



Grade 8 English Students Options Form : 2017 – 2018 Term 1 and 2

All students in Grade 8 will have a total of 4 classes to select (two in Term 1 and two in Term 2) for the 2017 – 2018 school year. It is important that students read through the instructions carefully before filling out each Term.

Band Students: All students taking Band will be required to sign-up for Band in **Term 1 only**. There will not be a scheduled Band class in Term 2; however, **your commitment to Band includes mandatory practices after school hours (Wednesday 2:30 – 3:30 pm & Friday 12:30 – 1:30 pm) throughout Term 2.**

Please ensure that your name and homeroom are on your sign-up sheet. Place a ranking from 1 - 5 beside each course under Term 1A, and beside each course under Term 1B 1-4 (Do the same for Term 2). Place a 1 beside your **top choice** and a 4 beside your **last choice**. We will do our best to accommodate your top requests. Make sure that your choices reflect your own interests and not those of your friends. **Below is a description of all the courses being offered in Term 1 and Term 2 this year.**

Course Descriptions: Term 1 & 2

IA (Industrial Arts)

The purpose of these courses is to expose students to the fundamentals of construction and design. Student projects may include the construction of items such as pottery, jewelry, glass dishes, and a variety of wood projects.

Band

This option will require students to rent an instrument from the school, unless you own one or rent privately, and commit to regular practices and performances at a variety of functions. Focus will be on skill and technical development and performance, both alone and in groups. **Please see note above regarding band commitment in Term 2.**

Dragon's Den

Students will learn how to develop and nurture their entrepreneurial skills. They will be expected to advance their business idea by developing a business and financial plan which can be pitched to Valley Creek's own guest panel of Dragons.

Leadership

Students will participate in a variety of activities that enhance communication and teamwork skills. They will take on organizational roles within the school for events including the Grade 4 Orientation, Grade 9 Farewell, Scholastic Book Fairs, and VCS Mental Health Day, among others. This option will be for one term only, but students will be required to offer support throughout the year.

Drama / Performing Arts

Explore creativity through movement, speech, improvisation, and acting! Students will produce their own short pieces to be performed at the end of the term.

Intro to Fashion Studies

Learn or continue your study of the basics of fabric, design, and hand-sewing skills. The opportunity to use sewing machines may occur later in the term.

Guitar

Students will develop musical competence through learning how to play a guitar. Focus will be on skill and technical development and performance, both alone and in groups. Students may rent a guitar from the school.

Art

Student skill and interest in art will be used to determine the direction of the course. Beginning with the elements of art, students will look for inspiration from other artists to guide their exploration of a medium and create either a 2-D or 3-D art piece. Projects will be student directed, teacher supported and adapted for different entry points for all aspiring artists.

Video Production

This is a hands-on technical class that requires both individual and group work. Working in crews, students will learn skills in pre-production planning, camera handling and operation, shooting techniques, on-camera performance and editing. Additionally, media literacy skills will be integrated into class assignments and projects.

Foods

Focused primarily on baking, students will learn how to create delicious snacks like a pro and explore decorating techniques for specific events. Muffins, scones, cupcakes (with some savoury recipes thrown in too) and more are what this class has in store for you!

Publishing (Yearbook) & Digital Arts

This course will combine elements of both digital photography and yearbook publication. Students will begin by exploring the digital camera and its many capabilities while considering light, composition, photo editing and enhancement before printing. Next, students will engage in the digital design process and learn how to navigate an online publishing program in order to create their own photo book that will serve as a portfolio of their own photographic art from in-class assignments. The artistic design of these photo books will be determined by the students' own photos and photography interests. The portfolio creation will act as a stepping stone to the end goal of the course, the creation of Valley Creek's 2017-2018 yearbook. Students will be assigned specific yearbook pages and work collaboratively to craft page layouts that look best using pictures that they have also captured throughout this course of various school wide events and groups. Students will also engage deeply in editing their pages and those of their peers, as a means of modeling the actual publishing process. **Please note that this course will require a \$30-35 materials fee for the individual photo book portfolio each student will create.**

Grade 8 English Students 2017 – 2018 Options Sign-up: Term 1 and 2

Name _____ Grade 7 Homeroom _____
(Last) (First)

Term 1: September – January

Rating (1 - 5)	Course Title: T1 A		Rating (1 - 4)	Course Title: T1 B
	Industrial Arts			
	Drama / Performing Arts			Industrial Arts
	Band			Guitar
	Foods			Foods
	Dragon's Den			Art

Parent Signature: _____

***** Please return this form to your Homeroom teacher by Tuesday, June 20th *****

Grade 8 English Students 2017 – 2018 Options Sign-up: Term 1 and 2

Name _____ Grade 7 Homeroom _____
(Last) (First)

Term 2: February - June

Rating (1 - 6)	Course Title: T2A		Rating (1 - 5)	Course Title: T2B
Full Year Course	Leadership			
	Industrial Arts			Industrial Arts
	Drama / Performing Arts			Foods
	Guitar			Video Production
	Intro to Fashion Studies			Dragon's Den
	Digital Tools / Photography / Publishing			

Parent Signature: _____

***** Please return this form to your Homeroom teacher by Tuesday, June 20th *****