



## Year 6 Autumn 2018 Curriculum Newsletter

### From the Year 6 Teachers

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers

This term the children have lots to look forward to they will be learning about North America's climate and geography. We will analyse, compare and write reports to apply literacy skills and computing and research skills. Following half term the children will learn about the **Ancient Greeks**, thus extending their understanding of ancient history. We have linked our learning to **North America** with literacy further by choosing a wonderful book to study. *Holes* by Louis Sachar, set in Texas, will give stimuli for writing and in-depth analysis at a word level to develop comprehension skills. In Science, we will be learning about the human body and its functions and move on to studying light. Again we will link skills taught in writing to writing scientific reports and encourage the children to apply reasoning across the curriculum.

In Maths, we will cover a range of topics. We are already aware of forthcoming **SATs** and look forward to starting **booster groups** after half term to support some children. In class, we have developed use of concrete, pictorial and abstract methodology to give children a deep and thorough understanding of reasoning and arithmetic operations that form the curriculum. To this end the curriculum has been planned to review question types and strategies. We will learn about rounding numbers to 10 million and place value linked to formal written methods for addition and subtraction. After half term we will move on to fractions, decimals and percentages.

We are encouraging the children to show how they apply our school values by teaching the children what each value is and how this can be incorporated into their daily lives.

We are here to help: **Mrs Bredenkamp** (6 Andromeda), **Mrs Barton** (Maths Leader and Year 6 teacher) **Miss Hall** (6 Pegasus teacher and Year 6 Leader) **Miss Cresswell** (Year 6 teacher)



### Core Subjects

#### English and Literacy

We began our year with writing a diary entry, and we are currently planning leaflets which will be inspired by our recent trip to Kingswood. Our writing this year will be inspired by reading a variety of texts in class. We shall be continuing to improve our grammatical knowledge and reading comprehension skills and we encourage you to make sure that your child is reading at least four times a week with one signature every week.

#### Reading

Please ensure that your child reads to an adult at least four times a week (more is better) and record this in the home/school book. We have adopted a skills based approach to developing comprehension and the children will be learning about skimming and scanning, inference, main idea, summarising and using contextual clues for reading. This will give them strategies for answering SATS type questions and develop their reasoning.

#### Writing

We will use the texts *Holes* and *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens as a stimulus for writing. In so doing will still cover a range of genres to encourage the children to vary their language and sentence structure for purpose. So far we have written diary entries and leaflets. This will extend to longer narrative, poetry and non-fiction texts.

## Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar

Children will be given a list of spellings each week to learn at home, these will be based on the rules children are required to learn in Year 6. Children will then be tested each week on Tuesday. Grammar will include using modal verbs, subordinate clauses and extended noun phrases. However, we will be revising verbs tenses and complex and compound sentence structuring. Miss Hall has registered the school with the website Spelling City and this will give children the opportunity to practise spellings in a fun and interactive way, both at school and at home.

## Maths and Numeracy

In order to support you support your child with their homework and learning in maths a separate leaflet will be issued to explain the concrete, pictorial, abstract approach that we are using to deepen understanding and allow your child to develop their reasoning skills as referred to in the initial part of this newsletter.

## Science

We shall be learning about the human body, its respiratory and digestive functions and following half term we will learn about light. The children will be encouraged to take more responsibility for their learning and create their own questions to lead learning. A range of experiments will be conducted and reported on using scientific enquiry and technique.



## Foundation Subjects

### Topic (History and Geography)

Our topic this term is North America. It is fundamental to encourage the children to broaden the children's understanding of the world around us and how we can contrast and compare our own environment globally. We are excited to use technology and links Miss Hall has in the USA and Central America to analyse climate, human geography within North America.

After half term the children will learn about the Ancient Greeks and key events within that period that have helped to shape the world we will in today. Examination of primary and secondary evidence will help the children to become more analytical in their approach.



### Art and Design Technology

We shall be creating and reflecting on portraiture and looking at the works of Picasso and Munch. Again it is important the children are encouraged to reflect on their skill development and on other artists' inspiration. After half term, the children will be linking their learning on a balanced diet to produce pizzas.



### Computing

We shall learn about internet safety and research North America. After half term the children will develop their skills in MS Office and desktop publishing. We have a range of iPads and laptops that will benefit the children.

**French:** We shall be extending our skills in talking, writing and speaking about ourselves. With a view to studying MFL in high school it is a requirement that the children develop extended written and reading skills this year.

**Music:** The children will be learning about drumming for a concert later in the term.

**Physical Education and Sport:** The children will also be improving their tag rugby and karate skills and we are excited to have opportunity to have groups of children attend a range of competitive sporting events this term.

**Religious Education:** This term the focus will be celebrated as part of RE week and the children will have opportunity to celebrate cultural diversity during assemblies.

### Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)

We will be focussing on extending their understanding of safety and the need for laws and rules. Children will also be learning about a range of Growth Mindset strategies.

Our topics are called: *How do we work together?* and *How can money affect us?*



## Homework

**Monday:** Reading; **Tuesday:** Spelling & Grammar; **Friday**– Maths. These are all due in one week later

Please remind your child to learn spellings, practise times tables and read a school book, each 4 times a week.

A further letter will be sent home to support your child when reading. Thanks for your continued support.