



# Seven Stars Primary School

## Phoenix Curriculum Newsletter

Spring 2024

Welcome back Phoenix! I hope you have all enjoyed your Christmas and are ready for your next term in Year 6. Keep up the hard work you have been putting in so far, it's going to be another busy term! Our new topic this term is all about the Ancient Maya Civilisation. After we finish our Geography topic on rainforests, we will be zooming in on Mexico to find out about the ways of life, physical and human features of the country.

As you know, Year 6 is an extremely important year as it is the last year of primary school education. The SATs tests will take place from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May to Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May. Some children may have brought some maths and English revision books home to practise in; if your child would like their work marking or help with any questions, please ask them to let me know.

We will continue to read daily in school through our whole class reading lessons and we will also be encouraging children to take home their reading books from either the school or class library. Please help us to promote a love of reading by continuing to encourage your child to read at home as much as possible; we have told children they are to take responsibility for filling in their own reading record.

As always, please feel free to chat to any of the Phoenix staff team at the end of the school days, or send a message on Class Dojo.

Miss Ward, Mrs Jones and Mr Hartigan.

**P.E** – Our P.E sessions are on a Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning this term. Children can come to school in their P.E kit. P.E kit is a white t-shirt (not a school polo), plain black or navy shorts, joggers or leggings and trainers or pumps. Children can wear their school jumper in cold weather. Earrings should not be worn on P.E days and long hair should be tied up. **We are no longer swimming on Thursdays.**

**PSHE and Our School Values** – We will continue to be looking for children who demonstrate our school values and learning powers.

We will be finishing our PSHE topic of relationships by looking at how to be a positive role model before moving on to our 'living in the wider world' unit. Our new unit will focus on belonging to a community, media literacy and digital resilience as well as money and work.

**Helping at home** – Please don't hesitate to contact us on Class Dojo if you have any queries throughout the year. Children should be encouraged to read regularly at home and practise their weekly spellings on Spelling Shed. To develop comprehension skills in preparation for the SATs tests, we will ask children various questions about their chosen books before they change them. Children should also practise times tables on TT Rockstars to support them with their maths lessons. Please ensure that children are arriving at school on time (8:50am), so they can make the most out of their day. If your child is going to be late or absent from school, please ring the office to let them know or contact Miss Ward via Class Dojo.

**English** – We will be using a variety of texts to support us throughout our English this term. This will include detective fiction and poems about cities; we will also be using a silent movie called The Piano to aid us with our short stories with flashbacks unit. We will continue to focus on different sentence structures as well as how to consistently and correctly use punctuation. Our class novel is called 'The Final Year' by Matt Goodfellow, we have already begun this and the children are loving how relatable it is (centred on being in the final year of primary school). We will then be moving on to Maz Evans' new book, 'Oh Maya Gods!', this will link in with our topic of the Ancient Maya Civilisation.

**Maths** – We will be continuing to follow a mastery approach to maths using the Red Rose scheme of work. We will be developing our arithmetic skills through weekly practise and morning starters as well as looking into exam techniques to ensure we are well prepared for our SATs. We will be looking at coordinates, calculations, fractions and place value, negative numbers and sequences.

**Foundation Subjects** – We will also be having lots of fun in the afternoons in our foundation subjects. In geography, we will be learning about rainforests, in art we will be making a memory box to represent our time at primary school as well as learning all about Islam in RE and light in science!