

Year 6 Class Newsletter:

Spring Term 2023

Welcome to Year 6's first newsletter of 2023!

This term, the children will be studying the following:

English: During the first half term, we will read 'Journey to the River Sea' by Eva Ibbotson. The aims of our sequence of lessons are to explore a longer, character driven narrative, to explore complex characterisation, to read widely and for pleasure, to develop and articulate opinions on a fictional narrative and to explore and debate key themes within a narrative.

During the second half term, we will be reading and exploring 'Holes' by Louis Sachar. Using the text, we will write in a variety of both fiction and non-fiction genres. We will write diary entries, character descriptions, poetry, newspaper reports, instructional texts, non-chronological reports and persuasive pieces. Throughout our reading of the text, we will look at developing and enhancing our comprehension skills.

Throughout the term, we will continue to look closely at grammar terminology and revise the different word classes so that we can use them effectively in our writing. We will also look further into developing our sentence structure, as well as using higher-level punctuation. In regards to spelling, we will continue to use a range of strategies and revise different spelling rules and patterns.

Maths: This term, the children will be learning about the following concepts: *ratio and proportion, algebra, decimals, shapes and statistics.*

Throughout these topics, we will be looking at developing our using and applying skills, mathematical reasoning and mental arithmetic.

Science: This term, we will study Evolution and inheritance. Over the course of this topic the children will learn that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago. They will learn that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents. They will identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution.

Religious Education: This term, our topics will be as follows:

First half term: Exploring the Mass – In this unit, the children will learn about the different parts of the Mass and the symbolism involved.

Second half term: Jesus, the Messiah – In this unit, the children will learn about Jesus as the Messiah and what this mean for us. In preparation for Easter, they will find out about the events of Holy Week.

RSE (Relationship and Sex Education) – This term the class will begin RSE. The sessions will be following a programme that has been approved by the school governors. Please see the separate letter for further details.

Geography:

First half term: Rivers – The children will learn how rivers are formed and be able to name and identify the key features of rivers. They will then use atlases and a range of resources to learn about rivers throughout the world. They will consider their similarities and differences and how they can be affected by pollution. The children will also explore the uses of rivers, with a particular focus on the advantages and disadvantages of hydroelectricity.

Second half term: Why is fair trade fair?

The children will be learning to locate the world's countries, using maps to focus on Europe and North and South America, concentrating on their environmental regions, key physical and human characteristics, countries, and major cities. They will identify the position and significance of latitude, longitude, the Equator, the Hemispheres, the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, Arctic and Antarctic Circle, the Prime/Greenwich Meridian and time zones (including day and night). The children will explore types of settlement and land use, economic activity including trade links, and the distribution of natural resources including energy, food, minerals and water. We will build on a number of the children's geography skills by using maps, atlases, globes and digital/computer mapping to locate countries and describe features studied. We will use the eight points of a compass, four and six-figure grid references, symbols and key (including the use of Ordnance Survey maps) to build their knowledge of the United Kingdom and the wider world.

History: The children will initially focus on consolidating their knowledge of the Second World War prior to moving on to our new topic of Ancient Greece. Throughout this topic, we will study a variety of elements relating to Ancient Greece. We will study Greek civilisation, city states, democracy, warfare, beliefs, gods/goddesses, myths, daily life, theatre as well as the Olympics.

Computing: We will start the term with a reminder of the importance of e-safety. The children will watch some related videos and will take part in a class discussion about the importance of staying safe online. After that, they will use 'Scratch' to design, write and debug programs. They will also test and edit programs that accomplish given goals, (simple computer 'game' or model or simulation), to solve problems. They will also find and collect information and use databases linked to their work in Geography and Science. They will use software effectively to create, design and manipulate for purposeful outcomes, such as research projects. Throughout the term, the children will also develop their vocabulary related to computing terminology.

Art: Our work this term will focus on 'movement'. The children will look at how the idea of movement is shown in different kinds of art, such as photography, illustrations, cartoons and paintings. They will then experiment with different methods and techniques to show movement in their own work. To inspire their own pieces, they will look at the work of the French artist Edgar Degas.

PE: The children will participate in PE lessons on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The focus of the first half-term will be accurate throwing and the focus of the second will be team games. The PSHE focuses of the term are to explore different ways of showing kindness & care to others as well as exploring different ways of communicating.

Homework: Homework will continue to be set on Fridays and will need to be handed in by the following Thursday.

A huge thank you for all your continued support.
Mr Gould