

Class 6 Newsletter January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you had a lovely Christmas and we wish you all a Happy New Year. Thank you so much for your good wishes, cards, gifts and vouchers from last term.

The children were very enthusiastic and hardworking throughout the Autumn term, so we are looking forward to a repeat performance during the Spring term. We have a busy term ahead, with a good deal of work but also some fun activities too! The Autumn term was thoroughly enjoyable and had many highlights, such as our Victorian Day, trip to Penn House and the Christmas Service.

Literacy

Our first topic will be suspense writing - with a focus on creating atmosphere and using ambitious vocabulary and punctuation. We will then complete a unit on the book 'Skellig' by David Almond, and as with Kensuke's Kingdom and a Christmas Carol, we will be exploring the text with a range of writing genres, such as diary and letter. The children will be having their practice SATS on the week beginning 23rd January.

They will continue to learn their words for spelling. Please help your child understand that the words given are commonly misspelt words; and learning them just for the test does not necessarily mean that their knowledge sticks. It would be good to revise them regularly.

Maths

The children cover a huge amount this term as we are nearing the SATs and will be revising all aspects of Maths in both half terms. It is extremely important that children become fluent in all areas of Maths, but particularly with times tables recall, so they can apply their knowledge to a variety of different problems presented in different ways, whilst looking for the most efficient solutions. We will be focusing largely on reasoning about and explaining their answers and methods.

The areas of Maths covered this term include: revising all number, calculations and fractions, decimals and percentages work covered in the Autumn term, along with new learning focused on geometry (properties of 2D and 3D shapes, circles, co-ordinates, position and direction and angles) measurement (area, perimeter, volume and conversions), ratio and proportion, algebra (using formula and generating number sequences) and statistics (interpreting pie charts, line graphs and calculating the mean average).

As always, children should be practising their times tables which really does help them in many aspects of number and we would appreciate your continued support with practising them at home. The children will be given a login to the Time Tables Rockstars website that is proven to greatly help children learn their times tables. Please encourage them to use this as often as possible!

Homework expectations per week as per school approved policy	
Literacy	40 mins
Numeracy	40 mins
Spellings	40 mins
Times Tables to 12, Multiples, Factors, Inverses (division facts)	As much as possible! The faster and easier they can recall these facts the better!
Reading	Minimum 3 times a week; parent/carer to sign homework diary/reading list

Homework Timetable and Weekly Tests:		
Reading Eggs, Mathletics and Times Tables Rockstars will all be fixed to your child's level and are excellent revision sites for them to go on regularly I also recommend IXL grammar and ths websites – they have fabulous practice questions		
Monday	Spellings	Test following Monday
Tuesday	Maths and Literacy	Completed work returned the following Monday
Friday	Times tables	Regular tests

The rest of the curriculum at a glance:

Science	Living things and their habitats
Computing	We are network technicians We are advertisers

History	To be covered in Summer term
Geography	Fair trade
PE	Gymnastics; Handball; Swimming
Art/DT	3D images and textiles
PHSE	Dreams and Goals; Healthy Me
RE	What did Jesus do to save human beings?
Music	A new year carol
French	Wanted! Describing people; Weekend

Preparing our pupils for secondary school

We will be continuing to focus on confidence, self-esteem and coping with pressures this term, ensuring children are prepared for secondary school.

Your child's responsibilities:

The Year 6 children have been working hard at remembering their homework and homework diaries every week. Please continue to ensure that you are signing your child's diary time they read for checking. Children that have not got a signed diary three times on Friday do "catchup" reading on Friday.

We have PE on Tuesday and Wednesdays and it is your child's responsibility to ensure they have their kit at all times.

The importance of reading

At secondary school, your children will be expected to read a lot of texts to access the curriculum. It is important to continue reading at least three times a week with your child and to discuss the book with them. This will give them the best possible start for Year 7 and beyond. Please sign your child's reading diary and write a comment. We are relaunching our class reading challenge, with a prize of extra play for the class with the highest % of children reading 3 times or more in a week.

If you have any questions, queries or any concerns please catch us on the playground – otherwise give the office a call or email and we will get back to you as soon as I can!

We look forward to another amazing term,

Mr Owen and Mrs Hale