

To the parents of children in Year 6,

We hope you have had a lovely Easter Holiday and your child has settled into the final term at Greasby Junior School well. Below are the details of the work to be covered by Year 6 during the summer term - the majority of which we will begin after the SATs as (until then) the children will be mostly involved in revision tasks to ensure they are fully prepared to do their best in the tests. The following dates are of importance for Year 6 children:

- SATs in the week beginning 14th May
- Chester Zoo trip: 7th June. Approximate cost = £17.50 (or £5 if your child has their own membership card)
- Transition Conference held at GJS: children spend the afternoon in their Secondary School groups, preparing them for Induction Day: Tuesday 10th July (pm)
- Induction Day at the children's Secondary Schools: Wednesday 11th July.
- Swimming Trip to Northgate Arena: Tuesday 17th July (pm).
- Leavers' Assembly for parents and carers: Wednesday 18th July at 11am
- 'Under Golden Skies' Day - our topic 'Celebration Day': Thursday 19th July. Children will be asked to come in 'summer holiday' clothes.



Themes

Year 6 will complete the majority of their work through the theme of 'Under Golden Skies'. An overview of the theme links is available in PDF form on the website, in the Year 6 section of 'Our Learning'.

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Literacy

The children will study a range of fiction and non-fiction texts in Literacy. They will read a variety of poems and stories from different cultures and use the ideas they have read as a stimulus for their own creative writing. We will study the novel 'Journey to Jo'Burg' by Beverley Naidoo, which looks at two children living under apartheid in Africa. The children will also write persuasive advertising leaflets to promote their own hotel complex.

Numeracy

During the term, the children will revisit and continue to build on concepts related to addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. They will use and apply their skills in order to solve a range of puzzles, problems and investigations. Arithmetic and the rapid recall of number facts will also continue to be reinforced and developed.

Science

This term we will be investigating living things. Firstly, we will be learning about humans: the body's circulatory system; and the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way that our bodies function. During our lessons, children will be using their knowledge to plan and execute their own investigations. Following this, we will study aspects of plant reproduction (including seed dispersal and germination) and learn about the life cycles of insects and animals as part of our 'Under Golden Skies' theme.

ICT

During this term, the children will use software to design, write and debug programs. They will use control programs to code sequences with various inputs and outputs. They will also use logical reasoning to manipulate simple algorithms, creating simple animations. Before creating our 3D collages, we will use ICT to plan the project. Using tablets, children will create their own promotional video in a session led by Hi-Impact staff (our IT providers).



History

Over the few weeks, we will complete our history topic. The children will research and collate their learning to recognise the impact of the Vikings on our lives today; and then end the topic by investigating the Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle for the Kingdom of England to the time of Edward the Confessor. Through our 'Journey to Jo'Burg' novel, we will look at living through Apartheid in Africa.



Geography

Through our 'Under Golden Skies' topic, the environment will form an important part of our learning. The children will explore a range of issues and will be challenged to consider ways in which we impact on our environment and therefore how we can improve the environment in which we live: locally, nationally and globally. We will be studying a range of the world's climate zones, locating them on a world map.

Art

In art, we will be using the work of the artist Tilly Willis as a stimulus for their own sketches and paintings. In contrast to these arid lands, the children will study the rainforest work of the artist Henri Rousseau and use these rainforest paintings for ideas to create 3D collages, first planning them using an ICT program. After our studies at Chester Zoo, we will make 3D models of animals and create the 3D collage environment in which each animal would live.



Design Technology

During the last half term, children will work in pairs to design and make a pair of slippers. They will use existing products for ideas and create a prototype. This basic design will then be adapted by the children in order to design and make a pair of slippers based on an animal theme. The children (and we) would be very grateful for any help that you can offer during that week by assisting with the sewing. We will send a letter to inform you of the date nearer the time, and beg for help!

PSHE / RE

The children will complete two main units of work this term. One unit of work will be centred around the topic of 'memories' which will culminate in a project 'All about me'. In PSHE we will explore the issues involved in promoting healthy lifestyles, including activities about exercise, tobacco and alcohol. Towards the end of the term, the children will have sex education lessons. Before the children receive these lessons, there will be a parents' meeting at which you will have the opportunity to watch the DVDs that we will show the children and hear an outline of the content of the lessons that your child will experience.

Music

As a part of our topic, we will listen to and work with music and songs from the African culture. As well as their multi-cultural work, the children will be composing their own music and developing their skills in graphic scoring to notate their compositions. They will be encouraged to listen to a range of music and develop their skills in appraising music from different composers.

French

The children will continue to extend their range of spoken language skills in French and develop their basic skills in writing the language.



PE and Games

Year 6 will still have their games sessions each Wednesday afternoon, during which they will develop their skills in a range of striking and fielding sports: cricket, rounders and golf. They will also further develop their skills in a range of athletic activities in preparation for Sports Day.

The children will continue to receive homework each week, details of which will be in their homework diaries. Please could you ensure that they have their diaries in school and that they are signed for each Friday. In addition, it is important that the children are still reading regularly and have their 'Accelerated Reading' book and Reading Journal in school each Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. We hope that you find this information useful and that your child enjoys their final term with us at Greasby Junior School.

Miss Price, Mrs Evans, Mrs Smylie, Mrs McIlveen and Mrs McGregor.