



Year 6 Spring Term Update

A Message from the Class Teachers

Welcome to the Spring Term! We are proud of the service, leadership and kindness that we have seen in Year 6 so far this year- they are terrific role models for our younger pupils. We anticipate this will be a busy term, and we are excited to continue working with our pupils.

LBQ continues to be used for English and Maths homework alongside EdShed for spelling. We set tasks on Friday to be completed by the following Thursday at 8pm. Year 6 are very proficient at using Accelerated Reader to quiz on the books they have read, and can continue to do so at home and in school. The website estimates the number of minutes every child has read and we are aiming for 20 minutes per day.

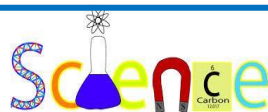
Thank you for all of your continued support,
Mrs Hoddins. Mr Winn and Mrs Corbin



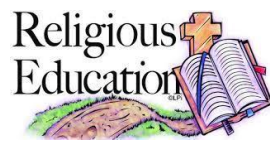
Since returning to school in January, the children have written a postcard from a fairytale character who has been imprisoned, giving them an opportunity to practise informal writing. We are now in the process of constructing a non-chronological report about Emperor Penguins. Following this, the children will write their own report about a different animal. Afterwards, we will be putting persuasive devices to use in order to write a speech calling troops to battle. Alongside this, we will continue to improve our children's understanding of grammatical terms- including their application in writing- and their spelling. Our class text this term will be *Kensuke's Kingdom* by Michael Morpurgo- a gripping tale about a young boy who, whilst sailing around the world with his family, falls overboard and washes up on a deserted Pacific Island.



This term the focus is on decimals and percentages. Year 6 will work on numbers to 3 decimal places. We will discover the links between decimals, percentages and fractions. Alongside this, ratio and algebra will be introduced. In measurement we will learn about the area, perimeter and volume of shapes. We will explore statistics, working on line graphs, finding the mean and reading and interpreting pie charts. The emphasis in all our maths will be reasoning, making connections and explaining how we tackle problems. We are checking that the children know all the multiplication tables from the 2s to the 12s.



We will be completing our learning on Inheritance and Evolution before moving on to learn more about Electricity, building on our learning in Y4. We will also be doing some learning linked to British Science Week in March linked to the theme 'Curiosity: What's your question?'



Our first topic, 'People of God' poses the question, 'How does following God bring freedom and justice. We will explore the story of Moses and reflect upon its relevance in today's world. Next, we will move onto the topic of 'Incarnation' and the question, 'Was Jesus the Messiah?' Within this we will consider and compare a range of worldviews.



This term, we are beginning our study of the First World War. Our work in lessons will aim to answer the question: Was World War I really so 'great'? This unit allows the children to study an aspect of British history that profoundly affected the lives of people around the world. We will consider the chronology of the war and complete in-depth studies of trench life and the technological advancements that occurred during this time. This will be largely achieved through the study of historical sources and artefacts.



Year 6 will learn about our ever changing and dynamic **coasts**. Pupils will consider the role of erosion and deposition in forming coastal features. The children will explore the reasons coasts are attractive for people to live and visit. We will study plastic pollution in the ocean habitat and consider its impact on the planet. The children will develop their oracy skills by creating a presentation to present to their peers.



This term, in music, we will be continuing to look at a variety of songs from different genres. We will be keeping a focus on performance - continuing to hone skills of ensemble performance using voice and glockenspiel. We will also be increasing our focus on composition and improvisation within broader parameters using our YUMU musical school platform. We will continue to develop our knowledge of notation using songs such as, "Roll Alabama", "Simple Gifts" and "La Bamba". As with the previous term our studies will culminate in a class performance to showcase our skills.



This term we will focus on studying different artists. We will focus on understanding narratives and descriptive language in art, exploring meanings behind paintings, and developing personal interpretations and abstract art pieces based on selected artists.



Three years of learning coding has led to this term, where the Y6 children are creating games on Scratch which show off as many of their skills as they can. They are already taking shape and I'm delighted to see the ambition on display. Children will continue to code their creations, before Beta Testing one another's games, giving feedback and then adapting and improving them based on other's suggestions.



Our new topic for this half term is gymnastics. The unit of work will challenge pupils' creativity as they use and apply their understanding of the different themes and concepts they have learnt throughout KS2. Pupils will work in groups to create sequences using different 'Challenge Cards' using both the floor and apparatus. We will then move onto Badminton, pupils will refine their ability to execute certain shots and to think tactically, deciding which shot to play and why in a game situation. Pupils will apply their learning in singles and doubles games.

French

In French this term we will continue to use our online resource, "Languagenut". We will be building on previously studied phonetic knowledge and will be particularly focussing on being able to express opinions in French. Lessons will focus on listening and understanding, reading, speaking and writing.



In Design and Technology we will begin our new unit all about structures. We will begin by exploring how structures like buildings are made using frames and considering how they can be strengthened using trusses and triangulation. We will then be using our learnt knowledge to solve the problem of bombing on the home front during World War 1 by designing and building mini air raid shelters.



We will complete two further puzzle pieces from our Jigsaw Curriculum this Spring term. The first being 'Dreams and Goals'. In this Puzzle, the children share their own strengths and further stretch themselves by setting challenging and realistic goals. They discuss the learning steps they will need to take as well as talking about how to stay motivated. The children reflect on various global issues and explore places where people may be suffering or living in difficult situations; whilst doing this, they reflect on their own emotions linked to this learning. The children also discover what they think their classmates like and admire about them, as well as working on giving others praise and compliments.

Another piece that we will look at is 'Healthy Me'. In this Puzzle, the children discuss taking responsibility for their own physical and emotional health and the choices linked to this. They learn about different types of drugs and the effects these can have on people's bodies. The children learn about exploitation as well as gang culture and the associated risks therein. They also learn about mental health/illness and that people have different attitudes towards this. They learn to recognise the triggers for and feelings of being stressed and that there are strategies they can use when they are feeling stressed.

If you have any concerns, then please do not hesitate to get in touch with the Year 6 team.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Hodgins, Mr Winn and Mrs Corbin