

Year 6 Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn Term 1

Dear Parents,

We hope you had an enjoyable and restful summer. Please find below an outline of the things we will cover this half term.

General Information

Both classes will have PE on Tuesday and Games on Friday. Children should have a full kit in school with plimsolls/trainers that fit. Stud earrings are allowed as part of the uniform, but should not be worn during PE/Games. They must be removed at home, and only in exceptional circumstance will we allow a child to tape their own ears. If hair accessories are worn they should be small (no large bows) in either green, black, white or yellow. Children who walk to/from school on their own are allowed to have a mobile phone, but it should be handed into the office at the start of the day. Mobile phones should not be brought into school by your child if they are not walking to/from school on their own.

In Year 6 we stress the importance of daily reading, both in class and at home. The reading system has been explained to your child and they know that they should have their book and reading record in school each day. We would ask that parents/carers endeavour to hear their child read at least twice a week. This will help them to grow in confidence as a reader, no matter which level they are, and gives the opportunity to expand vocabulary and comprehension.

Homework will be given on Friday and it must be completed by the following Thursday. Maths homework will generally be set online (My Maths). Homework will sometimes include work that must be completed on a sheet and your child will be given a cardboard wallet in which to keep the homework sheets. Homework will also include weekly spellings that your child should practise.

All children should have a pencil case that contains the following: pencil, eraser, blue ballpoint pen (not a fountain/ink pen), glue stick (not coloured), sharpener, coloured pencils, felt tips, highlighters (green, blue and yellow) and a whiteboard pen (black or blue). We would really appreciate it if you could also send in a box of tissues for the classroom.

Curriculum Information

RE -

The topic for this half-term is 'Beginning with God'. We will make links between scripture and the nature of God expressed in some Biblical metaphors and also links between scripture and belief in the Trinity. We will also study the Nicene Creed.

English

- Historical story: War Horse by Michael Morpurgo. We will compare the book and film version. Children will write dialogue, letters, play scripts, and descriptions of characters and settings. They will use relevant vocabulary and relative clauses.
- Recounts: we will read two personal recounts, one in first person (The Day of Ahmed's Secret) and one in third person (Hurricane). The children will identify features of recounts and study adverbials, use of commas and perfect verb forms.
- Choral and performance poetry: using a range of poems, children will identify the features of good narrative performance poems. They will investigate expanded noun phrases, subjunctive verb forms and figurative language.

A list of spellings will be sent home weekly and your child should practise them in preparation for the following week's dictation.

Numeracy

Number and place value – how to read, write, order and compare numbers up to 10 million in a variety of contexts.

Addition – use efficient ways to add using partitioning and column addition. Using these skills, the children will answer a range of questions, reason and problem solve.

Subtraction – use efficient ways to subtract, including 'counting on' and column subtraction. Using these skills, the children will answer a range of questions, reason and problem solve.

Multiplication – we will be multiplying through column method (long multiplication), partitioning, using known number facts and by rounding and adjusting. We will also look at prime numbers, lowest common multiples (LCM) and highest common factors (HCF).

We encourage the children to explain and reason their work at all times; explaining the work, and the method they used, allows a deeper level understanding to the learner.

Booster groups

Having started our term with small assessments of where the children are in their learning, we are building a picture of how best to meet individual needs. We will be having booster groups for maths, reading comprehension and grammar and punctuation lessons. We aim to start booster groups from week beginning 24th September. As we continually assess the children's progress, children may find they change groups throughout the term; this a fluid system that is designed to meet each child's learning needs.

Topic Work

World War 1: We will be looking at the causes of World War 1, the countries involved in fighting, the geography of Europe at this times, and the effects war had in England and abroad. In our Art lessons we shall be studying recruitment and propaganda posters.

Science

Our topic this half-term is Light. We will look at how light travels in straight lines, light sources, why shadows have the same shape as the objects that cast them and how the eye works.

PE/Games

PE is a gymnastics unit, focusing on matching and mirroring.

Games is a net games unit and we will learn and practise tennis skills.

Computing

The children will be looking at a range of apps in preparation for creating their own app later this academic year. We will also be using their ICT sessions, the laptops and iPads for cross curricular work. As always, our first lesson of every half-term will be on e-safety.

Trips and workshops

Friday, 19th October: Young Shakespeare workshop (in school)

Advance notice: Wednesday, 7th November – Millfield Theatre trip (letter to follow)

Thursday, 29th November – Imperial War Museum trip (letter to follow)

Retreat day at St. Monica's Church – Monday, 12th November (6G), Tuesday, 13th November (6Y) – help needed to walk to the church and back.

We hope you find this information useful. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to speak to us.

Mrs T Hindle

Mrs K Duffy