



John Kyrle High School
& Sixth Form Centre

Year 7
Subject Information
2019 - 2020

A guide for Students & Parents/Carers

English

In English, our main aim is to ensure all students make progress and succeed. The curriculum is designed to encourage students to enjoy writing, promote independent and creative thought and to inspire a life-long love of reading. During the first few weeks, we test everyone on spelling and reading. Classes are initially organised according to KS2 levels. However, student work over the first term is assessed using the KS4 assessment objectives (see below) and is used to inform our setting decisions. Any initial changes are made in October.

Assessment Objectives:

A01	Identify and interpret information and ideas from texts and select appropriate textual references to support ideas.
A02	Explain, comment on and analyse how writers use language, form and structure to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate. Develop an evaluative response.
A03	Compare writers' ideas and perspectives across two or more texts; show understanding of the contexts in which they were written.
A04	Communicate clearly, effectively and imaginatively, selecting and adapting tone and style to suit different purposes, audiences and forms. Organise information and ideas, using structural and grammatical features to support coherence.
A05	Use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures for clarity, purpose and effect, with accurate spelling and punctuation.
A06	Use spoken Standard English effectively in speeches and presentations. Listen and respond appropriately to spoken language.

Programme of Study:

Unit of Work	Assessment
<p>Exploring Other Cultures</p> <p>Explore a range of poems from other cultures and develop an understanding of how writers are influenced by the world around them. Use a range of non-fiction texts to further your understanding of a writer's purpose.</p> <p>Extend your knowledge of key terminology and create your own poems through the planning, drafting and rewriting process.</p> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Written analysis of poetry from other cultures. (AO1, AO2, AO3)2. Group presentations. (AO6) Creative writing inspired by the poetry you have studied and your own experiences.(AO4, AO5)
<p>Heroes and Villains</p> <p>Share in the reading of a class novel and explore how authors' present the theme of heroes and villains in a range of literary texts.</p> <p>Understand how to effectively structure a story and use a range of techniques to engage a reader's interest.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Written analysis of key characters and/or themes. (AO1, AO2, AO3)2. Group presentations. (AO6)3. Creative writing inspired by the novel you have studied. (AO4, AO5)
<p>Shakespearean Comedy</p>  <p>Understand the features of Shakespearean comedy and how the Bard uses language to achieve his purpose.</p> <p>Produce your own creative writing inspired by the works of the great man himself!</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Written analysis of key characters and/or themes. (AO1, AO2, AO3)2. Group presentations. (AO6)3. Creative writing inspired by the play you have studied. (AO4, AO5)

Mathematics

In maths, we encourage all students to become confident and able mathematicians and to share our passion for the subject within a positive learning environment. Upon entry to JKHS all students are placed into sets for mathematics based on prior attainment (including teacher assessed information). These sets are constantly monitored to ensure students are in the optimum learning environment as they progress through the school.

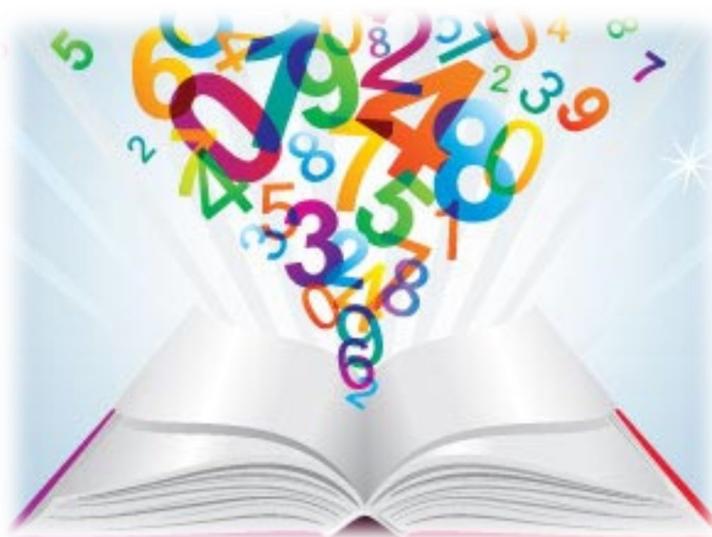
At the beginning of Year 7 the first half term is dedicated to developing number and calculation skills to aid the transition from KS2 to KS3. After this period students cover a variety of topics in the five main areas of mathematics:

- ◆ Algebra
- ◆ Number
- ◆ Geometry and measures
- ◆ Statistics and probability
- ◆ Ratio, proportion and rates of change

Problem-solving and functional skills are incorporated into the scheme of work throughout the year. This work is covered in various ways, which include exercises and investigations completed both in and out of the classroom, alongside the use of our dedicated computer suite.

