



Year 6 has arrived... already!

Robinwood is on the horizon (I'll send out a letter in the next few days, inviting you in to a meeting to discuss final details and fill in important forms); fractions are beckoning and there's a present perfect tense that won't form itself! We need to get cracking.

I am already writing a Christmas play and I've got wrapping paper sorted.

English

The 'Heroes' topic will begin with oral presentations of our topics. We'll then be writing formal letters to our heroes; let's see who replies! We will then move on from the 8 Writing Points, into the use of the '25 exciting sentences'. Each day, there will be GPS (Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling) lessons and Guided Reading/Comprehension three times each week.

I'll be reading Marcus Sedgwick's 'Dark Horse' to bring out adventure/suspense story-writing and I encourage you also to read to/with your child at home as often as possible.

Maths

Year 6 maths... Wowzer! There is A LOT of content - thankfully we got a head-start in June/July. We'll be beginning with a recap on Number: Place Value, Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division, before embarking on fractions.

We will continue with Speed Tables, but the challenge will keep being raised (your child should be comfortable with **ALL** of their times tables by now); this will be more and more important as the year goes on. There will also be weekly Mental Maths tests. Your child will be encouraged to feedback to us on their understanding, so that we can put focused interventions in place.

Topic

The topic of War will begin, by understanding the world around us, through geography. We will look at countries, continents, oceans, biomes and map reading. Through this we will start to understand what provokes conflict.

Science, Computing , Art & RE – Friday with Miss H

In science we are going to build on their knowledge and understanding of different systems within the body. We will research the parts and functions of the circulatory system and will focus on how nutrients are transported around the human body. We will explore how a healthy lifestyle supports the body to function and how different types of drugs affect the body. In computing we will be learning how networks work, understanding computer networks including the internet, learning how they can provide multiple services, such as the World Wide Web, and exploring the opportunities they offer for communication and collaboration. In art we are going to be exploring pieces of artwork which have been influenced by war and conflict.

PHSE

The strand 'Living in the Wider World' begins with a look at the British Values of democracy and freedom of speech.

PE

This half term we'll be doing gymnastics and (hopefully) American Football. Your child will need a **fully-labelled** PE kit - including correct footwear - in school for these days in order to participate. As per the school policy, long hair must be tied up and earrings removed or taped up during PE.

Important Dates this half term:

Robinwood Meeting - Mon 16th September, 6pm

Robinwood Residential - Mon 14th to Wed 16th October

Parents' Evening - Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd October

Break up for Half Term - Fri 25th October



Ways to help your child in Year 6:

First of all, ask them what they are doing in class. They should talk to you about 8 Writing Points and the 25 Exciting Sentences – ask them what they are. By the end of this half-term they should also be able to do long division, multiply and divide fractions and – all being well – complete their Speed Tables inside of 5 minutes.

Can they explain to you what a noun is? A preposition? A modal verb? Ask them about Kensuke's Kingdom and discuss world geography with them. If you are really interested, ask them if they can explain American Football to you... or show you how to complete one side of a Rubik's Cube.

Here is a link to the expectations for the end of Year 6: <http://www.netherthongprimary.co.uk/downloadfile/6594340>

I'd be really grateful if you would regularly read with your child. Reading is SO IMPORTANT, not just to comprehension, but to their writing also. A child who has stopped reading regularly by Year 6 will struggle to write sufficiently well enough to be a secure writer at the end of Key Stage 2. Ask them questions about what they are reading and discuss the grammar. Your child will read aloud at least twice each week.

Mathletics is there to support the maths that we are learning in class. I do not expect your child to get bronze medals each week, but I do expect them to put the time and work in. The expectation is that your child should be spending 30 minutes each day on homework – next year this goes up to 45-90 minutes. As part of Year 6, I need to prepare them for this, so they will miss break times if they do not cover the work I have set.

Finally, there will be 8 spelling words to learn each week. These will be in their planners with the Mathletics areas for that week. I expect planners to be in book bags each day.

Vocabulary: city, industry, route, trade, county, region, boundary, grid reference, scale, sovereign state, cathedral, quarter back, receiver, safety, completion, incomplete pass, interception, throwing stance, sacking the quarterback, touchdown.

Thank you, as always, for your support.

Mr Clayton, Mrs Johnson and Miss Hemingway.