

18th January 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back from the Year 6 team! We hope that you and your family had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year. This letter is to keep you informed about some of the work that the children will be doing during the Spring term.

English Key Skills

During this term, we will be working on a range of text types. Starting with the exciting adventures of Alex Rider through the book, Stormbreaker. Pupils will be applying for roles as spies with MI6, creating new gadgets and explaining how they work and writing a new short adventure for Alex Rider.

Year 6 will continue to cover a range of spelling, grammar and punctuation needed for their SPaG tests in May.

We will use our Theme, 'Greek Legacy', as inspiration for many of our pieces of writing. We will study traditional tales in the form of the Illiad and the Odyssey, information texts and brochures based on Greece.

Reading

Our class Reading sessions will continue to focus on developing the skills to analyse texts and really get to grips with inference and deduction. Children are still expected to read at least three times a week at home, or as much as is manageable.

Spellings

Spellings, like last term, will be given out and tested weekly on a Monday.

MATHS **NO PROBLEM!**

Mathematics

As we move closer to May and SATs, by the end of the first half term we will have covered all areas of the curriculum. In the 9 weeks after half term, in the run up to SATs we will cover all areas again to ensure every child has the best chance to fulfil their potential in the tests.

Creative Curriculum - 'Greek Legacy'

This term, our topic is all about the Ancient Greeks, which is an Arts based theme. It will include a range of music, art and performance. At the start, we will be looking at life in Greece today, moving on to considering the history of Ancient Greece and how the Greeks have impacted our lives in the 21st century. We will be looking at the location and landscape of Greece through our map work and research skills.

Linking with our English work, we will be learning about myths and legends and how they were retold and shared in different ways. In our design and technology lessons, we will be creating Greek pot designs and making a model of a building in the style of Greek architecture. Drama has a big role to play and we will explore performing Greek myths as well as developing our music skills to create a soundscape. We will research the origins of the Olympics and how it has evolved over time. We will also be learning about Pythagoras and carry out mathematical investigations based on his theories and link this to maths where we can.

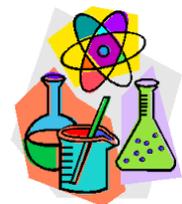
If you have any particular experiences or knowledge relating to our theme that you feel would benefit the children's learning, please speak to one of the Year 5/6 team!

Science

In Science children will be continuing to follow our Snap Science units with 'DANGER: Low Voltage!' and 'Body Pump' over this term.

This 'DANGER: Low Voltage' unit brings together and consolidates work that children have done before on electrical circuits by becoming more familiar with using circuit symbols and creating more complex circuits. 'Body Pump' looks at investigating the main parts of the circulatory system, describing the function of the heart, blood vessels and blood.

Work in these units also offers opportunities for developing scientific knowledge and understanding within completing various scientific investigations.





Physical Education - PE



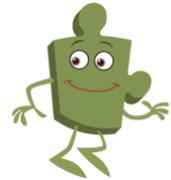
This term, activities will include netball and yoga. Netball will take place outside on a Wednesday and yoga, inside on a Thursday. It is of huge importance to ensure that the children always have their kit for lessons - we suggest that they keep their PE kit in school during the week and take it home to be washed at the weekend. Children are required to wear a white t-shirt and dark coloured shorts, leggings or a track suit if the weather is cold. They will also need appropriate footwear, which must be different from the shoes that they wear for the remainder of the day. We please ask parents to support this vital area of the curriculum by helping children to bring the correct changes of clothes to school for these sessions.

Personal, Social and Health Education - PSHE

The children will discuss their dreams and goals. The children will discuss:

- Dreams and goals for the future
- Exploring jobs and careers
- Supporting each other's dreams

Positivity and mental well-being will form a main part of our PSHE lessons in the run up to SATs.



Religious Education. RE. ICT. Music.

Foundation subjects not linked to theme will be covered once SATs are over. This enable us to keep the focus on the main tested areas of Reading, SPaG, Maths - Arithmetic and Reasoning, for extra lessons in the afternoon.

Moch SAT week

WB. Monday 11th February.

We will be assessing children's progress since the end of Autumn term to inform our planning for next half term this week.

SATs meeting for Parents

We will be holding a meeting for parents about SATs next Thursday evening from 5pm to 6pm in the Year 6 classrooms. This will outline, how we will approach the run up to SATs, Booster classes, how the week will run itself, and how we can all ensure the pupils are given every opportunity to succeed. There will be a chance to speak to teachers if you have any concerns over SATs.

Homework

Homework for the run up to SATs, as mentioned in Parents Curriculum meeting and evenings, will be outlined in a separate letter accompanying this one. POWER projects will still be handed out, but these will become 'optional' homework and the SATs revision books will be compulsory.

We have invested in Rising Stars revision books for SPaG, Reading and Maths.

As the pupils enter their final Spring term, we have been so impressed by their attitudes. They are focussed, attentive and supporting each other as friends and peers. We have an important few weeks ahead to prepare the children for their SATs and as the pressure rises we aim to keep school a safe, enjoyable environment where the children can flourish.

If you have any queries during the next few week, please feel free to make an appointment with us.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Woods and Mr Seath