



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and welcome back to spring term. I will be in class Monday - Thursday with Mrs Greenall taking over on a Friday. Miss Day will also be teaching Science on a Tuesday afternoon.

Here are the exciting topics and subjects we will be covering during the spring 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: ratio, algebra, decimals, converting between decimals, fractions and percentages, area, perimeter, volume and statistics. We will also continue to 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, as well as revision of long and short multiplication and division. Helping your child to know up to 12 times-tables will be invaluable.

English

Our English topics link nicely with our history topic throughout Spring 1. We will be reading parts of the novel 'Goodnight Mr Tom' and writing letters as evacuees, researching and designing non-chronological reports all about WW2 as well as writing a 'flashback story'; re-telling events from the past.

In Spring 2 our focus moves to advertising and information leaflets, looking at persuasive techniques. We will also be writing persuasive letters and creating beautiful setting descriptions all about the rainforest we are persuading people to save!

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. It is very important for pupils to learn their spellings each week.

Science

Spring 1 - Evolution and Inheritance

During this unit of work, children will recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago. We will be looking at how living things produce offspring of the same kind, and how they are not identical to their parents. We will also be learning about how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment and how adaptation may lead to evolution. The children will be encouraged to work scientifically by observing and raising questions about local animals and how they are adapted to the environment and also comparing how some living things adapt to survive in extreme conditions.

Spring 2 - Living Things and their Habitats

During this unit of work, the children will be learning about how living things are classified into broad groups, looking at characteristics, similarities and differences. We will be working scientifically by researching unfamiliar animals and plants and deciding where they belong in the classification system and also identifying some animals and plants in our environment. We will also be finding out about the significance of the work of scientists such as Carl Linnaeus.

History

Spring 1

During our unit this half term, we will be focusing on World War Two. We will be using sources to question what happened during and after The Blitz, the role of women during the war and the cause and effect of evacuation. We will be looking at Liverpool as a local area and answering enquiry questions such as 'Why was Liverpool a target for the German Luftwaffe?' If anybody has any relatives who have stories from their experiences during WW2, please feel free to email them to me.

Geography

Spring 2

Our geography work will concentrate on North America this half term, particularly the Caribbean islands. There are links to our English curriculum as we use techniques to persuade visitors to Jamaica, as well as comparing and contrasting life on the island to life on the British Isles.

Art

Spring 1

In this unit, pupils are enabled to explore colour in a very personal and intuitive way. Taking inspiration from artists who use colour, light and form to create immersive installations, pupils will be encouraged to create their own art work. Recognising pupils' growing ability to articulate their thoughts, and understanding that we can use art to bring people together through sharing common experiences - such as how our bodies and minds react in certain colourful environments - pupils will be empowered to create their own response to simple sculptural challenges. Pupils will use sketchbooks throughout to record, test and reflect.

In the second project this term, year 6 will be introduced to the work of a designer, and they will explore how the artist brings his personality to his work. They will go on to explore chair design over the centuries to understand how furniture can reflect or define the age in which it was made.

Children will use a warm-up making exercise to remind themselves that they can be inventive in their making, and that the things they make can communicate ideas to other people. Finally children will go on to make their own chair (a model of) using the Design Through Making technique. They will look at the works of Yinka Ilori.

DT

This term we will be continuing and completing our tote bags and adding the graphics. We will also be embarking on a Food Technology project designing and making a soup, focusing on seasonal vegetables. This links with our history focus on WW2 and the limited rations available.

Computing

Programming - Variables in games: this unit explores the concept of variables in programming through games in Scratch. First, learners find out what variables are and relate them to real-world examples of values that can be set and changed.

Data and information - Introduction to spreadsheets: this unit introduces the learners to spreadsheets. They will be supported in organising data into columns and rows to create their own data set. Learners will be taught how to apply formulas that include a range of cells, and apply formulas to multiple cells by duplicating them.

Music

Spring 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 the song You've Got A Friend by Carole King. We will practise this song each week and alongside, we will listen to and appraise The Loco-Motion sung by Little Eva, One Fine Day sung by The Chiffons, Up On The Roof sung by The Drifters, Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow and (You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman, all written by Carole King.

Religious Education

Spring 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, we will keep you updated with swimming as we receive more news on the outcome of the closures of the local swimming pools.

I will set homework on a Thursday and the children will be expected to complete and return the work by the following Thursday.

Please ensure your child brings a water (not juice) bottle to school and a healthy snack can be brought for morning break time.

We look forward to working with you and your child throughout Spring term.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Moss and the Year 6 team.