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Newsletter

### What we have been up to:

In Year 6 we have been working hard to develop a range of skills, including our reading, writing and mathematical skills, as well as much more!

The children have now become well versed in matters concerning climate change and specifically how this contributes and impacts extreme weather.

We looked in detail at the recent heatwave experienced by the UK as well as the floods in Pakistan.

We have also finished our unit of learning on electricity which involved many practical lessons using the equipment to build electrical circuits.

Our Christmas performance was a huge success and we were really impressed with the effort the children put in.

**English** We have finished our class novel (Street Child) and produced some fantastic writing alongside this including a newspaper report centered around a fire breaking out in the workhouse. Next term we start our new novel [Holes by Louis Sachar](#) (please feel free to buy your child their own copy). The children will be producing a piece of persuasive writing and a diary entry linked to this text, as well as focusing once again on content domains such as inference and retrieval in Whole Class Reading lessons.

#### How can I help at home?

- Keep a journal/diary of events over the Christmas holidays remembering to include feelings.
- Read a variety of high quality texts from a range of authors paying attention to features of writing such as the use of semicolons, hyphens, dashes, adverbial sentence starters.

**Maths** Most recently, we have finished our unit on fractions. Fractions makes up a large part the curriculum and so any regular practise on this area would be beneficial. This includes, adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing fractions. We will be moving onto ratio after Christmas. We have found that pupils with a solid understanding and quick recall of their times tables have grasped new concepts well. It's vital that pupils know their times tables up to 12 quickly in order to help them with their speed in future assessments.

#### How can I help at home?

- Practise times tables (TTRS, rote learning, Hit the Button).
- Fractions and the four operations
- Measurement including metric and imperial measures.
- Asking your child to add up shopping items or to convert measurements when cooking.

### S cience

We have been learning about electricity and how voltage can affect the brightness of a bulb. The children also designed their own experiment in order to prove a hypothesis. Next term we'll move onto Animals including humans where we will learn about the circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels, blood and what constitutes a healthy diet.

#### How can I help at home?

- Discuss what a healthy diet involves and also substances that should be avoided.



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### PSHE

In Spring 1 our unit is Dreams and Goals which will involve setting realistic goals and learning about working with others to achieve these.

### Geography/History

Pupils have been examining types of extreme weather, the effects of these and how climate change influences such weather. Our next unit in History is Crime and Punishment through the ages including Ancient Greece, the Romans, Anglo-Saxons and the Victorians.

#### ***How can I help at home?***

Ask your child what they have learnt at school and encourage discussion around the new topics.

### Computing

Pupils have been learning about AI and machine learning during our computing lessons. They have looked at how the AI has developed over time and what it could be like in the future. Pupils have tried out different activities to see how the AI responds. We will be moving onto programming in scratch after Christmas.

### French

Pupils will learn places in the town in French and will be able to talk about their local area, giving their opinions using adjectives and conjunctions. Pupils will use the conjunction 'Il y a' - 'There is/are' to write paragraphs about Bedford in French and have conversations about their town.

### Performing Arts

In Music, Year 6 will be going back to learning through singing. We will explore a variety of Popular songs from the past 40 Years. They will get the opportunity to develop their singing skills with things like breathing, diction and intonation. They will develop their knowledge of musical structures and learn about the development of music. For each song we will learn performance etiquette and conveying confidence to an audience.

In Drama, we will be looking at developing our knowledge of drama skills, looking specifically at drama conventions and characterisation skills. Pupils will be given sections of a script which they will set in groups using the skills learnt, as well as having the opportunity to create their own scenes.

### Art

Year 6 will be continuing with their new OP Art topic. Looking at the Artist Bridget Riley and creating a range Optical Art illusions of their own.

### Design Technology

Year 6 will finish cutting and shaping their class name plaques and then they will decorate these with a design of their choice.

### PE

In PE , 6JC will begin their swimming unit, whilst the other two classes will take part in OAA and fitness units. In games, the pupils will take part in rugby, netball and hockey.

### Reminders / Key Dates:

4th January - Return to school

2nd February - Number Day

6th February - Children's mental health week

10th February - Break Up for Half Term

### Sharing Our Learning

We have launched new social media channels to help share the fantastic learning that is going on in our year group.

We'd love you to follow us and see what we've been up to:

[Twitter](#)

[Instagram](#)