Students are assessed at the end of each half term on the work covered that half term and homework is set, on average, once a week. There is the opportunity to sit the “Maths Challenge” each year and to attend chess club on a weekly basis.

Mathematics at John Kyrle High School is one of the school's most popular subjects and with the opening of our Maths Centre of Excellence we are continuing to go from strength to strength.



Science

The science department is the biggest department in the school with 15 specialist teachers, 2 specialist teaching assistants and 3 laboratory technicians based in 10 specialist science laboratories, 2 of which have student ICT facilities.

Students at John Kyrle follow a two-year key stage 3 programme of study based on the national curriculum from 2014, supported by the “Activate” scheme of work and resources.

Year 7 topics covered:

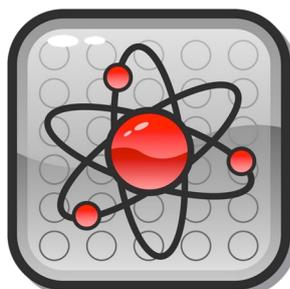
Block	Topics covered
1	Acids and Alkalis, Space
2	Particles and Forces
3	Body Systems and Sound
4	Reproduction and Elements, Atoms and Compounds
5	Reactions and Light
6	Working Scientifically - skills investigations



Students are initially placed in broad ability bands on entry to the school. They are all taught the same science content and then tested. Data from these tests is used to refine class setting.

Each subsequent assessment block includes a range of class and homework assessed work and is followed by a test. Setting changes are possible at the end of each block.

A wide range of teaching and learning styles are used to ensure that students of all abilities enjoy and make good progress in science.



MFL



“If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head.

If you talk to him in his own language, that goes to his heart” (Nelson Mandela)

In the modern foreign languages department at, you will study a term of French, a term of German and a term of Spanish in Year 7. We use exciting and challenging activities to develop language skills and we introduce topics in fun and interesting ways. Activities include:

- ◆ The use of ICT, and our Language Laboratory
- ◆ Speaking activities, such as role-play
- ◆ Food tasting
- ◆ Imaginative games to support new learning of vocabulary
- ◆ Developing grammatical knowledge and awareness
- ◆ Songs to practise pronunciation and new language
- ◆ Creative tasks and projects
- ◆ Developing cultural awareness
- ◆ Code-breaking and problem-solving
- ◆ Teamwork and independent work



It is vital for young people to learn languages and we aim to help students to see the relevance of a foreign language in a world where opportunities abroad are becoming increasingly attractive.

“Only 6% of the world’s population speak English as their first language.”

“75% of the world’s population speak no English at all.”

(CILT website 2011)



Design and Technology

All students in Years 7 – 9 study design and technology (D&T) with the subject optional in Years 10 –11. The subject is all about learning to design and make, using a range of equipment and technological activities. In Years 7, 8 and 9 you will have two hours of D&T per week and study three focus areas, which are:

- ◆ Food
- ◆ Textiles
- ◆ Construction (wood, metal, plastics, electronics, systems and control, and graphics)



You will be taught how to design and make a variety of products, using a range of materials and equipment. For food and textiles, you will usually have to bring your own ingredients and fabric. In construction you will be required to pay a small amount towards the cost of materials and components. In Year 10 you will decide whether you would like to follow a particular focus area through to GCSE.

What can you expect?

You will find yourself working busily within our lessons, learning about materials and the safe use of equipment. You will also be taught to come up with your own design ideas and to produce finished products.

What do you need to be 'good' at D&T?

You need to be alert and interested in your surroundings – looking at the design of items and being curious about what they are made from, and how they are made. You need to be good at listening to instructions and working to a time limit. You need to be able to work positively and to be proud of the things that you produce.



