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The
McAULEY
Catholic High School
and Sixth Form
DONCASTER

Y6 into Y7
Transition

Moving Up



The McAuley School Prayer

Almighty God, help us to treat each person in our school community with respect and to work together in an atmosphere of peace and justice.

Teach us to recognise unique and God-given gifts in every person, and to work to ensure that everyone becomes the best person they can be in all that they do.

We ask this in the name of Christ our Lord, Amen

We try to live each day by our school motto:
"I have come that they may have life and have it to the full."
John 10:10



Welcome

We are very excited about you coming to join us at The McAuley Catholic High School in September. We look forward to welcoming you into our community and getting to know you. We can't do that in person at the moment so this booklet will help you to get to know McAuley Catholic High School and for us to get to know you.

The School Day

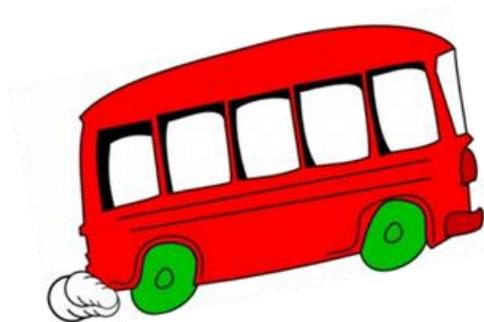
08.00 - 09.00	Period 1	1 Hour
09:00 - 09.05	Transition time to allow site change	5 Minutes
09.05 - 10.05	Period 2	1 Hour
10.05 - 10.20	Break	15 Minutes
10:20 - 11-20	Period 3	1 Hour
11.20 - 11.25	Transition time to allow site change	5 Minutes
11.25 - 12.20	Period 4	55 Minutes
12.20 - 12.25	Transition time for form time 5A or lunch	5 Minutes
12.25 - 1:15	Period 5 Form Time & Lunch This work on a rota, on one week you will have form time first then lunch, on another week you will have lunch first and then form time	50 Minutes
1.10 - 1.15	Transition time to lesson	5 Minutes
13.15 - 14.15	Period 6	1 hour

What if?

There will be some days when getting to school does not go according to plan

So what if this happens?

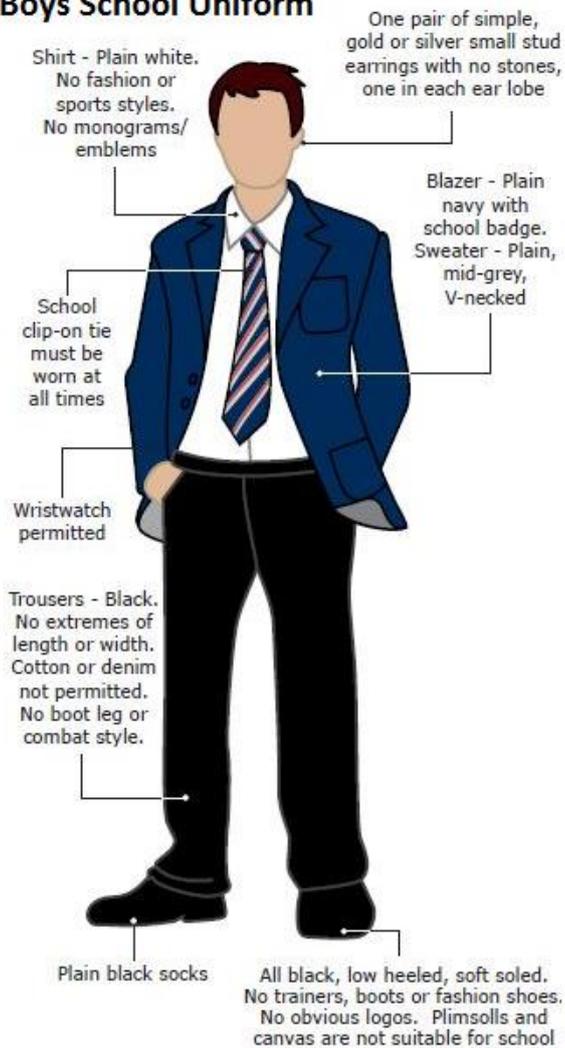
What if I am late?		Go to pupil reception and sign In, then go straight to your lesson
What if I have lost something?		Go to pupil reception and ask If it has been handed in
What if I feel Ill?		Tell a teacher, they will help you
What is I am not well enough to come to school?		Your parents/carers should ring school and let us know. When you return to school you should bring a note to show to your Form Tutor
What if the bus is late?		When you get to school go to Pupil Reception and sign in, then go straight to your lesson
What if I miss the bus?		Talk to your parents/carers, make a plan for if this happens
What if I don't know where to go?		Check your timetable, if you are still not sure ask a teacher, they will help you
What if I get lost?		Ask a teacher, they will know where you need to be



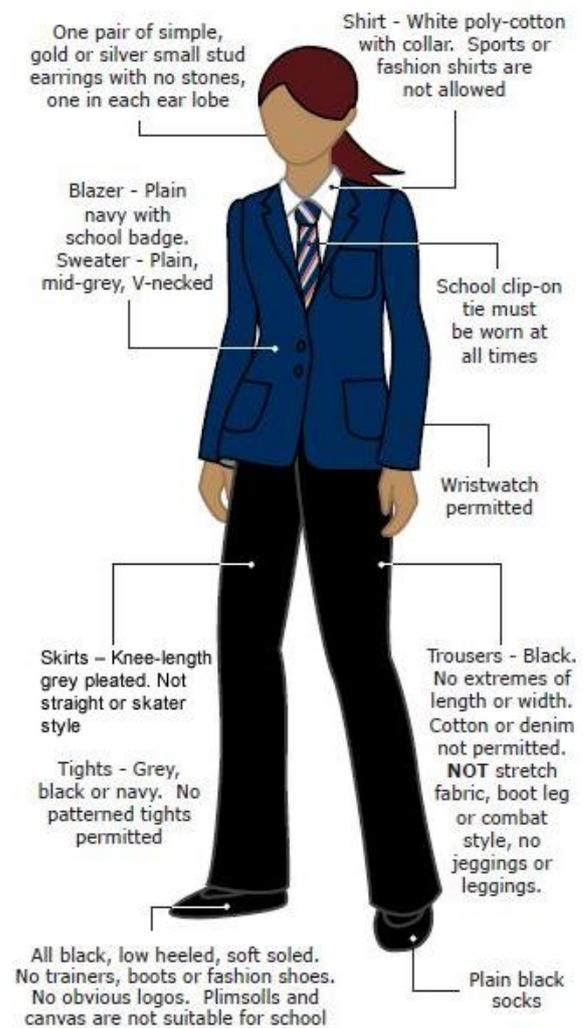
Uniform

Our school uniform is a sign that you belong to our school community; it should be worn in a clean, smart and business-like manner. This gives a clear message about your attitude to school and learning. We have put detailed Information on the transition area of the school website for your parents so that you will know exactly what uniform you need. There is also information about what PE kit you will need

Boys School Uniform



Girls School Uniform



Equipment

Over the summer, you need to ensure you get the essentials you need for your first day. Here is a handy checklist.

Item	✓
Black/Blue Ink Pens (Make sure you buy a few)	
HB Pencil	
Colouring Pencils	
Pencil Case	
Ruler	
Compass	
Protractor	
Pencil Sharpener	
Rubber	
School Bag	



Timetable

At the start of each year you will be given a timetable that tells you what subject you have each lesson.

