

September 2024

Dear families

Stretch - Cycle 1 (Years 3 - 6)

What is Stretch and why do we complete Stretch projects at DMP?

As part of the English curriculum, the students take part in a 'Stretch' project. Students complete an independent project and explore questions related to a chosen subject. Stretch projects prepare students for tasks at secondary school, research in further education and to develop essential independent learning skills to help them climb their mountain to university. Students benefit by developing their communication skills, both speaking and listening, as well as building their confidence when presenting in front of their peers.

Within school, students complete their Stretch project during Stretch afternoons which involves them researching and writing their speech. The speeches should be approximately 2- 3 minutes in length. Students are expected to aim to learn their speech off by heart, using notecards as prompts. They will then present their project to their class, where two winners per class will be selected based on a scoring system. The two finalists from each class will then take part in the Stretch Key Stage Finals where overall winners and runners-up are chosen and prizes awarded.

Stretch Posters

At home, students will be required to develop a poster which will support their presentation in the finals. Students will plan the poster in school and then have the option of either completing a paper-based poster to support their speech or creating a PowerPoint presentation using computers. PowerPoint presentations should be sent to individual class email addresses, for example: huddersfield@dixonsmp.com or nottingham@dixonsmp.com. In the 'Subject' box of your email, please state: 'Stretch Presentation' and student initials. Please note that a paper based poster or a PowerPoint are equally acceptable and A3 paper will be provided by class teachers. Posters should only include key information, pictures, be bold and colourful in order to support the speech. This year, student booklets will remain within school so that student's work is always readily accessible for use during Stretch lessons and students are able to bring their notecards home use these as prompts to provide more detailed information alongside the poster when presenting their speech.

Cycle 1 Stretch topics

Year 3 - Should we protect animals?

Question 1. Why did dinosaurs become extinct?

Question 2. What animals/species are endangered now?

Year 4 - How have the Romans impacted life in Yorkshire?

Question 1. What impact did the Romans have on developing industry within Britain?

Question 2. What architectural features have we inherited from the Romans?



Year 5 - How has food in Europe been influenced by Africa?

Question 1. What foods were available in Europe before trade with Africa was established?

Question 2. Which foods are sourced from Africa today?

Year 6 - The Industrial Revolution - what have we learnt from it?

Question 1. What were the positive and negative effects of the Industrial Revolution on people's lives?

Question 2. What key things did we learn as a society from the Industrial Revolution?

Key dates

Parent/families Stretch meeting – an opportunity to learn more about what Stretch projects involve and speak to teachers about Stretch projects - on **7.10.24** at **3.20pm** in the DMP hall.

Class finals (including handing in either paper or electronic posters for all students) – **between 25.11.24 – 29.11.24**
- individual class teachers will communicate the chosen date for each class.

Key Stage Finals – **5.12.24**

Should you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact myself or your child's class teacher.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Whitehouse-Walker

Year 5 Teacher and Stretch Lead