Geography



What will I do in geography lessons in Year 7?

You will begin your training as a geographical detective:

- You will be encouraged to ask good questions about the world;
- You will learn how to collect the evidence needed to answer these questions;
- The evidence will include Ordnance Survey maps, atlases, photographs, text, diagrams and a range of graphs.

The topics you will study include:

- ***The Geography of Chocolate*** – Where do the ingredients of our favourite snack come from? Should we feel guilty about our sweet tooth?
- ***Extreme Places*** – How and why are some parts of our planet so extreme? What ways have people adapted to enable them to live in these difficult places.
- ***Energy & Climate Change*** – How do we heat our homes, power our vehicles & run our multimedia lifestyles? What are the implications of our choices for the future of the planet?

Sometimes you will be taken out of the classroom to see local examples of the things you are studying, for example:

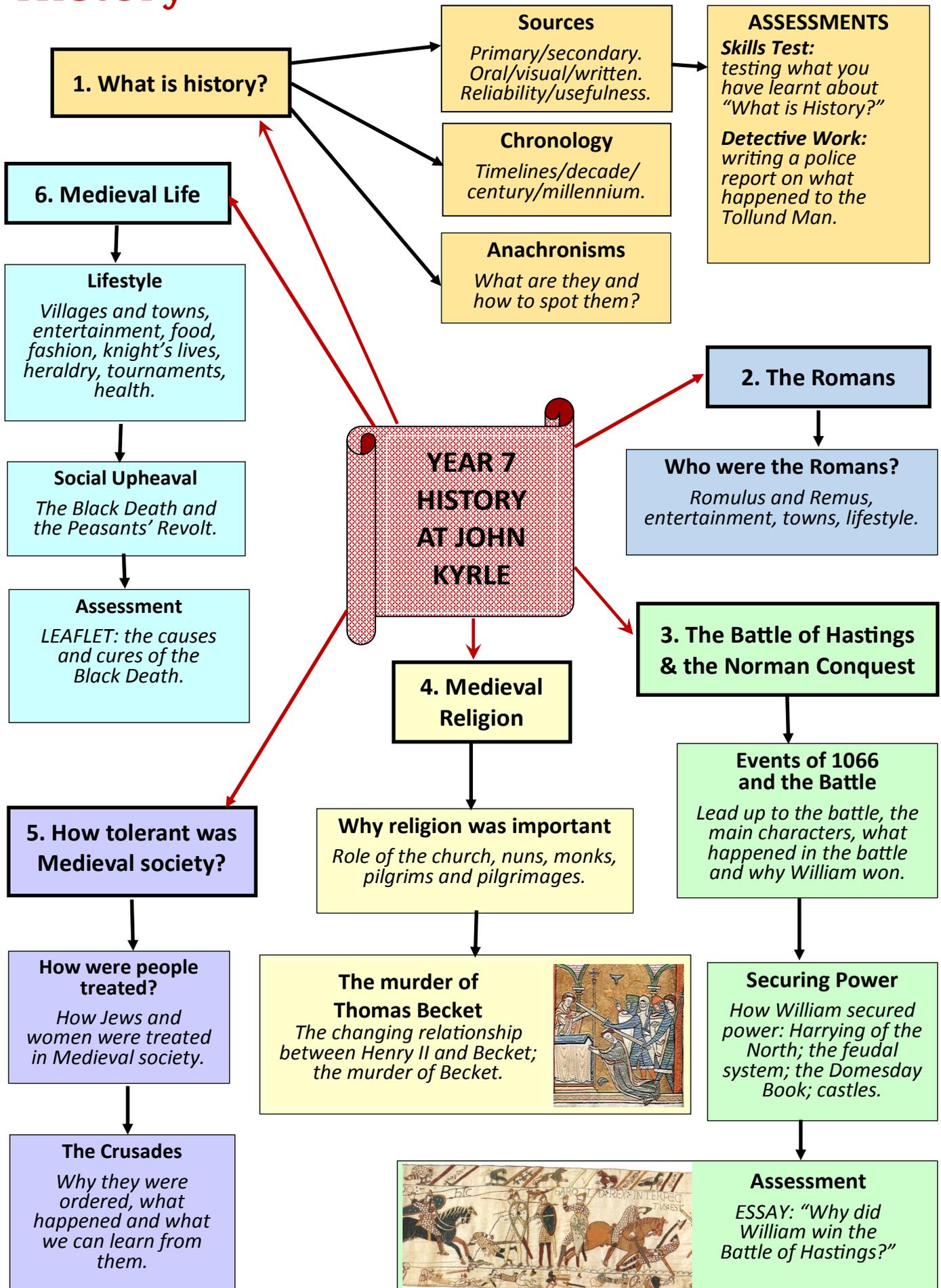
- different uses of land in Ross
- the site of the town as early settlers saw it
- the effects of weathering
- the course of a small stream

