



After the excitement of Robinwood (I hope your child came home full of tales of derring do; proud of their achievements), it is time to put all of that enjoyment into writing.

This half term we're going to start putting a lot more into GPS (Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling), so apologies in advance if your child is correcting everything you say... it's all in a good cause! We will also be practising the Christmas play, so prepare to help learning lines.

English

I'd like to start by stressing how important it is that your child has a book that they are ENJOYING. Please speak with them and read to/with them whenever possible; this is one easy way to help their writing and comprehension skills. We'll be using our Robinwood trip to drive the writing for the next few weeks with reports, recounts and explanation texts.

Following that, we'll be entering the eerie world of 'Dark Horse' to stimulate mystery story-writing.

Maths

The maths lessons will build on results from the tests we did before the holiday; there will be a lot more word problems in order to challenge your children further and deepen their reasoning skills. We will be continuing to work on fractions, before moving onto percentages and measurement (do YOU know how many kilometres are in a mile?) All good fun!

We'll also continue to work on mental agility and weekly times tables consolidation with Speed Tables. ALL children should have speedy recollection of ALL times tables by this stage!

Topic

This half term we will be exploring maps and the geography of the United Kingdom, building knowledge of cities and counties and ensuring all children can use an Ordnance Survey map, understanding co-ordinates and keys.

RE

Can charity change the world? At this time of year, this is most appropriate.

Science, Computing & DT.

These subjects will be taught by Mrs Kendal on a Wednesday.

In Science this half term we will be looking at the life processes internal to the body, such as the circulatory system, digestive system and how fluids are transported around the body. We will also be thinking about the impact of lifestyle on the human body and what is good and bad for us.

In DT, we will be looking at different structures and what makes them strong and building some fabulous creations along the way!

PHSE

The strand 'Living in the Wider World' continues, looking at the British Values of democracy and freedom of speech.

PE

This half term we'll be doing netball. 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:

Family Sharing – Thursday 22nd November, 3.15-4.15pm

Winter Fayre – Friday 7th December

Y5/6 Christmas Performance – Tuesday 18th December, 6pm

Break up for Christmas – Friday 21st December



Ways to help your child in Year 6:

How can you support your child with their work?

Hopefully, your child will have shown you the practice SATs tests, which we did before the holidays and, more importantly, how they felt about them.

There is no getting around it, Year 6 includes SATs tests in May and it is never too early to start supporting your child at home. As a parent, your role in your child's education is invaluable. Engaging in your child's education goes a long way towards their overall attitude to learning and their progress in school.

The first thing that you can do is make sure they are reading a book which is appropriate; one which they are enjoying! Make sure they are in bed at a reasonable time, getting lots of sleep, so that they are alert and ready to concentrate. Could they take a book to bed to read? Certainly the government's guidance is that electrical products do not help with sleep patterns and switching off AT LEAST an hour before bedtime is recommended.

Does your child have fluency with their times-tables? ALL of them? Ask them about Speed Tables, could you 'take them on?'

There are several very good SATs revision guides available on Amazon, which I know many of you are already using. If you have any questions about your child's attainment, ways that you could help them personally, or which guides we recommend, please do not hesitate to get in touch: martin.clayton@netherthongprimary.co.uk

Thank you, as always, for your support.

Mr Clayton, Mrs Johnson and Mrs Kendal.