The timetable you will have is a TWO WEEK timetable where it has a WEEK 1 and a WEEK 2. Each week will have a different set of lessons so it is really important you are organised with which lessons you have on each day.

The initials shown on your lessons are the initials of the teachers who will teach you those lessons. L means the lesson will be on Acacia Site and U means the lesson will be on Cantley Site. You will soon get used to your timetable and know exactly where you need to be.

This means that on Week 1, Wednesday, P3 you would have RE on Acacia Site in room 61 with Mrs Lee

	1Mon	1Tue	1Wed	1Thu	1Fri
1	En JPO U17	Ma GMN L52 RE	Pe RBN L39 PE	Hi PGI L53 Hi	Ar SHI U33 Art
2	Ge JTH L45 Ge	Te IJM L18 Tec	Sc AWA U25 Sc	Ma GMN L52 RE	Sc JCO U27 Sc
3	Dr MSI L2 Dran	Re JLE L61 RE	Re JLE L61 RE	Ge JTH L45 Ge	Cs MHE U21 CS
4	Ma GMN L52 RE	Fr MAN L23 MF	Hi PGI L53 Hi	Pe MAL L39 PE	En JPO U17
5A	Re RMA U19 Pv	Re RMA U19 Pv	Re RMA U19 Pv	Re RMA U19 Pv	Re RMA U19 Pv
5B					
6	Fr MAN L23 MF	En JPO U17	Fr MAN L23 MF	Mu NOL L16 Mu	Te TBR L9 Tech

	2Mon	2Tue	2Wed	2Thu	2Fri
1	En JPO U17	Ma GMN L52 RE	Pe RBN L39 PE	Sc AWA U23 Sc	Sc JCO U27 Sc
2	Ge JTH L45 Ge	Te TBR L9 Tech	Sc JCO U27 Sc	Ma GMN L52 RE	Ge JTH L45 Ge
3	Dr MSI L2 Dran	Re JLE L61 RE	Re JLE L61 RE	En JPO U17	Re JLE L61 RE
4	Ma GMN L52 RE	Fr MAN L23 MF	Hi PGI L53 Hi	Pe MAL L39 PE	Ar SHI U33 Art
5A					
5B	Re RMA U19 Pv	Re RMA U19 Pv	Re RMA U19 Pv	Re RMA U19 Pv	Re RMA U19 Pv
6	Hi PGI L53 Hi	En JPO U17	Cs MHE U21 CS	Mu NOL L16 Mu	Sc AWA U30 Sc

School Meals

There are lots of options for school meals at McAuley. There is detailed information about school meals in the transition area of the school website.

You can bring a packed lunch if you wish, and there are areas available for you to sit and eat your lunch

There will always be a cooked meal of the day with a dessert, currently this costs £2.10.

There are many other choices such as, Pizza, Pasta and Sandwiches; these are all available in our main dining halls. We also have our pods outside which sell food items such as burgers, hot wraps and Panini's

At morning break you can buy snacks such as hash browns, toast and waffles.

A Typical Menu

World KITCHEN		WEEK ONE					Aspens 
		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
TRADITIONAL DISH	Bangers & Mash Pork sausage with mash, peas and onion gravy	Burger Bar Patty & bun with sriracha dirty slaw and dusted wedges	Southern Fried Chicken Chicken burger nuggets popping chicken spicy wedges	Chicken Curry Marinated chicken thigh in a mild curry sauce with rice cucumber raita and kachumber	Fish & Chips Battered fish fillet with chips and peas		
	VEGGIE DISH 	Bangers & Mash Quorn sausage with mash, peas and onion gravy	Burger Bar Vegetarian patty & bun with Sriracha dirty slaw and dusted wedges	Creamy Quorn Puffs Quorn & veg puffs with spicy wedges & slaw	Sweet Potato Balti Lightly spiced sweet potato, chickpea and lentil curry with rice, cucumber raita and kachumber	Beef Burger Beetroot & feta burger with mint yoghurt green salad and chips	
Hot DELI	Our Hot Deli Range includes fresh dough pizzas, pasta & noodle pots, filled jacket spuds & paninis hot chicken wraps, wings & dusted wedges. We rotate our range throughout the week.						
DELICIOUS DESSERTS	Old school sponge and custard	Sticky orange cake	Baked American style cheesecake	Chocolate brownie	Shortbread Cookie		

Who To Talk To

There will be times when you feel your day isn't going as well as you'd hoped and you need to talk to someone about it. Don't worry; at McAuley there is always someone to talk to who will help you.

Form Tutor		You will see your Form Tutor every day during form time. They will always be ready to listen to any problems and help you to sort through them
Friends		You may be coming to McAuley with friends or you may be coming on your own. You will soon make new friends who will want to help you and make your day better
Year Leader		Every year group has a Year Leader and and a Key Stage Manager. They will also be able to help If you feel you need someone to talk to. You will soon get to know them
Teachers		Every teacher in McAuley wants you to enjoy your learning. You can speak to any teacher if you are worried
Buddies		At McAuley we have a fantastic group of Buddies. These are students who know school really well and can help you with anything you might be worried about
Polly		Polly is our Chaplain; she is always available if you need to talk to someone. You might have something on your mind that is worrying you, it might be about school or home, Polly will be there to listen and to help

Mansions of Glory

When you begin at McAuley in September you will be welcomed into a very special community, a community which we are very proud of and we hope you will be too. We are a community as a school, a year group, a form, a team and when you arrive you will be placed in a mansion. Your mansion will depend on what form you are in. Every student and staff member belongs to a mansion because everyone belongs in our community.

What are Mansions?

In your primary school you may have had a house system, something where you could earn house points (a bit like in Harry Potter) or had competitions in. Here at McAuley though we believe that houses are too small for what we want to do and to showcase the talent that all members of our school community have to display.

Below are the names of our mansions, the charities they support and the mansion Saints:



Your mansion is not just about its name, as you can see above each one is linked to a Saint and a charity, throughout your first year you will be able to learn all about your mansion, who your saint is and what your charity supports. There will be a number of occasions to celebrate and be with other members of your mansion, such as feast days, Masses and much more.

Throughout the school year there will be different competitions held between mansions helping you build your points up for prizes at the end of the year where there will be a celebration for the winning mansion.



Learning

Starting at secondary school is a really important milestone for you and for your family. It is an opportunity to meet new people and make new friends, to study new subjects and discover new gifts and talents. You will become more independent and will learn many new skills which will help you achieve your potential. This is your time to shine!

The next few pages of this booklet you will find activities which will help you to prepare for starting McAuley in September.

You should aim to complete at least 6 of these tasks, remember to bring them with you In September and show them to your Form Tutor



RE



The RE Department is really looking forward to welcoming all the new Y7 students into their lessons and are excited about getting to know you all. RE is a core subject at McAuley and you will all study RE throughout your time here

One of the first topics you will study in RE in community, you will investigate the importance of community and what it means to belong

The picture above is of Catherine McAuley, our school is named after her. Your task is to:

Research the life of Catherine McAuley

- What was her early life like, where was she born and when?
- What did she decide to do with her life and why?
- What does Catherine do that makes her such a good role model for our community?

Create a profile for Catherine McAuley, use the Information that you found in your research to help you to do this.

You can use the profile outline in this booklet or you can design your own.

