



To kick the new school year off with a bang, we used 'In Our Hands' by Lucy Farfort as a stimulus for some predictions, digital collages, poetry and arts and crafts. The text is a beautiful, thought-provoking and empowering story about tolerance and responsibility, and the need to come together to build a better future. We read this to help the children understand the value of all the wonderful things that exist in the world, and the need to care for and nurture the things we value most.

After this we used Louis Sachar's 'Holes' as our core text in English for the rest of the term. The text follows a young boy, Stanley Yelnats, who (due to a curse placed on his great-great-grandfather) is wrongfully sent to a juvenile detention camp in a swelteringly hot desert. At the camp, Stanley and the other boys must each dig a large hole every day. As the days and weeks pass slowly by, Stanley and the boys begin to question their rehabilitation, in the growing realisation that they are digging holes across the same patch of desert for far more sinister reasons. We're using 'Holes' as a stimulus for writing our own flashback narratives. We will write in the perspective of one of the characters as they grow older and flashback to a memory from Camp Green Lake.

Our core text links nicely to our Topic this half term as Stanley, who is sentenced to hard labour for his supposed crime, leads us nicely onto studying the history of crime and punishment. We also linked this with Black History Month and crime and punishment through the Civil Rights Movement, writing thoughtful and informative non-chronological reports entitled 'Are There Racial Injustices Within Crime and Punishment'.

As part of this topic, we will be visiting the Tower of London on Monday 25th September. We hope that exploring the infamous palace prisons and discovering the myths and murders will capture the imagination of the children and bring the topic to life.

For Art this half term, we are making our own school displays based around our core texts and our new class names!

As part of our P.E curriculum, the Year 6 children will complete a two week intensive swimming programme at the London Aquatic Centre within the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. Furthermore, the children will walk to and from the swimming centre each day, clocking up an impressive 50km over the two weeks.

In Science, we will delve into the 'Game of Survival,' investigating inheritance, mutations, adaptations as well as discovering evolutionary pioneers.

Useful Information:

- Ensure your child reads for 20 minutes every day. Please sign their reading record to show this. Every morning, the children will show an adult in the class one sentence that they have written about what they have read the night before.
- Children will be given a list of weekly spellings to practise at home throughout the week in preparation for the Friday spelling test.

- **Y6 PE:**

Children will need to come into school and return home from school in their PE kit (with suitable footwear).

- **PE days: Mondays and Wednesdays**
 - **All children must have a kit.** They will be asked to wear a spare kit if they do not bring their own.
 - **To help us out, please:**
 - Ensure that your child is wearing sensible and practical footwear for PE.
 - Ensure long hair is tied up.
 - Remind children that jewellery has to be removed for PE. If ear studs are new, they will need to be covered for the lesson.
- On the Year 6 Google Classroom there is a SPaG version of the London Tube Map outlining all of the terms and definitions that the children will be taught before SATs - this is a useful document for any children wanting to do some revision at home.
 - Children are expected to know all the KS2 times tables (2-12). An easy and fun way to practise at home is using their existing TTRockstars accounts. We will continue to have class battles throughout the year.

Our story time book this half-term is *The Boy at the To* to kick the new school year off with a bang, we used 'In Our Hands' by Lucy Farfort as a stimulus for some predictions, digital collages, poetry and arts and crafts. The text is a beautiful, thought-provoking and empowering story about tolerance and responsibility, and the need to come together to build a better future. We read this to help the children understand the value of all the wonderful things that exist in the world, and the need to care for and nurture the things we value most.

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YEAR 6 TEAM 2023

