



Spring Term Year 6 Newsletter

Welcome back

We hope you enjoyed a wonderful Christmas break, and on behalf of the entire school community, we extend warm wishes for a Happy New Year. Year 6 have returned with eagerness to learn, and we anticipate an exciting and productive year ahead. Your questions, concerns, or any further discussions are always welcome—please feel free to contact us.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Best regards,

Mrs. Wilson and Mrs. Drinkel

Religious Education

We continue to follow the RE scheme, 'Come and See'. The three topics that the children will be learning about this term are:

- Sources

-Unity

- Death and New Life

A copy of the Diocesan parents' leaflet with extra information will be sent home soon.



This term much of our English work will be based around our class novels "Street Child" by Berlie Doherty, "The Light Jar" by Lisa Thompson and "Tom's Midnight Garden" by Philipa Pearce. Through our exploration of these texts and through links to our work in other subject areas the children will have the opportunity to write letters, non-chronological reports, newspaper reports, persuasive texts and short narratives. In reading, we will explore the meaning of words in context, draw inferences and justify these with evidence from the text, make predictions, summarise and identify how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning. Grammar, punctuation and spelling will continue to be a focus in all English lessons and discrete lessons will also take place. This half term we will be continuing our work on the Upper Key Stage 2 spelling list, focusing on different rules and strategies for spelling unknown words.

The development of our reading skills will be at the core of all lessons, not just in English, as we aim to develop the children's vocabulary, inference, prediction, explanation, retrieval and summarising skills. Daily reading is still very important, and we encourage the children to try to read at home for at least ten minutes each school day. Reading Plus is an excellent online resource that will support your child in developing their reading comprehension skills.



In Mathematics, the children will continue to develop and build upon their skills from Year 5. We start by continuing some work from the Autumn term, where we will be deepening our understanding of geometry and exploring angles. Following this we will develop our understanding of multiplication and division then we will explore area, perimeter, position and direction. At the end of the term we will look in depth at statistics. There will be an increased emphasis on application and reasoning and all children will access this at a level designed to make them ask relevant questions and solve the problem with logic and clear direction. The children will also continue to focus on the development of their arithmetic skills, and we will be having short, focused maths fluency lessons to aid accuracy and speed of number facts, concepts and procedures. As always children are encouraged to practice their times tables and other skills such as telling the time at home. Pupils should be accessing Times Table Rockstars at home regularly.

Mental Health and Well-Being

We know that wellbeing, physical and mental health are all vital to successful learning. Therefore, we will continue to place a huge emphasis on this during this term through mindfulness activities and tasks that support mental health and wellbeing through our personal, social and health education programme. Our priority is to ensure children feel safe and secure in school and feel confident in expressing and understanding their feelings and emotions. We will also continue to focus on positive behaviours including resilience, growth mindset and kindness.

PE

Our PE sessions will be led by Mrs Drinkel on a Wednesday morning. The children should come to school wearing their PE kit on a Wednesday. Our 'My Personal Best' word is self-motivate. The children will be working on invasion games where they will focus on defending and attacking skills. In gymnastics we will work on body strength and coordination creating longer and more challenging sequences. In Spring 2 the children will start to develop their striking and fielding skills.

Computing

We will be using the Purple Mash scheme for computing and in this term the children will be learning about blogging and text adventures. The children will learn plan, create and present their own blog and develop their coding skills further. Internet safety is a theme that runs through all of our lessons.

Geography

In Geography we will continue our learning around Climate Change during the first half of the Spring Term. Here the children will research the Maldives and the impact Climate Change has had. They will also learn about mitigation and adaption in relation to Climate Change.

Personal, Social and Health Education

Alongside our focus on mental health and wellbeing we will be looking at living the wider world and economic well-being. This will include work on financial capability. Through our keeping safe topic we will explore substance use/misuse, peer pressure, physical activity and healthy foods.

French

We will continue to have a weekly French lesson with Madame Sonley from Lingotots, where the children will be learning about school subjects and routines.

Science

This term the children will be learning more about 'Evolution and Inheritance.' Here the children will find out more about the work of Charles Darwin, Mary Anning and Alfred Wallace. They will recognise how living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago. They will recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents.

History

In second half of the Spring term we will delve into the intriguing era of Victorian Britain and the transformative Industrial Revolution. This topic serves as a fascinating journey through a pivotal turning point in British history, one that has significantly shaped the nation. Students will gain insights into the profound changes that occurred in people's lives during this period, with a particular focus on influential creations like railways that played a crucial role in shaping society. Moreover, this thematic exploration extends to our local history, where students will unravel the stories embedded in our community. Through the use of census information, they will delve into the lives of individuals who were part of our local history during the Industrial Revolution and Victorian era. As part of this exploration, students will analyse various sources and interpretations, fostering a comprehensive understanding of the multifaceted aspects of this historical era.

Art and Design

In art we will be exploring art and design we will be linking our work to the Victorian era where the children will be exploring the work of William Morris and the Victorian arts and crafts movement. In resistant materials we will explore bridges linking this to the work of Isambard Kingdom Brunel.

Music

Mrs Taylor from the Tees Valley Music Service will continue to teach the children music this term where they will learn more about standard notation, explore musical history and compose their own music.

Homework

We will continue to use our homework books with weekly tasks. This will be set on a Wednesday and is to be handed in by the following Tuesday. If your child is struggling with an aspect of the homework please ask them to speak to me about this **before the due date** so that I am able to review it with them. I have posted this half-term's spelling list on SeeSaw, your child will have a mini quiz on their spellings every Tuesday. They can also use Spelling Shed to help them learn each week's spellings. Please continue to encourage your child to read regularly and add to their reading journal. Please also encourage the use of TimesTable Rockstars and Reading Plus. These learning apps have proven to support the development of key areas of the curriculum. Thank you for your continued support.