



Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you all had a wonderful summer break. I look forward to teaching your child this year. I will be in class Monday – Thursday with Mrs Gaskell taking over on a Friday. Miss Day will also be teaching Science on a Monday afternoon.

Here are the exciting topics and subjects we will be covering during the autumn term.

CbIDS (Consciousness-based Interdisciplinary Studies)

This term our CbIDS aspects of orderly growth include: We are here to enjoy, Creativity, Energy, Intelligence, Purposefulness, Rest and activity, Orderliness and Purification.

Maths

In Maths this term we are covering a range of topics which includes: reading, writing numbers to 10,000,000; comparing and ordering numbers to 10,000,000; working with all four operations; multiples, factors, prime, square and cubed numbers. We will also work with fractions in a number of ways such as comparing, ordering, adding and subtracting, multiplying and dividing. There will be an emphasis on using mental strategies. Helping your child to know up to 12 times-tables will be invaluable.

English

We will start the term with a ‘Performance and Choral’ poetry unit, which encourages children to think about how poetry can make the ordinary extraordinary. They will explore different poetic language devices such as simile, metaphor & personification, as well as exploring the subjunctive

form of hypotheticals and wishes with an 'If I were a...' poem. During the second half of the term we focus on the brilliant novel *Wonder* written by R.J.Palacio. Pupils will create character descriptions, diary entries and artwork based on the book which always shows how truly empathetic our pupils are.

Spelling, punctuation and grammar will be a focus through our English work. We will work on sentence structure throughout the term and use Alan Peat sentence types to enable the children to write in a more sophisticated way.

Science

Autumn 1 -Light

During this unit of work, children will consolidate previous learning by exploring the way that light behaves, including light sources, reflection and shadows. Pupils will make predictions and investigate the relationship between light sources, objects and shadows and understand how the eye works. Children will extend their experience of light by looking at rainbows, prisms and bending light in water.

Autumn 2 - Electricity

During this unit of work, children will consolidate and extend previous learning from year 4 by constructing simple series circuits and drawing them using scientific symbols. They will conduct investigations to determine how the voltage in a circuit affects the brightness of a bulb. They will use their 'working scientifically' skills to plan an experiment to investigate variations in how components function and use the results to write a clear and concise conclusion. They will use the internet to research information about renewable and non-renewable energy sources and communicate this information in the form of a leaflet.

History

Autumn 1

During our unit this half term we will be focusing on The Ancient Maya Civilisation. We will be using sources to question how they lived, worked, worshipped and ate as well as using their number and writing systems to create our own version of 'Maya Maths.' We will also look at the intricate detail of Maya masks and create our own versions.

Geography

Autumn 2

Our geography work will concentrate on identifying the world countries and capitals, ensuring our locational knowledge is secure. We also focus on the patterns of human migration using our questioning skills to answer why, how, when people have moved around the globe. To round off the unit we produce a piece of writing based on the experience of refugees.

Art

Autumn 1

Our art project enables pupils to consider how 2 dimensional drawing might relate / transform to 3 dimensional making. Pupils explore drawing techniques such as grid drawing, using negative space, and mark making (including tonal value), before transforming their drawings into sculpture. They will use their sketchbooks to create visual notes and for this topic will explore the works of Lubaina Himid.

DT

Autumn 2- Textiles: Combining Different Fabric Shapes

The first design and technology topic will be 'Fancy a Bag?', looking at and designing bags. We will generate and communicate innovative ideas through research. We will produce detailed lists of equipment and fabrics and formulate step-by-step plans for making. Pupils will investigate and analyse textile products linked to their final product and compare the final product to the original design specification.

Computing

Computing systems and networks - In this unit learners explore how data is transferred over the internet. Learners initially focus on addressing, before they move on to the makeup and structure of data packets. Learners then look at how the internet facilitates online communication and collaboration; they complete shared projects online and evaluate different methods of communication. Finally, they learn how to communicate responsibly by considering what should and should not be shared on the internet.

Creating media - web page creation - This unit introduces learners to the creation of websites for a chosen purpose. Learners identify what makes a good web page and use this information to design and evaluate their own website using Google Sites. Throughout the process learners pay specific attention to copyright and fair use of media, the aesthetics of the site, and navigation paths.

Music

Autumn 1

In music this half term we will be following the Charanga scheme of work. It is a 6-week unit of work which includes musical warm up games with emphasis on vocal warmups, rhythm, pulse tempo, pitch etc.

We will be focusing on learning to sing one song called Happy by Farrell Williams but we will also be listening to and appraising five other classic rock songs within the 6 weeks. These are; Top Of The World sung by The Carpenters, Don't Worry, Be Happy sung by Bobby McFerrin, Walking On Sunshine sung by Katrina and The Waves, When You're Smiling sung by Frank Sinatra and finally, Love Will Save The Day sung by Brendan Reilly . We will be playing instruments with the song (glockenspiel) and any student who plays an instrument and would like to bring it in to play along with the song would be very welcome.

Religious Education

Autumn 2

The taught R.E syllabus is not designed to convert pupils, or to promote a particular religion or religious belief. The aim is to promote an understanding and respect for those with different religions and religious beliefs and to prepare our students to live in a diverse and modern Britain.

This year we will be looking at 'life as a journey'. In this half term we will look at Christianity and how Christians mark the 'turning points' on their journey of life. We will also study Hindu Dharma and explore the concept of 'is there one journey or many?'

Other important information

P.E this year will be on Fridays. The first half term will be on the school premises and off site in Autumn 2.

The spelling assessment will take place on a Thursday and I will also set homework on a Thursday. The children will be expected to complete and return the work by the following Thursday.

Please ensure your child brings a water bottle to school and a healthy snack can be brought for morning break time.

We look forward to working with you and your child this year.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Moss and the Year 6 team