

Module/Unit of Learning	Taught During	What will students learn?	How does this help to build a broad and strong foundation?	Links to other Subjects
Pre-Christian Religion	Autumn Learning Cycle	<p>Starting with an overview of pre-Christian religions, students learn that 'paganism' is a term the early Christians gave any religion that was not Judeo-Christian. They learn the resulting misconception is that paganism is harmful or dangerous, whereas it is simply polytheistic or pantheistic and pre-Christian.</p> <p>We then focus on the idea that folklore and myths rooted in pre-Christian times survive today. Students learn broadly about some aspects of the folklore of England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland and Cornwall and then specifically about the origins of the Easter Bunny and Tooth Fairy. We examine some mistakes about Norse mythology in the Marvel films.</p> <p>Students study two aspects of Cornish myths based on heritage sites: the Merry Maidens and Men-an-Tol.</p> <p>We then move onto the pagan eight-fold Wheel of the Year formed around solstices and equinoxes and changes in nature that have developed pagan traditions internationally. With the fundamentals established for the Wheel of the Year, and an application to Stonehenge and Merrivale in Dartmoor, we explore the benefits of segmenting the year into six week chunks. Finally, we learn about the Katherine May's concept of 'Wintering' in her book of the same name, debating what is to be learned from nature during winter for human wellbeing (with explicit reference to trees and dormice) and apply this to modern life during Samhain and Imbolc.</p>	<p>Much of our contemporary culture is formed around a pagan timetable: a bank holiday in May for Beltane (when Spring is in full flow), the summer holidays for Lammastide (the first harvests), October half term for Samhain (the last harvests). Additionally, folklore and myth pervades popular culture: Easter traditions, Yule traditions, childhood traditions and Hollywood films about Norse deities.</p> <p>Understanding solstices and equinoxes complement students' knowledge of physics, and exploring the impact of this cycle introduces awareness of ancient English heritage and wisdom, such as Stonehenge, the Merry Maidens (St. Buryan, near Penzance), Men-an-Tol (Madron, also near Penzance) and Merrivale (Dartmoor).</p> <p>The eight-fold Wheel of the Year encourages students to embed pagan wisdom in nature, and introducing 'wintering' helps students realise that human beings are part of nature and react (like trees and dormice do) to the changing seasons.</p>	<p>English</p> <p>Science</p> <p>History</p> <p>Modern non-fiction</p> <p>Mental health</p>

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Christianity	Spring Learning Cycle	<p><b>Our study of Christianity is based around salvation and redemption with the additional concepts of benevolence, sin, penitence and resurrection.</b></p> <p>Our study of Christianity is rooted in Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol, which Y11s are revising for their summer GCSE English Literature.</p> <p><b>We start with beliefs about life after death and Christian behaviour – Matthew 6: 19-21.</b></p> <p>In ACC, we relate this to the visit from Jacob Marley in Stave 1 ("I wear the chain and I forged in life.") and the hell he is in. We analyse text in relation to the beginning of Scrooge's transformation.</p> <p><b>We continue with the symbolism of Jesus Christ as the Son of God who welcomes people to begin the journey of salvation and redemption with him – John 8:12.</b></p> <p>In ACC, we explore the symbolism of dark and light, foggy and clear in the novella. We analyse the Ghost of Christmas Past and a painting of Jesus as the Light of the World (William Holman Hunt, 1853.)</p> <p><b>We finish with Christian beliefs about the afterlife – with reference to John 14:6 and 11:25 – and Judgement using Pauline theology from 1 Corinthians 15 and 2 Corinthians 5.</b></p> <p>In ACC, we explore Scrooge's transformation with a focus on descriptions of his character in Stave 1 and Stave 5.</p>	<p>This topic consolidates prior learning in Y8 in RE and Y10 in English.</p> <p>Much of English Literature demands more than a rudimentary understanding of Christianity to meet greater depth requirements for analysis. A Christmas Carol is a Christian morality tale aimed at the Victorian rich, but also a timeless tale for today.</p>	<p>AQA English Literature Paper 1</p> <p>Art</p>