

Year 6 Curriculum Newsletter

Autumn Term 2

General Information

Please check with your child that their pencil case 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).

Curriculum Information

RE – Advent to Christmas

We will focus on the Gospel of Mark, explore the question ‘What is Lectio Divina?’ and understand how Christians around the world celebrate the coming of God.

Literacy -

Clockwork by Philip Pullman

Using Clockwork as our class text, we will write letters, persuasive arguments and newspaper reports, create a comic strip and write a narrative from the perspective of one of the characters in the book.

The Silver Donkey by Sonya Hartnett

Following on from our work on WW1 at the start of the Autumn term, we will use this book as a starting point to write diary entries, recounts and to create annotated story maps.

In our Grammar lessons, we will revise the use of parentheses (brackets, dashes or commas), semi-colons and colons, commas, perfect verb forms, subjunctive verb forms and the use of the active and passive voice. In addition, we will have a weekly spelling lesson and a list of spellings will be sent home that your child should practise in preparation for the following week’s dictation. During Guided Reading, the children will complete a different comprehension activity each week with a focus on building their vocabulary and learning how to answer different types of comprehension questions.

Numeracy

Number – Use mental calculations when appropriate and reason from known facts eg knowing $7 \times 3 = 21$ helps me solve 70×30

Fractions – Use common factors to simplify fractions and use common multiples to express fractions in the same denomination. Compare and order/add and subtract fractions with different denominators. Multiply fractions and mixed numbers by whole numbers and multiply pairs of fractions. Divide fractions by whole numbers and calculate fractions of amounts.

Geometry – Position and Direction – describe positions in all four quadrants. Draw and translate simple shapes and reflect them in the axes.

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

Topic Work

Geography - Volcanoes

We will identify the layers of the earth, learn about tectonic plates and we will also learn about the structure of volcanoes and how they are formed. We will identify why volcanoes particularly occur along fault lines. In addition, we will learn and use the correct vocabulary related to the topic eg lava, dormant, extinct, active, eruption, fault

lines, crust, core, mantle. Using maps and atlases, we will identify the Ring of Fire and the locations of different volcanoes around the world and we will also explore life in volcanic areas.

Science

Our topic this half-term is electricity. The children will learn to recognise and use electrical symbols in diagrams and understand the link between voltage and brightness of bulbs and will continue to have practical Science lessons within the current guidance and safety advice. They will also use recognised symbols when representing a simple circuit in a diagram. In addition, they will recap on the Forces topic with the practical work that they should have completed in Year 5.

PE/Games

Games will focus on attack and defence skills in games such as hockey, netball and football.

Computing

The children will code in Scratch to extend their knowledge of the programming language and their knowledge of using variables. They will also learn how to use Publisher and how to combine text, graphics and images for a range of purposes. It would be really useful if the children could continue to practise their touch-typing skills using the BBC Dance Mat typing tutor. Click this link to read about it and go to the level the they have been practising in school <https://www.dancemattypingguide.com/>

We hope that you find this information useful to help you with supporting your child's learning.

Kind regards

Mrs T Hindle

Mrs S Warrington