and PEST analysis, identify the key components of each, and explain how they are interrelated. They can apply these concepts to a variety of business scenarios, providing relevant examples. Students can clearly communicate the findings of their SWOT and PEST analyses, both verbally and in writing.

		Students will learn how to use SWOT and PEST analyses to identify problems and develop solutions.	
How will this be assessed?		Quiz, worksheets, presentation, individual tasks, projects, group work & written assessments	
ICT	Modelling, Data & Database	**Knowledge**: Students will gain an understanding of modeling concepts, data types, and database structures, including tables, fields, records, and relationships between data entities. **Understanding**: Students will learn how models are used to represent real-world scenarios and how databases store and organize data efficiently. They will understand the application of databases in solving problems and supporting decision-making. **Skills**: Students will develop skills in designing and building data models, creating databases, and effectively using queries to manipulate and retrieve information. They will also practice methods of data validation and data analysis.	Excellence is measured by the student's ability to create optimized data models, design well-structured databases, use advanced querying techniques to solve complex problems, and ensure data accuracy and consistency throughout.
How will this be assessed?		Quiz on formulas, functions and data types Problem solving using spreadsheet and Database Major Assessment	
Malay Language	Unit 9: Kesihatan dan kecergasan	In Unit 9: Kesihatan dan Kecergasan, students will learn how to talk about health and fitness, discussing important habits that keep them healthy, such as exercising and eating balanced meals. They will describe activities they do to stay fit, like "berjoging," "berenang," or "bermain bola." In addition, students will be introduced to the use of affixes in the Malay language, such as "ber-" and "men-	In Unit 9: Kesihatan dan Kecergasan, students will excel in the following areas: 1. Health and Fitness Vocabulary: They will learn and use new words related to health, fitness, and well-being.

		", to form words related to health and fitness. By the end of the unit, they will be able to discuss ways to maintain a healthy lifestyle and use these new words correctly in their sentences.	2. Self-Expression: Students will be able to describe the activities they do to stay healthy, improving their speaking and writing skills. 3. Understanding of Affixes: They will understand and apply affixes such as "ber-" and "men-" in creating words, enhancing their grammar. 4. Healthy Lifestyle Awareness: Students will develop a better understanding of maintaining good health and fitness habits in their daily lives.
How will this be assessed?		Speaking practice, quiz, reading and writing assignment, and presentation.	
Mandarin	**Advanced**: 假日和旅游 **Intermediate**: Weather & Seasons	**Advanced**：在这单元，学生会认识不同的旅游方式，透过阅读不同的文章去了解旅行的意义，并对各种课题展开讨论。 **Intermediate**: In Term 1.2 of Year 8 Mandarin as a Foreign Language, the focus on Weather and Seasons will provide students with essential Knowledge, Understanding, and Skills (KUS) vital for effective communication in Mandarin. **Knowledge:** Students will acquire vocabulary related to weather conditions (sunny, rainy, snowy, etc.) and seasonal terms (spring, summer, autumn, winter). They will learn relevant phrases for discussing the weather and expressing preferences related to different seasons. **Understanding:** Students will gain insights into how weather influences daily life and cultural practices in Chinese-speaking regions. They will explore the	**Advanced** 学生将阅读一些有关假日和旅游的文章如：《国庆长假出游》、《新式旅游日记》等，从而探讨文中的相关的知识点以及提高学生的写作技巧。 **Intermediate**: Excellence in Year 8 Mandarin as a Foreign Language during Term 1.2 on Weather and Seasons will be characterized by: 1. **Fluency in Communication:** Students will confidently discuss weather conditions and seasons using accurate vocabulary and grammar. 2. **Listening and Comprehension:** They will understand spoken Mandarin related to weather forecasts and seasonal conversations, responding appropriately. 3. **Written Expression:** Students will produce clear written descriptions of weather and