Good Luck!



facebook

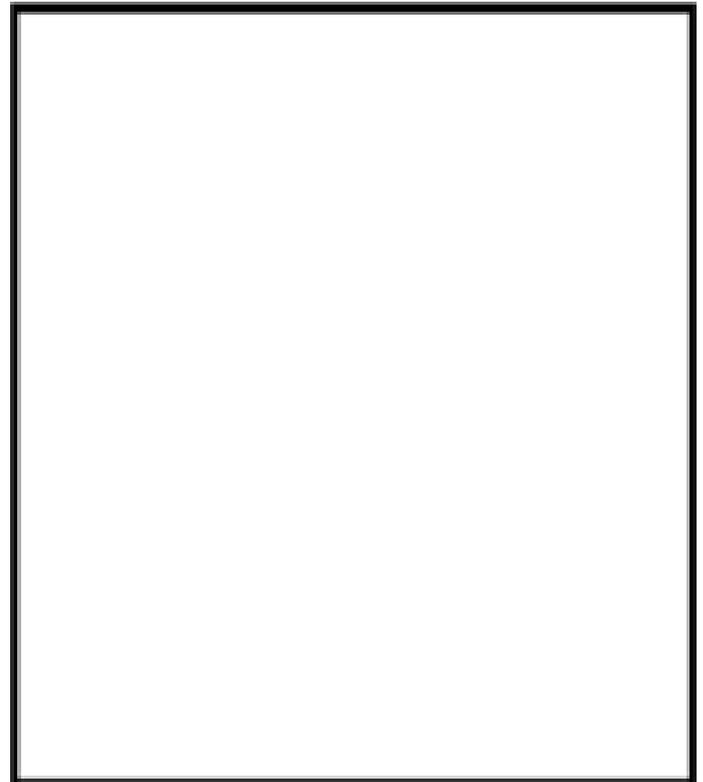
Status:

Home town:

Job:

Date of Birth:

What I am most famous for.....



Wall Posts

Message:

Message:

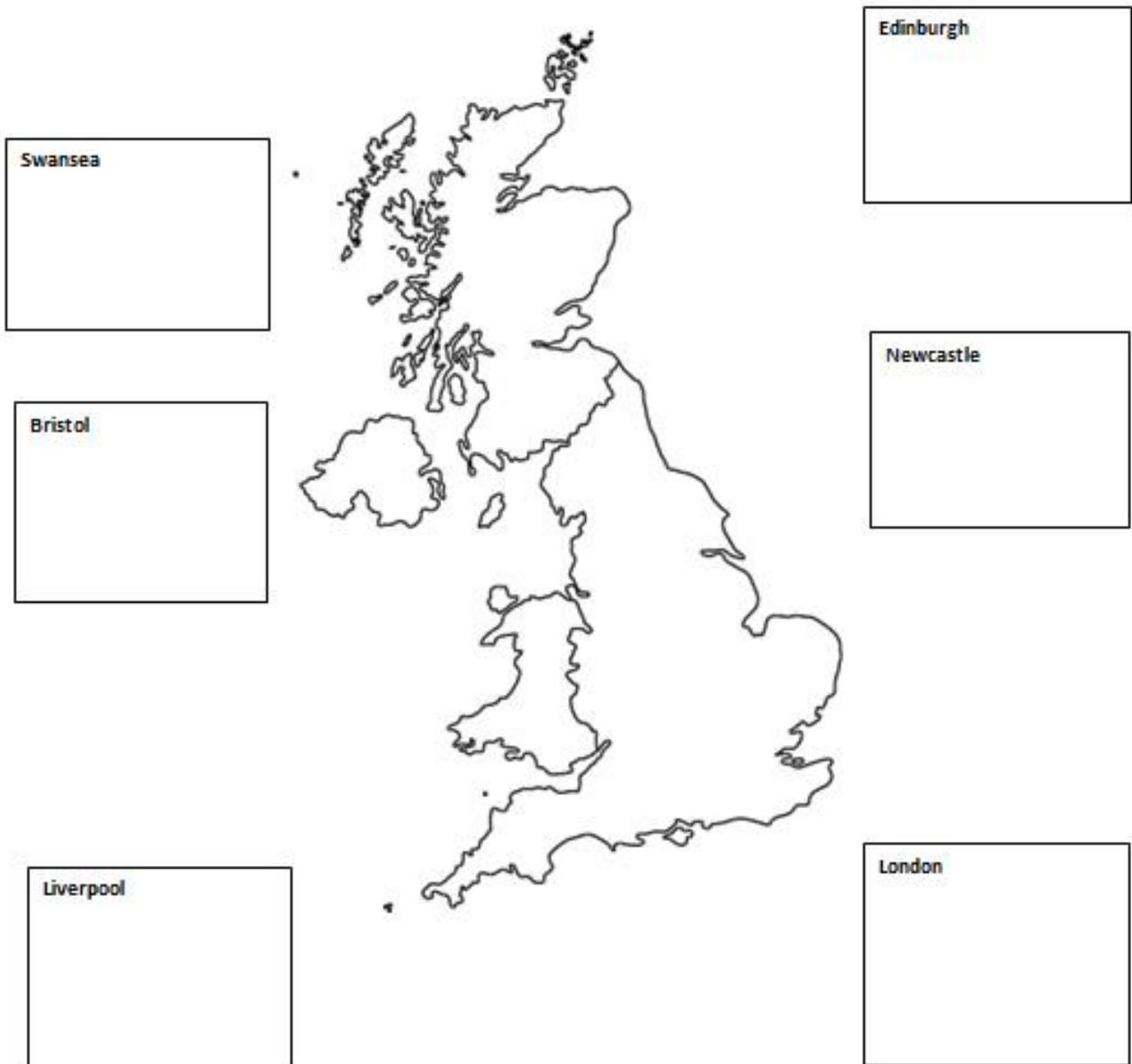
Message:

Message:

Geography

Complete the following tasks:

1. Locate the 6 cities on the map and find out a fact about each one
2. Label the borders of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland



English

Read for 20 minutes, five times each week. Each time you read, you should summarise what you have read (a sentence about the main parts of what you have read). Please also clarify a minimum of two words each time you read (create a definition) - if you know the meaning of all of the words then choose two words that you'd like to start using in your writing, or, words you think others in your class may not understand.

If you don't have a book at home you can find an online PDF of 'Wonder' by R J Palacio here <https://www.readingsanctuary.com/wpcontent/uploads/2018/10/Wonder.pdf> and here is the link to read Cirque du Freak by Darren Shan here: <https://novels77.com/cirque-du-freak/chapter-one69589.html> or you could find another novel of your choice online.

I have chosen to read _____ . I chose this book because _____

Date	Page Number	Summary	Clarify Words

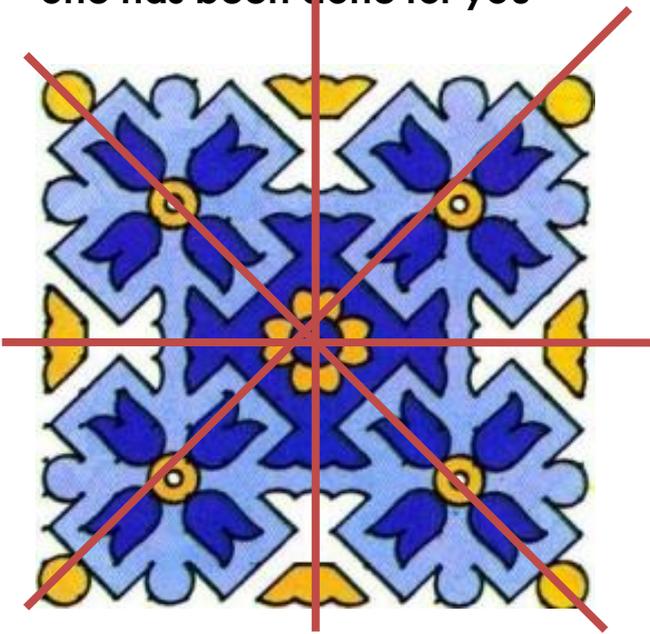
1. Once you reach the end of your book. Complete a book review (you may want to conduct online research what an effective book review should include).
2. Think about how the end of the book made you feel. Was it relief? Was it frustration? Why? Create an alternative ending for the book you have read. Think about how this new ending would make the reader feel. This should be one side of A4.