You will be expected to:

- think for yourself, using your common sense and prior learning
- bring basic equipment to every lesson (pen, pencil, ruler etc)
- concentrate on following instructions
- draw large, clear maps, diagrams, tables and graphs
- write clearly, legibly and to the best of your ability
- speak about the work you are doing
- complete a series of short, simple tasks at home (often research)
- ***LOOK*** closely, ***LISTEN*** carefully and ***LEARN*** as a result!

You will have two geography lessons each fortnight.

History



Computer Science

When you start at John Kyrle you are given your own username and password to gain access to the extensive computer resources throughout the school. You will also get your own school email address too.

Nearly every classroom in the school has access to computer technology and many rooms have suites of computers for your whole class to use. We have four fully-equipped computer suites within the department where all students in Year 7 have lessons covering the following computing skills:

- ◆ Using Computers Safely and Effectively
- ◆ App Development
- ◆ Spreadsheet Modelling
- ◆ Graphics
- ◆ Understanding Computers
- ◆ Games Programming

We aim to equip you with the computing and ICT skills needed to enable you to become independent and effective users of computers wherever you need to use it.

What is programming?

Very simply, programming means telling a computer to do something. Computers are dumb machines. They don't know how to do anything. You have to tell them everything, and you have to get all the details right.



RE

All students in Years 7-9 study RE, having an hour of lessons per week. We study a wide variety of topics and develop many new skills.

YEAR 7

- ◆ Investigating Beliefs & Religions
- ◆ Judaism today
- ◆ Eastern religions: Buddhism

YEAR 8

- ◆ Life and Teachings of Jesus
- ◆ The Journey of Life
- ◆ An introduction to Ethics.

YEAR 9

- ◆ Philosophy, Religion and Science
- ◆ Religion and Conflict
- ◆ Intro to GCSE: Contemporary Christianity and Islam



What can you expect?

RE is taught in a whole variety of different ways. It is the one subject that has probably changed more than any other since your parents/carers were at school! You will find yourself designing computer games, writing newspaper or magazine articles, examining artefacts, debating big questions, thinking deep thoughts, visiting places that seem out of this world and much more besides!

What skills are important?

You will need to be good at listening – not just to the teacher but to your fellow students whose views may be different from yours.

You will also need to work hard – we only expect your very best effort!

“RE – reaches the people, parts and places that other subjects don’t!”

Music

Class Music

In Year 7 students have the opportunity to use a variety of musical instruments to perform and compose pieces of music. Students will learn how to play the keyboard, read music or further their existing skills. They will listen to and analyse

music from a variety of genres from classical to dubstep. Tasks are set bearing in mind the previous knowledge and understanding of each student.

The music department encourages students in music technology using the music software programs Sibelius and Pro Tools. We also have opportunities for students to book studios at lunchtime for band rehearsals and private practice.



The topics covered in Year 7:

- ◆ **The Elements of Music** - Music has a small bank of terms known as the musical language and these are relevant to all types and styles of music. Students will learn the main terms and use them when discussing and analysing music.
- ◆ **African Music** - A composition assignment in exploring rhythms using djembes, a type of drum from Senegal.
- ◆ **In the Hall of the Mountain King** (music from the Alton Towers advert) - Students learn how to perform in an ensemble, read music, follow a score and identify musical features and ways in which classical music is used and sampled today.
- ◆ **Creating appropriate moods in Film Music** - Students will use the computers to compose a piece of music to support a video clip for a film trailer.