		significance of seasonal festivals, such as the Spring Festival and the Mid-Autumn Festival, fostering an appreciation for the cultural context of the language. **Skills:** Through various activities, students will enhance their listening, speaking, reading, and writing abilities in Mandarin. They will practice making weather forecasts, asking about the weather, and discussing seasonal activities. Role-playing and interactive exercises will improve their conversational skills, allowing them to express opinions and preferences effectively. By the end of the term, students will feel more confident communicating about weather-related topics, deepening their understanding of Mandarin and Chinese culture.	seasons, using correct grammar and varied vocabulary. 4. **Cultural Awareness:** They will demonstrate an understanding of how weather influences cultural practices and festivals in Chinese-speaking regions. 5. **Active Participation:** Students will engage in class discussions and role-playing activities, collaborating effectively with peers. 6. **Reflection and Growth:** They will self-assess their progress and seek feedback, showing a commitment to improving their Mandarin skills. Overall, excellence will reflect linguistic proficiency, cultural appreciation, and active engagement in learning.
How will this be assessed?		Group discussion, homework and assessment.	
Art & Design	Underwater Symphony: A Colorful Journey through Warhol and Hokusai	Students will learn mixed media techniques by exploring Andy Warhol's and Katsushika Hokusai's styles. They will use bright acrylic paints for eye-catching sea creatures and ink wash techniques for a flowing underwater background. This project boosts creativity, critical thinking, and technical skills, helping students express their artistic ideas effectively.	Students will show their skills by using acrylic paints to create bright sea creatures in Warhol's pop art style and ink wash techniques for a smooth underwater background inspired by Hokusai. Their work will be original and creative, with attention to detail, reflecting growth through self-assessment and feedback.
How will this be assessed?		Presentation and Major Assessment	

Music	Chord Progression in Reggae Music	In this unit, students will delve into the history of reggae music and its evolution from earlier Jamaican genres. They will focus on understanding the main characteristics of reggae, particularly the use of chord progressions, and will learn how to incorporate these techniques into their own compositions.	By the end of the unit, students will be able to recognize chord progressions and adapt them into reggae patterns.
How will this be assessed?		Quiz, Worksheet, Music band, written assessment.	
PE	8R- Badminton 8S- Athletics	**Badminton**: Students will develop a solid understanding of key badminton skills, including serving, lob, drop, and lift shots. They will learn how to execute these techniques with precision, improving their overall gameplay and strategy on the court. By mastering these skills, students will enhance their agility, hand-eye coordination, and ability to anticipate their opponent's moves. **Athletics**: Students will gain knowledge and practical experience in various athletic disciplines, including running, jumping, and throwing events. They will learn the fundamentals of each event, focusing on proper technique, form, and the importance of physical conditioning. Through these activities, students will improve their speed, strength, endurance, and coordination, which are essential for overall athletic performance. **Swimming**: Students will develop water confidence, learning to feel comfortable and safe in the water. They will gain skills in floating, mastering the ability to stay buoyant with ease. In addition, they will learn proper techniques for freestyle	**Badminton**: • **Serving**: Consistently accurate serves with precise placement, using a variety of serves (high, low, flick) to keep opponents off balance. • **Lob**: Ability to execute high and deep lobs that push opponents to the back of the court, setting up offensive opportunities. • **Drop**: Demonstrating control and finesse with drop shots that land close to the net, forcing the opponent to move forward quickly. • **Lift**: Effective lifts that transition from defense to offense, placing the shuttlecock in challenging positions for the opponent. • **Net:** Able to execute tight net shots, hairpin drops, and aggressive net kills, effectively maintaining pressure on their opponents and dominating the net area. **Athletics:** • **Running**: Demonstrating exceptional speed, endurance, and efficient technique, with strong starts, smooth transitions, and powerful finishes.

		and backstroke, improving their stroke efficiency, breathing control, and overall swimming ability. These skills will enhance their coordination, stamina, and safety in aquatic environments.	• **Jumping**: Mastery of techniques, showing strong take-off power, good body control in the air, and precise landings. • **Throwing**: Displaying superior strength and technique in events like shot put, discus, or javelin, with consistently long and accurate throws. **Swimming (Excellence)**: • **Water Confidence**: Demonstrates complete comfort and control in the water, moving confidently and efficiently without hesitation. • **Floating**: Maintains a stable, relaxed float for extended periods, with minimal effort and perfect body positioning. • **Freestyle**: Executes a smooth, powerful stroke with excellent form, maintaining strong speed, breathing rhythm, and endurance over longer distances. • **Backstroke**: Shows flawless technique with consistent body alignment, efficient arm strokes, and strong, rhythmic kicking, maintaining excellent speed and control.
How will this be assessed?	Badminton- students will be assessed on the skills of serving, lob, lift, net, gameplay Athletics- students will be assessed on running, jumping and throwing events Swimming- students will be assessed on water confidence, floating, freestyle and backstroke		