Maths

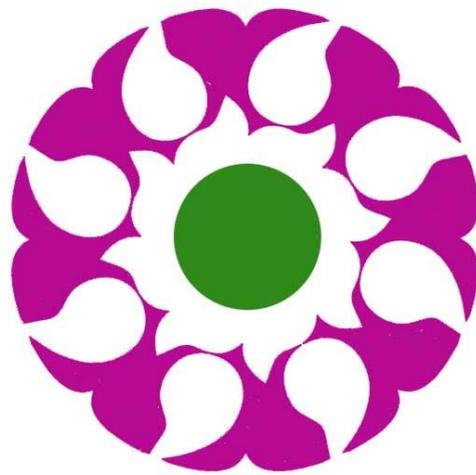
RANGOLI

Rangoli patterns are decorative designs that are created on floors during Hindu festivals. Most rangoli designs are symmetrical.

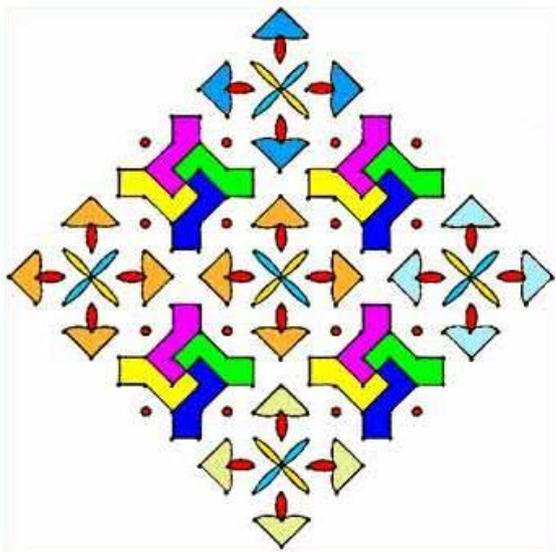
Look at the Rangoli designs below. For each design, draw the lines of symmetry and then write down how many lines of symmetry it has. The first one has been done for you



Lines of symmetry: 4



Lines of symmetry: _____



Lines of symmetry: _____



Lines of symmetry: _____

Have a go at creating your own Rangoli designs.

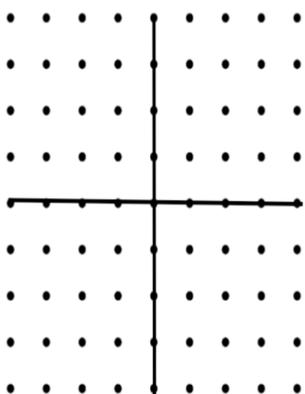
Try to be as creative as possible.

Below are some instructions and an example to help. You may want to copy the example before trying your own.

On the next page is the dotted paper you need.

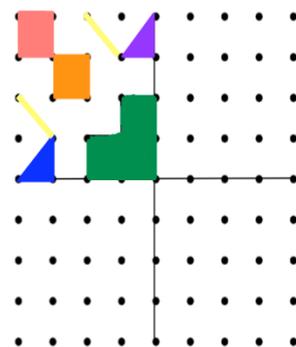
If you are struggling with the reflection think of it like a mirror line. You could use a small hand held mirror to help if you have one.

- Split the square into quarters.

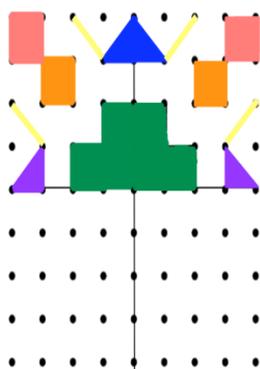


- Start drawing a pattern in the top left quarter.

- You can make it as easy or as hard as you like.

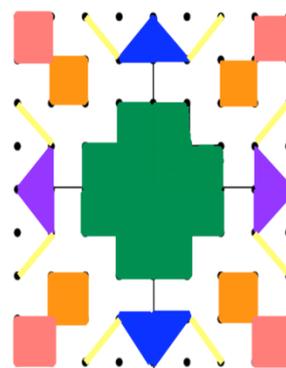


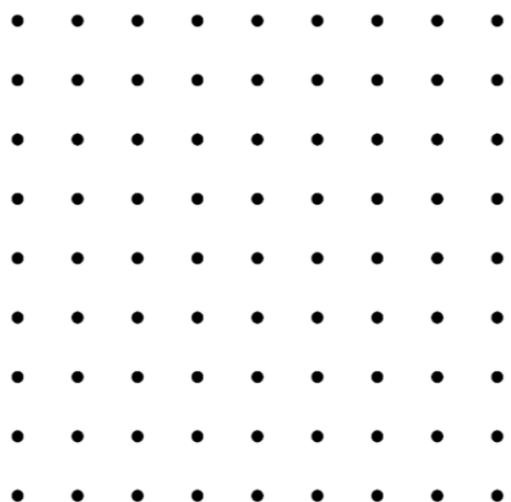
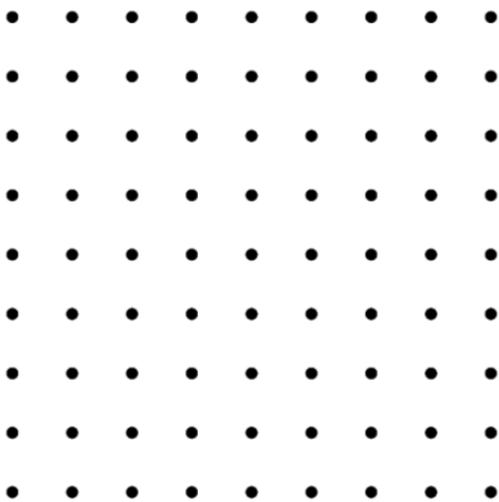
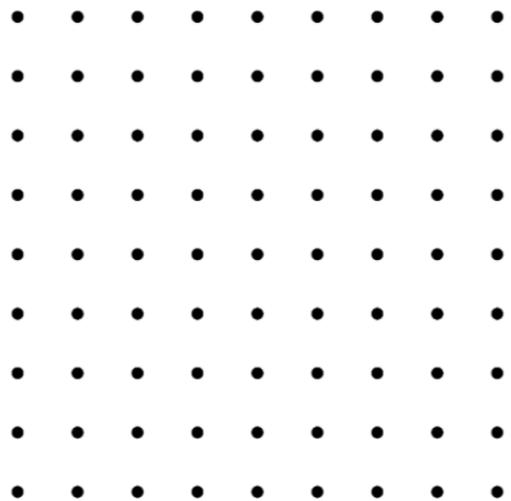
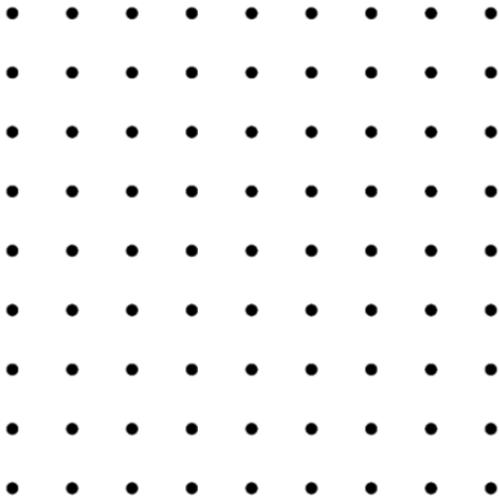
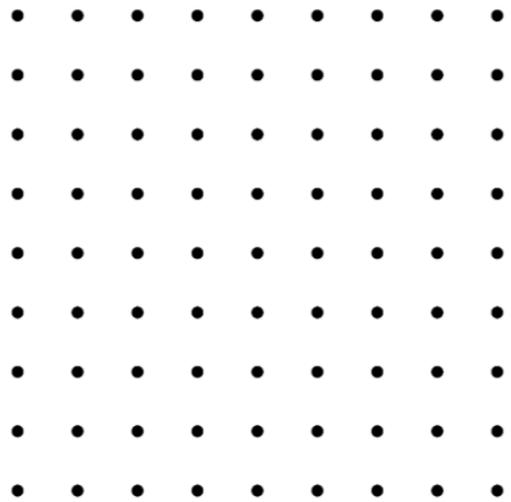
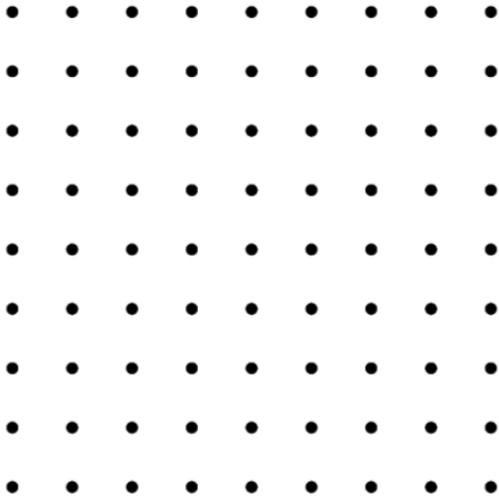
- Reflect the pattern into the quarter next to the filled quarter.