Musical Instrument Lessons are available on the following:

Guitar	Bass Guitar	Drums	Voice	<i>Instrumental lessons are organised on a rota basis during the school day. If there is an instrument you would like to have lessons on but is not listed, please enquire with the head of music : debrablake@jkhs.org.uk</i>
Flute	Clarinet	Saxophone	Piano	
Violin	Viola	Keyboard		
Trumpet	Cornet	Tenor Horn		
Trombone	Tuba	French Horn		

Art

In Year 7 students will learn how to explore and create works of art, sculpture and textiles. Key elements of mark making, shape and form, abstraction and colour will be explored through the theme of birds and nature.

Unit 1: Mark Making

Students will explore how line and mark making can be used to create art, using a range of tools and media, and that art is not just about being 'good' at drawing:

- Exploring line & tone
- Collage
- Drawing

Unit 2: Shape and Form

The work of *Fabric Lenny* will be studied and students will then adapt, stylise and refine their drawings into colourful compositions. They will then create their own 3D Fabric Lenny bird:

- Sculpture
- Card Relief
- Observational drawing
- Contextual studies



Unit 3: Colour Theory Abstraction

Students will explore colour, learning about primary, secondary and tertiary colours, hues, tints and shades and hot and cold:

- Colour mixing
- Water colours
- Paper collage
- Pencil crayons
- Tone/Shading
- Rendering
- Pattern
- Shape & Form

Unit 4: Abstraction

A variety of Abstract Art will be explored by *Kandinsky, Paul Klee and Barbara Hepworth*. Students will design their own abstract image using organic and geometric shapes:

- Colour mixing
- Water colours
- Paper collage
- Pencil crayons
- Tone/Shading
- Rendering
- Pattern
- Shape & Form

Homework Mini Project

Students will develop their *Fabric Lenny* work to help them create an exciting printed design for a T-shirt which they will embellish. They will explore a variety of embroidery stitches and embellishing techniques to decorate their final printed T-shirt.

PE

Lesson times

Every student has five hours of PE per fortnight:

- ◆ During the winter boys do rugby and gymnastics, whilst the girls do hockey and dance.
- ◆ In the spring term the boys go to football and summer preparation including tennis, athletics and cricket, whilst the girls do netball and gymnastics. They also do health related work.
- ◆ In the summer term it's athletics, tennis and cricket for the boys and athletics, rounders and tennis for the girls.



Clubs and Matches

The PE Department runs many after school clubs in all the major games, plus girls' football and boys' badminton.

The school runs teams in most sports and has regular matches against other schools. During lunchtimes there are inter-tutor group matches in rugby, netball, football, hockey and tennis. The highlight of the summer term is sports day when everyone has a chance of competing in their chosen activity and earning points for their tutor group.



The department also runs trips and visits, which have recently included a rugby/netball tour to Canada (for years 10/11) and occasionally day trips to the Millennium Stadium, Twickenham, Edgbaston and SWALEC Stadium.



Homework at JKHS!



At JKHS we don't limit your learning to the classroom! To do your best you'll need to keep up with studying at home too.

Subjects will set homeworks in different ways. For example, some subjects will set you shorter homeworks every week. Each of these should take you around 20 – 30 minutes to do. Other subjects do homeworks differently. They will set homeworks to be done over a few weeks. These longer projects are designed to help you research, plan and review your work, developing skills you'll need for exam courses later in the school. Your teacher and your tutor will help you keep up to date with these.

At JKHS we use *Show My Homework*. This is a website which teachers use to set homework. You will be given a username and password for the John Kyrle section of *Show My Homework* when you join the school and you will be taught how to use this in your ICT lessons and Tutor time. *Show My Homework* means you'll never forget what homework you have, or miss any of the resources staff might want you to use - it's all on-line for you. Parents/carers also get a username and password, so they can see your homework and help make sure you are OK with it.

Keys to success in homework!

- ◆ Keep up with it – don't let it all pile up.
- ◆ Use Show My Homework to keep track of what you have to do and when you have to complete it.
- ◆ Work with your tutor to plan your week – work out what needs doing.
- ◆ Ask your teacher if you don't understand a homework.
- ◆ If you find that you are really struggling with a homework, ask your parents /carer to write a note to your teacher explaining this.



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