

Year 6 Summer Term Update

A Message from the Class Teachers

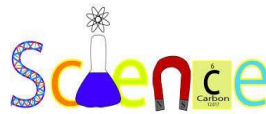
Wow! Our fabulous Year 6 are in their final Blue Coat term. The children will soon be past SATs week and looking forward to the Pilgrimage from Finchale Abbey to the cathedral, Sports Week, our end of term Leavers' party and the Leavers' Service at All Saints church. We will attend the Diocesan Leavers Service at Durham Cathedral and visit The Faith Museum, Auckland Project for workshops on Meet the Faiths and Planet Protectors. There are transition events arranged with secondary schools to prepare the children to move on to the next part of their educational journey.



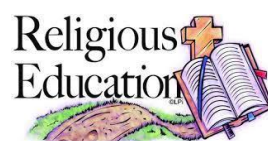
We will use the computer-animated dark fantasy "Alma" to inspire our writing of a creative narrative. This will develop our skills as imaginative writers able to describe the atmosphere and build up suspense to a shocking story ending.



In maths we are working on the properties of 2d and 3d shape. We will use protractors, draw shapes accurately and recognise the nets of shapes. We will focus on problem solving. We will explore a unit on Statistics and look at data, pie charts and graphs. We will look at reflecting and translating shapes in all four quadrants and using coordinates to plot points and draw shapes.



In Science we will be studying living things and their habitats. We will focus on the identification and classification of living things. The children will be introduced to taxonomy and the 5 Kingdoms. We will be looking closely at different living things and identifying what makes them "them". We will also study single cell organisms and bacteria searching for uses which are beneficial to humans and also the problems bacteria can pose.



We begin the term with the topic 'Salvation' and explore the question, 'What difference does the Resurrection make to Christians?' Following this, we will focus on the key question, 'What does it mean for Muslims to follow God?'



This term we will be learning about the history of migration in Britain. We will be thinking about all of our history learning to date and where there are examples of migration and considering the impact that they have had on Britain. We will then look at some specific case studies of migration in more modern history such as Windrush and the Kindertransport.



This term we are looking at mapwork. We will learn about 6 figure grid references and locate places on different scale maps. We will explore latitude, longitude and learn about different time zones.



In music this term, whilst we will still be developing our ensemble and solo performance skills, we will also be focussing on improvisation and compositional skills. We will introduce new notes on the staff and experiment with different styles of improvisation. We will be exploring more complex rhythmic patterns using a wider range of notation including semiquavers, tied and dotted notes. The final term will bring an opportunity for the Y6 children to give a farewell performance showcasing their learning throughout the year. One final tour!



This term in art focuses on climate change. Students will work with a local artist to create a whole school tiled collage. Year 6 will experiment with batik and create a jellyfish from found plastic objects.



Summer term in Computing includes Digital Literacy lessons looking at how the internet works and why "The Internet" and "The World Wide Web" are different things. We'll also explore Micro:bit coding, and create a Google Site containing all the work children have created and can be proud of from their years at Blue Coat.



The children have started the summer term with a unit on athletics including running, throwing and jumping. They will be encouraged to consider how they can improve and get better. They will then develop rounders skills which they have previously been introduced to and apply them in small game settings.

French

The final term sees us learning about school subjects in French. We will also learn to give our opinions about the subjects and say why we like them or dislike them using “parce que”. We will also revise previously studied phonics, conjunctions and time before looking at the things we do after school. Y6 French studies will culminate with learning about the French holiday of Bastille Day.



In D&T this term we will be completing a digital world unit. We'll be exploring and using micro:bits with chromebooks to help solve some issues that have arisen from climate change and human's impact on animals and their habitats. We will also be using some other D&T elements such as structural building and textiles to develop usable products for these problems.



We will complete the remaining two puzzle pieces from our Jigsaw curriculum this summer term. The first puzzle piece is 'Relationships'. In this Puzzle the class looks at mental health and how to take care of their own mental well-being. They talk about the grief cycle and its various stages, they also discuss the different causes of grief and loss. The children talk about people who can try to control them or have power over them. They look at online safety, learning how to judge if something is safe and helpful as well as talking about communicating with friends and family in a positive and safe way.

The final puzzle piece we will look at is 'Changing Me'. In this Puzzle, the children learn about puberty in boys and girls and the changes that will happen; they reflect on how they feel about these changes. The children also learn about childbirth and the stages of development of a baby, starting at conception. They explore what it means to be physically attracted to someone and the effect this can have upon the relationship. They learn about different relationships and the importance of mutual respect and not pressuring/being pressured into doing something that they don't want to. The children also learn about self esteem, why it is important and ways to develop it. Finally, they look at the transition to secondary school and what they are looking forward to/are worried about and how they can prepare themselves mentally. Children will always be given an opportunity to ask questions and seek reassurance, particularly if anything is worrying them.

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

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Lake, Mr Winn and Mrs Hughes