- Reflect the pattern to fill the final 2 quarters.

- Colour it in.





PE



The McAuley PE Department are looking forward to getting to know you

What is your name

What sports do you currently play?

A collection of black silhouettes representing various sports: a person jumping, a person kicking, a person running, a person jumping high, and a person in a dynamic pose.

What is your own best sporting moment? Please describe it to us.

A cartoon illustration of three children standing on a podium. The child in the middle is on the highest step (labeled '1'), the child on the right is on the second step (labeled '2'), and the child on the left is on the lowest step (labeled '3'). They are all wearing medals.

Who is your sporting hero and tell us why.

A cartoon illustration of a superhero with a blue suit and a red cape, flying through the air.

Can you draw or find a picture of them?

A cartoon illustration of a boy with a pencil, standing and holding a large pencil.

PE Tasks - Option 1

Choose 1 of the 2 options

A Fitness Challenge

Using the letters of your name complete the exercises associated with that letter.

For example, if your name begins with a R you would start by doing 30 seconds of shuttle runs. Then move onto the next letter of your name.



ALPHABET FITNESS

Spell your name and carry out the exercises for each letter

A	=	50 Jumping Jacks	N	=	25 Burpees
B	=	20 Crunches	O	=	20 Lunges
C	=	30 Squat	P	=	30 secs Ski Jumps
D	=	15 Push-ups	Q	=	30 Sit Ups
E	=	1 min Wall Sit	R	=	30 sec Shuttle Runs
F	=	10 Burpees	S	=	20 Bicep Curls
G	=	20 Arm Circles	T	=	20 Tricep Dips
H	=	20 Squats	U	=	45 secs Wall Sit
I	=	30 Jumping Jacks	V	=	45 secs Plank
J	=	30 secs Plank	W	=	20 Push-ups
K	=	30 secs Ski Jumps	X	=	30 Jumping Jacks
L	=	30 secs Wall Sit	Y	=	10 Crunches
M	=	30 Mountain Climbers	Z	=	20 Squats

How did you feel after your workout? What was happening to your body? Can you try and complete this each week over the holidays?

Option 2 - Become a sports reporter

Watch **one** of the following clips and explain to a family member what you have just seen. You need to consider the following:



- What is happening? E.g. which sport, people, sounds, colours, weather
- Who is performing?
- What was the result of what they were doing? E.g. they made a great pass

Give as much information as you can!!

Football - Harry Kane



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z6rYx_1gKEE

Netball - Helen Housby



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7SK4KIBUVXU>

100m - Usain Bolt



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3nbj_hpcZ9_g

Tennis - Andy Murray

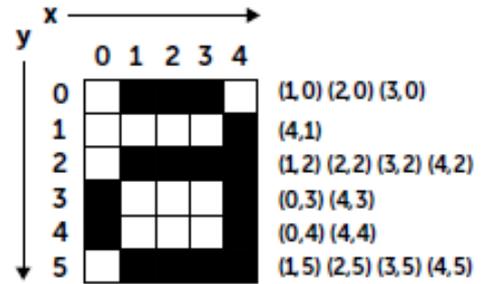


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5p2oci9qTj8>

Thank you for completing this work. We hope you enjoyed it and we are looking forward to meeting you in September.

Computer Science

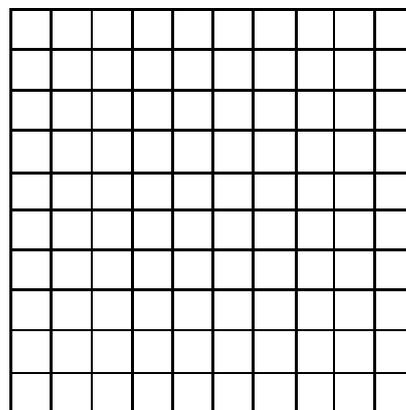
The grid numbering starts at (0, 0) in the top left-hand corner of the grid. This is because computers use the same (x, y) coordinates as old-fashioned televisions, which display images in horizontal lines from left to right, starting at the top and moving downwards.



Task 1 – Decode this image

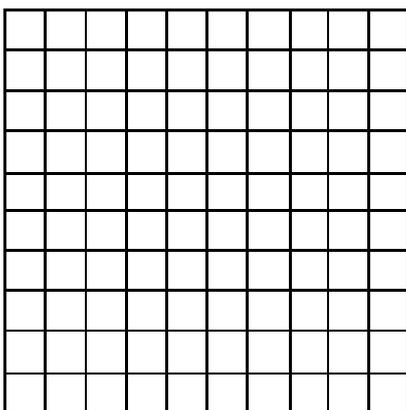
Decode this image by colouring in the right coordinates.

You can use whichever colour you like.



- (1,1) (2,1) (6,1) (7,1)
- (0,2) (3,2) (5,2) (8,2)
- (0,3) (4,3) (8,3)
- (0,4) (8,4)
- (1,5) (7,5)
- (2,6) (6,6)
- (3,7) (5,7)
- (4,8)

Task 2 – What is this?



