



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. Tempus fugit, people.

### English

The 'Heroes' topic will begin with oral presentations of our topics. We'll then be writing formal letters to our heroes, before engaging in comprehensive biography writing. We will be moving on from the 8 Writing Points, to the use of the '25 exciting sentences'. We will be doing daily GPS (Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling) lessons and Guided Reading three times each week. Alongside this, I'll be reading Rob Buyea's 'Because of Mr Terupt,' as the class story. 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 feed back to us on their understanding, so that we can put focused interventions in place.

### Topic

The Mayan civilization kicks off the historical theme of Ancient Civilizations, which we will return to this year. We will examine the culture and beliefs, as well as their legacy on the world around us.

### Science, Computing , Art & DT

In Science we will be 'Classifying Critters', looking at the five kingdoms of living things. We will be learning how to design and write a complex program using coding in our computing lessons. Our Art focus will be linked to the history topic The Mayan Civilization, looking at Mayan glyphs and creating masks.

### 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 hockey 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.

### RE

What does it mean to be a Sikh? We hope to find out!

### Important Dates this half term:

Robinwood Meeting – Mon 17<sup>th</sup> September, 6pm  
Robinwood Residential – Mon 15<sup>th</sup> to Wed 17<sup>th</sup> October  
Parents' Evening – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October  
Break up for Half Term – Fri 26<sup>th</sup> 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 the ancient civilization of the Maya. 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.

IXL is there to support the maths that we are learning in class. I do not expect your child to get 100 for each area that they have for homework, 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 IXL areas for that week. I expect planners to be in book bags each day.

Thank you, as always, for your support.

**Mr Clayton, Mrs Johnson and Mrs Kendal.**