

Year 6 Autumn Term Update

A Message from the Class Teachers

Welcome to the Autumn Term which began on a very positive note with our fantastic team building days.

Homework tasks are planned to support the work done in class. Please ensure your child's homework is always completed. Every week Year 6 will have:-

- Three Mathletics tasks
- Weekly spellings
- At least 20 minutes per day reading

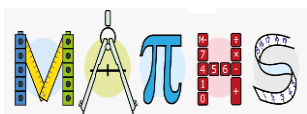
Tasks are assigned on Monday and need to be completed by Sunday at 8.00pm. Five green Dojo points are given for completed homework.

As it was such a success last year, the children are continuing to rotate around the school for afternoon lessons. This ensures that they experience the best teaching in each subject area and meet every teacher in the school.



This term, we are reading the award winning *The Unforgotten Coat* by Frank Cottrell-Boyce, which is based on a moving true story full of humour and warmth. Inspired by this novel, the children will be writing a non-chronological report about Mongolia. We will use a short thought-provoking film about the true story of the *Three Little Pigs* to create a newspaper report. We are using the fantasy novel *The Nowhere Emporium* by Ross MacKenzie to develop the children's imaginative ideas for a descriptive setting.

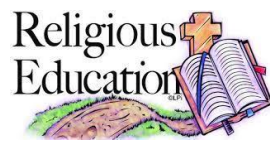
We visit the school library weekly and the children are asked to quiz books on Accelerated Reader both at home and in school.



Our focus this term will begin with place value using numbers up to 10,000,000. We will be using the four operations including long multiplication and long division for problem solving. We will then move onto adding, subtracting, multiplying fractions and dividing them by an integer. Finally, we will work on converting metric measures and solving calculations involving length, capacity and mass.



In science this term, we will be studying light and how we see things. We will learn how our eyes work and investigate filters to help us to understand how we are able to see different colours. We will find out how refraction can play tricks on our eyes by changing the direction of light rays. After studying how mirrors reflect light, we will use them to plan and construct a mirror maze. We will also be studying electricity and investigating how different components affect the current through circuits. We will conclude this topic with a design project involving using their knowledge of electrical conductors and components to construct an automatic switch.



We will begin by focusing on the question, 'How do religions help people live through good times and bad times?' Next, we will study pilgrimage and explore the question, 'Why is pilgrimage important to some religious believers?' The rest of the term will centre around the topic of 'People of God' and the key question, 'How can following God bring freedom and justice?'



In history this term, we will be answering the question, 'Can we choose the UK's most important monarch?'. We will begin considering the chronology of various time periods within British and world history, before looking in depth at the reign of some of our most influential monarchs such as Alfred the Great, William the Conqueror, Elizabeth I, Henry VIII and Elizabeth II. By unravelling the successes- and some of the failures- of each king or queen, we will decide who deserves the title of our 'greatest monarch'.



The World

Pupils will name and locate some of the countries of the world. We will look at the world's climate zones and explore how location affects climate. We will focus on Australia where pupils will learn about the increasing incidences of bushfires. The children will learn about the global issues of trade, food production and energy supply.



The children will commence their Music lessons in the Spring term and be taught by Mrs Milligan. They will enjoy a variety of singing, listening, composing and performing activities to support their musical education.



This term, children will explore the works of Picasso and the Cubism movement. They will create their own piece of digital drawing which shows a feeling or emotion about their life in the future.



This term the students will be designing and making an automata toy. Children learn about controlling movement with a cam mechanism as part of an automata animal toy. They make a simple cam mechanism to formulate an understanding of how different shaped cams can be used to produce different movements.



As a step-up from last year's platform games, children will be given a choice of the style of game they design this term. We'll remind ourselves of the design process and look at some excellent (or otherwise) examples of games that children could use as a guide - to either follow or avoid! Alongside this, we'll continue to develop our IT skills and ensure we remain responsible Digital Citizens, confident in our safe use of technology.

French

Our Autumn unit is based around the children being able to describe themselves in French. This involves question and answer sessions and writing sentences using all the vocabulary they are learning.



This term we will have two different units. Our gymnastics unit will focus on matching and mirroring using excellent movement skills. Children will do some floor work and some work on apparatus. They will work in pairs to perform a routine that will be built up over the unit. They will also be developing their tactical awareness when making decisions about attacking and defending in a games setting.



PSHE this year will be taught through a number of dedicated dropdown days. Further information regarding these days will be sent out to parents in due course.

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

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Copeland, Mrs Lake and Mrs Corbin