- (3,0) (6,0)
- (0,1) (4,1) (5,1) (9,1)
- (0,2) (1,2) (2,2) (3,2) (6,2) (7,2)
- (8,2) (9,2)
- (2,3) (7,3)
- (0,4) (2,4) (7,4) (9,4)
- (0,5) (1,5) (2,5) (7,5) (8,5) (9,5)
- (2,6) (7,6)
- (0,7) (1,7) (2,7) (7,7) (8,7) (9,7)
- (0,8) (3,8) (6,8) (9,8)
- (4,9) (5,9)

What do you see in the image?

Hint: it is really important that you keep them out of your code!

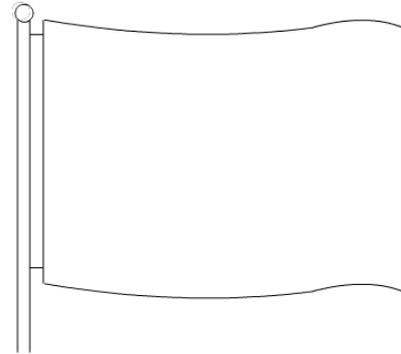
Task 3 – Create your own Pixelart

Click on this link and make an image using Pixels.
Take a screen shot or picture of it to show to your form tutor.

<https://www.mr.langford.co/pixelpy/>

French

Can you find the names of 10 cities or towns in France and mark them on the map:-



Colour in the **FRENCH** flag

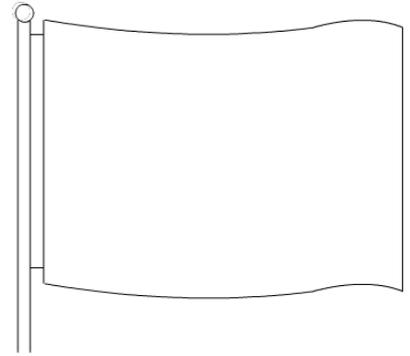
Choose one of the cities on your map and see if you can find out 3 facts about it:-

City	
Fact 1	
Fact 2	
Fact 3	

See if you can make a list of some food items which are French specialities:-

Spanish

Can you find the names of 10 cities or towns in Spain and mark them on the map:-



Colour in the **SPANISH** flag

Choose one of the cities on your map and see if you can find out 3 facts about it:-

City	
Fact 1	
Fact 2	
Fact 3	

See if you can make a list of some food items which are Spanish specialities:-

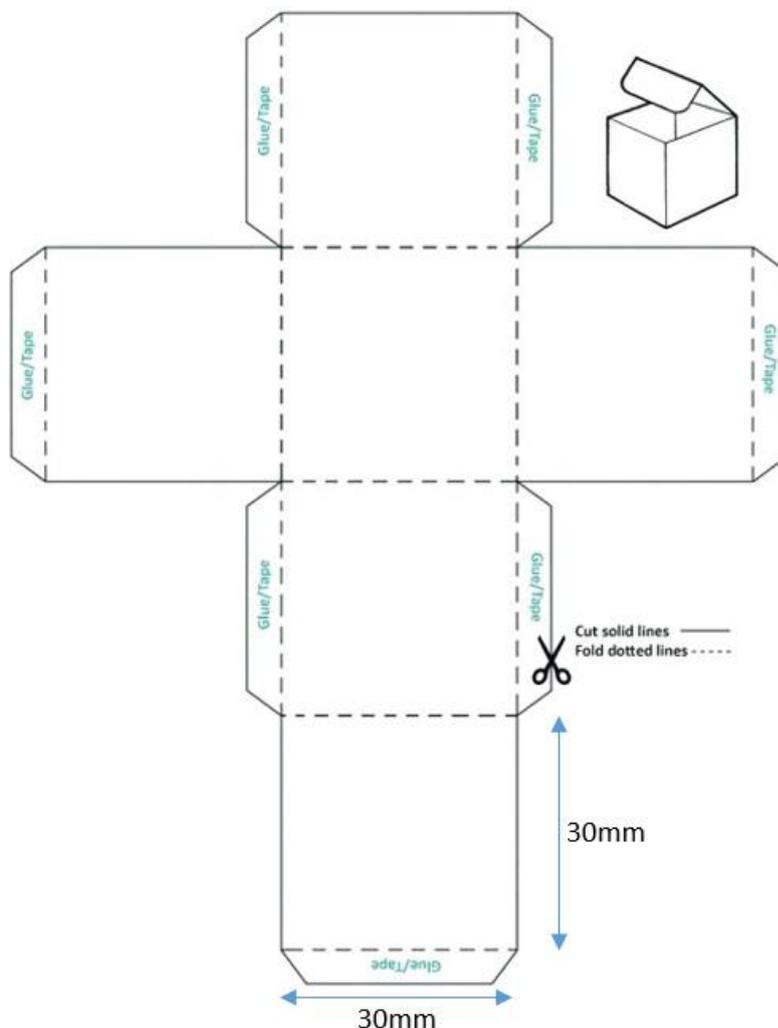
Technology

MAKE IT CHALLENGE

Brief: Make a simple board game based on snakes and ladders. Your game must include a board, a dice and four counters all of your own design. The game should be based on a theme of your choice eg, Harry Potter, angry birds, Sean the sheep etc.

Instructions:

- 1) Before you start, find existing ideas on the internet, sketch out on paper a few different ideas of your own with a track and steps numbered 1 to 20. This helps you see what looks the best and helps avoid any problems with the track design on the finished product.
- 2) Obtain a cereal box and cut out the front and back. Use one piece of box board to draw the track on. On the other piece of board, using a pen and ruler, draw the dice template (called a net) shown below. (alternatively print it out and make a paper version.)
- 3) Carefully cut around the outline of the dice net but don't cut the dotted lines. Place the ruler just under each dotted line and using a dinner knife score but don't cut through each of the dotted lines. Fold up each dotted line to form the tabs and bottom of the dice.
- 4) Before gluing together work out the dots needed on each side and colour them in. Remember opposite sides on a dice must add up to seven
- 5) Finally fold up the cube and glue all the flaps down hold the sides down with an elastic band until the glue is set.
- 6) Using offcuts of card make at least four counters of your own design.



History

Historians love evidence from the past. The British Museum once presented a superb exhibition showing important objects from around the world from Prehistory to the present day. Here is one of the objects they presented and one of the most famous of all British finds from the past. Can you answer the questions that follow by researching the internet and using your reasoning skills?



Where was the helmet found?.....

What was found alongside the helmet?.....

When do Historians believe the helmet was made?.....

Who do they think it was made by?.....

The Sutton Hoo Helmet

Can you explain why this was such an important find for Historians? If you want, simply put a list of bullet points.....

.....
.....
.....

Useful website: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/ahistoryoftheworld/topics/>

Can you pick one of the other objects from the exhibition and describe it- perhaps explaining why it is important to Historians.....

.....
.....
.....
.....

