

YEAR 6 SPRING 1

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER 2019

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"Happy together in God's family,
we love, grow and learn."

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year and a warm welcome back to school after the Christmas holidays. We hope that you all had a lovely Christmas.

As usual, we have a busy half term ahead of us. We have plenty of learning to do but will also be getting started with some SATs prep by increasing our amount of spelling, SPaG and times table practise.

This newsletter aims to inform you of the Year 6 curriculum for the forthcoming half term and any important routines and dates. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.

Miss Wood (Year 6 Class teacher)



Homework

Reading: Year 6 children are expected to read for 20 minutes per night. Children can change their reading book as often as they would like, but **at least once a week please. Many class members have read very few books so far this year and will be encouraged this half term to increase the amount of reading that they do.**

Spellings/Handwriting: We are now going to be putting even more emphasis on learning spellings. We will continue to spend time in class revising spelling rules and looking at multi-sensory ways of learning and remembering spellings. The children will be tested regularly in class and will be given a list of spellings each week to learn. We will also be sending home the children's attempts at the year 5/6 common exception words. Please support your child in learning the ones they got wrong.

Times Tables: Every week, we will be sending home a times table related activity to complete. This may be a mathematics challenge, a game or simple practise!

Homework Grid: This half term, year 6 will be trialling a slightly different approach to homework. Each week, we will send home reading, spellings and times table practise. Additionally to this, we will also send a homework grid home on Monday 14th January. This is to be used throughout the rest of the half term and will contain a variety of different activities, varying in difficulty. Children should complete one of these a week.

Important Days

Monday:

English and Maths homework given out.

Spellings given for the week.

Friday:

English and Maths homework due in.

Spelling test.

PE kit required.

Important Dates

Friday 11th January 9:30am – Whole School Mass in church

W/C Monday 14th January – World Faith Week

Tuesday 15th January 3:30pm – Yr 6 SATs information evening

Wednesday 16th January – spelling parent's meeting. KS2 9:15am

Friday 18th January – non-uniform day & 'open classroom' for World Faith Week 3:15pm

Monday 21st January 3:30pm – Yr 5/6 SPaG parent meeting

Monday 4th February – Mental Health Week

Friday 15th February – school closes.

English

Our English lessons this half term will follow a slightly different structure, focusing upon two short stories – ‘Cloud Tea Monkeys’ and ‘The Promise’. We will follow a teaching sequence of prediction, comprehension, structure/grammar, planning/drafting/editing the finally publishing. Through this approach, we aim to practise a wide range of skills, all in the context of our two short stories. We will also incorporate some additional, explicit teaching of spelling, punctuation, grammar and reading as we begin to prepare for the SATs.

RE

This half term, the children will learn about the different parts of the Mass, particularly the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. They will learn about the first Passover and show an understanding of the links between it and the Last Supper Jesus had with his disciples.

Mathematics

The children did exceptionally well throughout a long and challenging fractions topic. Now, we are moving on to our ‘Position and Direction’ topic where we will learn about coordinates and practise reflecting and translating. Following this short topic, we will move onto using the four operations with decimals as well as solving problems in context. We will also be linking our knowledge of decimals and fractions to the corresponding percentages. Throughout the half term, we will continue to place a large focus upon times table knowledge, arithmetic skills and problem solving in context.

The Year 6 Curriculum

Half-Term 3



PE

Year 6 will continue to have an afternoon of PE every Friday, taught by Mrs Pounder. PE this half term will include gymnastics, where the children will practise a range of skills such as floor and equipment use. They will also begin learning the skills needed for a game of hockey.

Computing

For computing this half term, we will spend one session finishing our interactive quizzes created on ‘Scratch’. The children were exceptionally engaged with this and are keen to finish! Following this, we will begin our ‘blogging’ topic. The children will learn what blogs are and will then go on to create some blogs on their own to publish on our school website!

Science

In science, Year 6 will be learning about animals (including humans) with a primary focus upon the circulatory system. We will learn the main parts and functions of the circulatory. We will also learn how nutrients and water are transported around the body as well as the components that make up the blood. Finally, we will learn how diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle can impact the human body.

Creative Curriculum

We will focus upon a variety of different creative topics this half term. From Brunel, to other significant British figures, to learning about crime and punishment throughout history. Prepare to be overloaded with lots of new facts!

Music

All learning this half term will be focused around one song from Benjamin Britten’s Friday Afternoons: A New Year Carol. During the unit, the class will have the opportunity to research Benjamin Britten’s life and to listen to some of his other pieces of work.

ART/DT

We have already kick-started this half term with our DT topic – Bridges. For this, we researched the work of Isambard Kingdom Brunel before designing and making our own bridges for a competition. In art, we will learn about famous fashion designers and will compare trends from the past to the trends we wear today.