

Year 6 Autumn topic overview

Our learning:



To kick-start Year 6, we started our English learning off with a restorative text called '*After the Fall*' by Dan Santat. The text follows Humpty Dumpty, an avid bird watcher, who loves to

be high up on the city wall. But after his fall, Humpty is terrified of heights and can no longer do his favourite things. By the end, he finally pulls together the courage to climb back up the wall. On the second day back, we linked Humpty Dumpty with science and performed an experiment testing out the question 'Does an egg always break when it falls?' which, as you can imagine, led to many cracked eggs in the playground!

After this, we moved on to using Louis Sachar's novel '*Hales*' as inspiration for our narrative writing. The story is comprised of a series of flashbacks and we will be writing our own flashback



narratives from the perspective of one of the characters at 'Camp Green Lake'. For our Big Bang, we created colourful 'sand bottles' and listened to some of the songs from the brilliant soundtrack to the movie version of our story. As our main character, Stanley, is sent to the camp as punishment for a crime, we will be studying the history of crime and punishment through the ages and improving our historical skills of analysing historical sources as well as putting events into chronological order.

As scientists, our focus will be on Biology. We will be learning about evolution and inheritance and later in the half term will be dissecting sheep's hearts as part of our study of the circulatory system.

In the second half of the term, we will continue using 'Hales' as our stimulus for writing, alongside 'Animalium' which presents the animal kingdom in wonderful detail. We will be working towards a piece of non-fiction, inspired by the infamous 'yellow-spotted lizards' which feature in 'Hales' and the plethora of animals in 'Animalium'. After half term, we will become geographers, comparing the arid deserts of Texas with areas in the U.K. and Europe.

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 their class teacher one sentence that they have written about what they have read the night before.

Your child will have a login to Google Classroom. We are using this in school but will also be setting tasks for them to do at home. Please ensure that your child has had a go at logging in and accessing Google Classroom at home from a laptop, tablet or mobile device.

<u> Y6 PE:</u>

Wednesdays and Fridays: children will need to come in to school and return home from school in their PE kit (with suitable footwear).

<u>All children must have a kit</u>. 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.

Respectful citizens in a world of possibilities