Science

The Rough Guide to the Breathing System

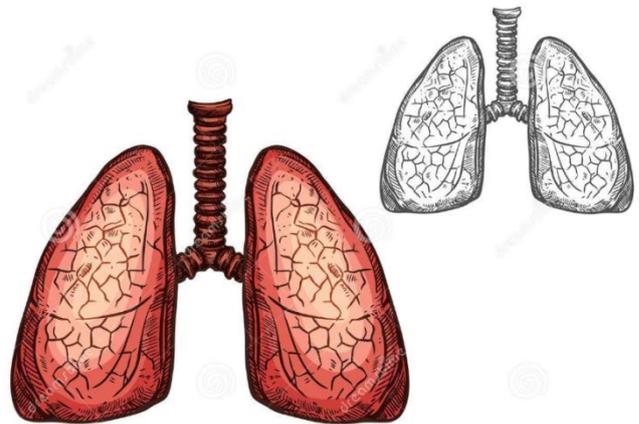
The breathing system (sometimes also called the respiratory system) is comprised of the mouth and nose, trachea, bronchi, bronchioles, alveoli, ribs and diaphragm.

You have been asked by a publisher to produce a guide to the breathing system which can be used by Y6 students to help them learn about the breathing system.

You must **Identify** each organ in the breathing system and **describe** its role in breathing. You could present your guide as a leaflet or poster.

These short video clips will help you to get started.

1. <https://youtu.be/3p6Rlv9ZRY4>
2. <https://youtu.be/rUVMok4Qp-Y>
3. <https://youtu.be/0giiDDBJVQU>
4. <https://youtu.be/ylEknRf0jLU>



These websites may also be useful.

1. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/znyycdm/articles/zbpdqhv>
2. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zvrrd2p/articles/zm3xh39>

Music

Make a list of your 10 favourite songs and who sang them, and give a musical reason why you like each one. Remember to try and use musical words.

Karaoke time! Find a karaoke track and sing!

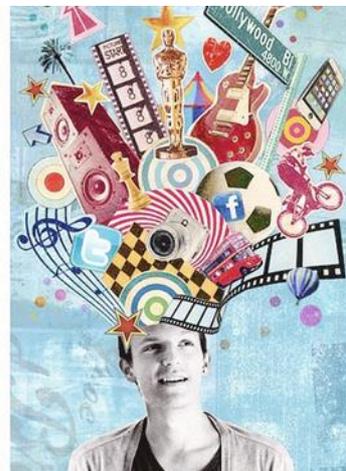
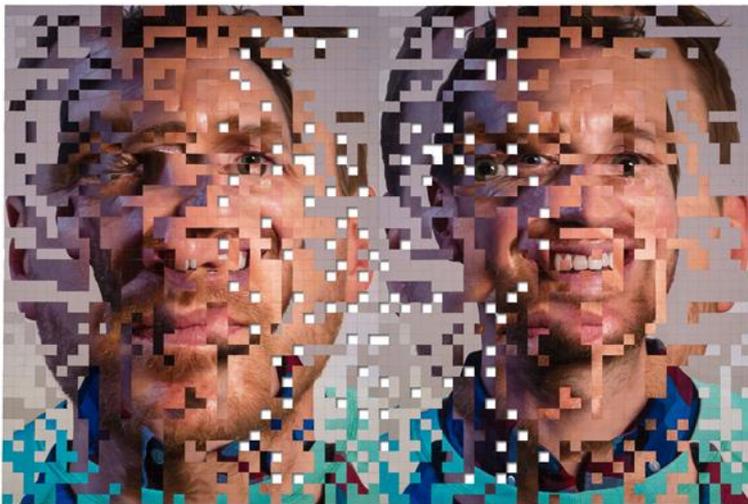


Art

Art Project- 'Who are you?'

At Mcauley, we celebrate all of our pupils and we recognise that you are all unique! In the Art and Photography department we express ourselves through our artwork, we are creative and we try out new ideas thoughtfully!

Here are some examples of how artists have explored different ways of using art to show who they are.



Task:

So that your new form tutor (and your Art teacher!) can get to know you, we would like you to make a piece of artwork that shows who you are.

This doesn't have to show what you look like (although it can show that if you wish), but who you are as a person, what you would like your new teachers and classmates and know about you.

Your artwork can use any materials that you wish, it can be any size, it could be a collage, photography, drawing, painting, model making, a creative video, something not listed here, a combination of things- it is completely up to you! This is something to enjoy, and not to be worried over!

Have fun, I can't wait to see where your ideas take you to!

Ms Ashcroft

Curriculum Leader for Art and Photography



Drama



Roald Dahl's 'The Twits'

During some of your drama lessons in year 7, you will get the chance to work with a script. Some of you may have seen a script before but some of you may not.

You have been provided with the first scene from the play version of, 'The Twits'.

We would like you to have a read through the script we have given you (you could even have a go at performing it with family/friends if you would like to!)

We would then like you to have a go at drawing a picture of what you think the Twits would look like and how you would costume them. Your drawings can be as simple or as detailed as you would like. You could also include labels to make it clear what costume you would use.

If you would like to have a go at something else, you could design a set to show the Twits' house. If you're not sure what a set is, it is the way a stage is set up during a play or a show.

To help you, you can visit the Roald Dahl website www.roalddahl.com and you will find lots of information about 'The Twits' under the stories tab.

Have fun and we look forward to meeting you in September!

Meet the Twits

Curtain up.

The CAST, all except MR and MRS TWIT, assemble in a semicircle. Drum roll.

ACTOR 1: They're shocking!

ACTOR 2: They're smelly!

ACTOR 3: They're silly!

ACTOR 4: They're stupefyingly stupid!

ACTOR 5: Get ready to meet ...

ACTOR 6: The one and only ...

ACTOR 7: Thank goodness!

ALL: The Twits!

MR TWIT: ... makes me look terrifically wise and grand!

ACTORS 1, 2, 3 and 4: But in truth he was neither of these things.

ACTORS 5, 6, 7 and 8: Mr Twit was a twit.

ACTORS 9, 10, 11 and 12: He was born a twit.

MRS TWIT: *[Coming forward]* And now, at the age of sixty, he's a bigger twit than ever!

[MR TWIT looks angrily at MRS TWIT]

ACTOR 1: How often, you may ask, did Mr Twit wash this bristly, nailbrushy face of his?

ACTOR 2: The answer is ...

ALL: Never!

MR TWIT: *[Proudly]* Not even on Sundays!

ACTOR 3: As a result there were always hundreds of bits of old breakfasts ...

[Fanfare]

[The semicircle splits to admit MR and MRS TWIT, who enter with show-biz flair. MRS TWIT carries a walking stick. They act out the words of the NARRATORS]

ACTOR 8: The best way to describe the Twits is ...

ALL: Disgusting!

ACTOR 9: Mr Twit ...

[MR TWIT steps forward]

... was a very hairy-faced man.

ACTOR 10: His thick, spiky hair stuck out straight like the bristles of a nailbrush.

ACTOR 11: The stuff even sprouted in revolting tufts out of his nostrils and ear-holes.

MR TWIT: My hairiness ...

ACTOR 12: ... thought Mr Twit ...

ACTOR 4: ... and lunches ...

ACTOR 5: ... and suppers ...

ACTOR 6: ... sticking to the hairs.

[MR TWIT licks eagerly round his face]

ACTOR 7: Specks of gravy!

ACTOR 8: Dried-up scrambled egg!

ACTOR 9: Spinach!

ACTOR 10: Tomato ketchup!

ACTOR 11: Fish fingers!

MR TWIT: *[With delight]* Minced chicken livers!

ACTOR 12: If you delved deeper still – hold your noses, ladies and gentlemen – you'd discover things that had been there for months and months.

[MR TWIT delves in his beard and finds ...]

MR TWIT: A piece of maggoty green cheese! *[He eats it noisily]*

ACTOR 1: A mouldy old cornflake!

