

Dear Parents,

Year 6 have had a busy week, continuing the topic of "Earth as an Island".

English – We continued the class book *Floodland* by Marcus Sedgwick. This week we looked more closely at the features of reports. The children have found writing in the formal tone of a report challenging; in particular, using third person, incorporating the passive voice, using technical vocabulary and keeping any descriptions factual. The children should continue to practise changing sentences from active to passive voice such as The dog chased the cat – The cat was chased by the dog. They should also continue to practise words ending in cious and tious eg suspicious and ambitious. Our new words this week are: special official, crucial, beneficial, confidential partial, essential, circumstantial, vast, hindrance, herd and heard (difference between the meanings).

Maths – This week we have focused on finding the area of triangles and parallelograms using the formulae $A = \frac{1}{2} b \times h$ and $A = b \times h$. We practised solving problems involving reasoning about the area of shapes. We have also had an Arithmetic focus on multiplying and dividing decimals by 10, 1000 and 1000.

Topic – This week we had the opportunity to learn about safety in the water from a member of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, this links with our topic. We have also practised using an atlas to find countries that are Islands and we have located these islands using grid references. We have also compared and contrasted two different Islands, the Island of Oahu in Hawaii and the Island of Lundy in the British Isles. In Art we have looked at different portrayals of the River Thames and created our own drawings of different sections of the Thames.

JS - In Jewish Studies we commemorated Holocaust Memorial Day by looking at life in the ghetto and seeing how children had to work in order to support themselves and their families. We listened to first person accounts of what the work was like and we saw how children tried to make the work more bearable by writing stories and plays about it, which we tried as well. We also looked at how Moshe has a dual Egyptian and Hebrew identity and how that affects him once he grows up and sees how the Hebrew are treated. We applied this to our own lives and thought about how we all have different aspects to our identity and reflected about what this implied for us as we are growing up.

Ivrit – Year 6 carried on with the topic: 'איך אני נראה' - 'What I look like'. Year 6 are learning to describe themselves and others in detail. Words we are learning include: עיניים כחולות \ ירוקות \ חומות \ שחורות (Blue/black/brown/green eyes – Eynaim kchulot/shchorot/chumot/yerukot), שער ארוך, (Sear aroch – long hair), שער קצר, (Sear Katzar – short hair), צמה (Tzama – plat), צמות, (Tzamos – plats), שער מתולתל, (Sear metultal – curly hair), קוקיות, (Kukiot – bunches), שער ישר, (Sear yashar – straight hair), פה, (Pe- mouth), אף, (Af-nose), גבוה, (Gavoha-tall), נמוך, (Namouch – short)

The class will learn the song הַפְּנִימִים שְׁלִי which you can find on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q6heSiMYiqg> and the song אָנִי תָּמִיד נִשָּׂאֵר אָנִי (Ani tamid nishar ani – I always stay myself) which you can find on:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rwSCm-bcVwQ>

Next Week is Safer Internet Day – the theme this year is “**Free to be Me**”. We will be having a workshop on Wednesday 5th February and will be doing a number of activities around the theme throughout the week.

The Parent Online Safety workshop is on Wednesday 5th February 2020. This is an important event to attend and will give you valuable, up to date information about how to keep you children safe online.

We will also be doing activities linked to **Children’s Mental Health Week**. The theme for this is “**Find your Brave**”.

The children should be reading their scheme books out loud every evening. Please ask them comprehension questions about the text they are reading and date and sign the blue diary each time. The children should also be reading their ‘home’ books as well. The school library books can be changed or renewed on Mondays or in Library Club on Wednesdays.

Please continue to use Magic Spell, Mathletics and TTRockstars at home.

Please ensure your child has their blue diary each day. If they are being collected by someone else to usual, this must be recorded in the diary on the day.

All boys need a spare kippah in their tray and all children need a non-uniform cap in their tray too.

Children should be bringing in PE kits on Tuesdays and **Wednesdays**. They should bring their school uniform in their PE bag to change into after PE.

Our week’s attendance was 94.44%. Weekly attendance needs to be over 96%.

Shabbat Shalom

Mrs Osborne, Mrs Benton and the Year 6 team