[MR TWIT *finds it and eats it*]

ACTOR 2: Or even ...

MR TWIT: [*Digging it out*] ... the slimy tail of a tinned sardine. [*He holds it aloft*]

[MRS TWIT *grabs it and eats it with delight*]

MRS TWIT: Mmmm. Tasty.

[MR TWIT *scowls at her*]

ACTOR 3: Mrs Twit was no better than her husband.

MR TWIT: You ... you ugly old hag!

[MRS TWIT *reacts furiously, making herself look even uglier than usual*]

ACTOR 4: Ugly, yes.

ACTOR 5: But not born ugly.

ACTOR 6: When she was young, she had quite a pretty face.

[MRS TWIT *smiles 'prettily'*]

ACTOR 2: For what really made them happy was ...

ALL: ... playing nasty tricks on one another!

[*A drum roll as ACTORS OR STAGE MANAGERS position a small table and two chairs to one side of the acting area*]

[MR TWIT *unfreezes and tiptoes to MRS TWIT, putting his finger to his lips as if to tell the audience not to say anything. Unseen by MRS TWIT, he snaps off half of her walking stick. He hands it to an ACTOR OR STAGE MANAGER, then takes, from another ACTOR OR STAGE MANAGER, two glasses of beer. He sits at the table*]

MR TWIT: [*Warmly*] A glass of beer, my dear?

[MRS TWIT *unfreezes*]

MRS TWIT: Mmmm. Lovely. [*She goes to walk, using her stick, but it is so short she crashes to the floor*]

ACTOR 7: But she had ugly thoughts every day ...

ACTOR 8: ... of every week ...

ACTOR 9: ... of every year.

ACTOR 10: And so her face got uglier ...

MR TWIT: ... and uglier ...

ACTOR 11: ... and uglier ...

[MRS TWIT *demonstrates*]

MR TWIT: So ugly I can hardly bear to look at it!

[MRS TWIT *scowls at MR TWIT. Then she hits him with her walking stick*]

Ow! [*He holds his arm up threateningly*]
[*Both freeze*]

ACTOR 12: Mr and Mrs Twit were a very happy couple.

ACTOR 1: But seldom happy at the same time!

[MR TWIT *laughs*]

Aaaaah! [*She struggles up, forced to stoop because of the short walking stick*]

What's happened?

[MR TWIT *quickly removes his shoes, kneels down into them and shuffles towards her*]

MR TWIT: You seem to be growing, my sweet.

MRS TWIT: Growing?

MR TWIT: [*Arriving and looking shorter than her*] Growing. Take a look at your stick, you old goat, and see how much you've grown in comparison.

MRS TWIT: [*Looking at her stick in amazement*] Never!

MR TWIT: You always said you wanted me to look up to you! Your wish has been granted.

MRS TWIT: I don't want to grow!

MR TWIT: No?

MRS TWIT: No! Do something!

MR TWIT: Do something? Anything?

MRS TWIT: Anything! Stop me growing!

MR TWIT: Of course, my pet.

[MR TWIT *stands up, unseen by MRS TWIT, and fetches an enormous joke mallet, which he brings crashing down on her head*]

MRS TWIT: Aaah!

[MR TWIT *laughs and, seen by MRS TWIT, takes the bottom half of her walking stick from the ACTOR OR STAGE MANAGER and replaces it*]

MR TWIT: Just a little joke, my honey-bunny!

[MRS TWIT *growls in fury. Both go to sit at the table and drink their beer. MR TWIT belches*]

MR TWIT: What are you plotting?

MRS TWIT: Me plotting? You're the rotter what plots. But I'm watching you. Oh, yes! [Smugly she turns briefly away]

[MR TWIT *quickly swaps the glasses round. MRS TWIT turns back, suspicious. MR TWIT drinks. MRS TWIT drinks, unsure of which glass she has. MR TWIT suddenly starts to sneeze*]

MR TWIT: Ah, ah, ah ... [He looks for a hanky but can't find one] ... tishoo! [While MR TWIT holds up his beard, sneezes into it, then wipes his nose on his sleeve, MRS TWIT quickly swaps round the glasses again. MR TWIT picks up his glass – in fact her glass – and starts to drink. The drumbeat builds]

MRS TWIT: Oh, yes, I'm watching you like a wombat!

MR TWIT: [Spraying her with beer as he talks] Oh, do shut up, you old hag.

ACTOR 3: Mrs Twit was determined to pay back Mr Twit.

[Musical ping! MRS TWIT smiles]

ACTOR 4: Suddenly she had an idea.

[MRS TWIT *checks that MR TWIT is not looking*]

ACTOR 5: Into her beer she dropped ...

[MRS TWIT *pretends to remove her eye, revealing the glass eye (marble) and closing her real eye*]

ACTOR 6: ... her glass eye ...

[A rhythmic drumbeat for tension.

MR TWIT *looks round with a hint of suspicion. MRS TWIT smiles innocently.*

MR TWIT *drinks from his glass. MRS TWIT pretends to drink from hers. Then she pretends to notice something behind MR TWIT. He turns to follow her gaze.*

Quickly MRS TWIT swaps the two glasses round. MR TWIT turns back, suspicious. MRS TWIT drinks from his glass, he drinks from hers]

[He drains the glass and suddenly sees the glass eye at the bottom. The drumbeat stops. MR TWIT jumps with shock] Aaaaah!

[MRS TWIT cackles with laughter]

MRS TWIT: I told you I was watching you! I've got eyes everywhere, so you'd better be careful! [She retrieves the glass eye from the glass and holds it towards MR TWIT meaningfully, then replaces it in her eye-socket]

[MR TWIT roars and chases MRS TWIT round and round as the ACTORS narrate]

ACTOR 7: They're shocking!

ACTOR 8: They're smelly!

ACTOR 9: They're silly!

ACTOR 10: They're stupefyingly stupid!

ACTOR 11: The one and only ...

ACTOR 12: Thank goodness!

ALL: THE TWITS!

[MR *and* MRS TWIT *take a bow, still
fighting*]

[*Curtain down*]

Last Words

The best people to ask about what it's like to start a new school are the students that have already done it. So the last words go to our current Y7, here are their hints and tips.

“If you think you're not going to make new friends IT'S NOT TRUE. I promise you will. Just say 'hello' to the others in your form and be yourself. You'll slowly get to know everyone really well and in a few weeks time you will wonder why you were so worried.”

“Be yourself, in class go up to people on their own and ask them a question such as 'what school are you from?' Lots of kids have also lost friends so they will all be looking to make new ones. Also join the clubs offered; you will meet like minded people there.

“Try and learn a rough plan of the whole school early on. Subjects are usually in their own areas. Don't be afraid to ask for help.

“If you are unsure of anything, don't be afraid to talk to your form tutor. They want to help you be the best you can be.”

“Try lots of extra-curricular activities, even if you're not sure you will like them. It's good to have some non-academic things to help you relax.

“It helps to pack your school bag the night before so you're organised. There's nothing more stressful than getting to school knowing you've left your homework in your bedroom.”

“You should definitely work out a routine to stay organised so that you can get on top of homework, have as little stress as possible and not do everything last minute. This will really help you to get the hang of Senior School. Although you'll be working hard, make sure that you have time to relax, have some down time and chill out.

“Stay confident on the inside and the outside and try not to worry about making friends, you'll definitely find someone who is just nice and you want to spend time with. Last but definitely not least, is to have loads of fun.”