

Year 6 Classroom Newsletter

Spring Term 2019

Chudleigh CE Community Primary
School

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Dear Children, Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new term and a new year. We hope that you had an enjoyable and restful Christmas break and that the following information will be of use at the start of this new term.

Curriculum

Our new enquiry is 'Who were the greater engineers – the Victorians or the Ancient Britons?' We will be learning about historical life in Britain, focusing primarily on the Ancient Britons (Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age) and the Victorians, and will be finding out about the different key technological advancements which were invented in those times. We will be considering challenging questions such as which invention had the greater impact, the first very basic Stone Age lamps, or the Victorian invention of the electric lightbulb.

In English lessons, the children are currently learning to write a newspaper report. Later in the term, they will be writing balanced arguments and narratives.

In maths, we will be focusing on calculation strategies and word problems (with a particular focus on

multi-step problems), in addition to shape, data handling and fractions.

Homework

Homework will continue to be given out by a Friday (although it is often handed out earlier in the week), to be completed and returned by the following Wednesday. The homework is usually used to consolidate the learning, which has taken place in class that week, although it may sometimes be used to revisit a topic, which was taught earlier in the term. Therefore, please encourage your child to complete their homework on time. If they are having

difficulties, they are actively encouraged to ask for help in school, preferably before the day it is due in.

Reading/times-tables practise at home

We'd like to take this opportunity to stress the importance of dedicated, regular reading at home and the positive impact that it has on the children's school work in general.

We have recently introduced the children to a web-based reading program called 'Read Theory.' All the children have a unique username

and are able to log in to access extracts of text which are at the appropriate reading level for them. They then have to answer a series of questions based on what they have read, earning themselves 'Knowledge Points.' The children are really excited about this program and a number of them are using the website at home – if your child is not currently doing this, please encourage them to log on at www.readtheory.org

Times tables are also extremely important, with a secure knowledge of them helping the children in many areas of maths. Any help that children receive at home with this always makes a huge difference to their success in maths – a good website they can use to practise is 'Hit the Button.'
<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

P.E./Games

P.E. lessons continue to be on the following days: *Tuesdays and Fridays*. Please ensure that P.E. kit is in school on the designated days. On occasions, we may have PE lessons on other days of the week so it is helpful if PE kit remains in school all week. This should include black shorts, red T-shirt with trainers for outdoor sessions. A tracksuit/pair of jogging bottoms plus sweatshirt will also be useful as the days can still be

cold. If your child wears tights to school regularly, please include a pair of socks in their P.E. bag. Please could you make sure that all clothing/possessions are clearly labelled; lost items are much easier to track down this way. Thank you.

Jewellery

In line with school policy and for health and safety reasons, we strongly discourage the wearing of jewellery. Stud earrings and wrist watches are acceptable, although these will need to be removed/covered for P.E. sessions.

Break time Snacks

Please could we remind you that we ask for play time snacks to be fruit or vegetables (Monday to Thursday), with the children having a wider choice on Fridays. In line with school policy, sweets and chocolate are not allowed at break times, even on Fridays.

Drinks

We ask that children who wish to bring drinks into the classroom bring them in a clearly named bottle and bring only water. The bottle can be refilled regularly in school.

Parent-teacher consultations

These will take place on Tuesday 5th March and Thursday 7th March. Further details will follow nearer the time.

Other key dates for your diary

- 13th – 16th May 2019: Statutory end of KS2 SATs. No requests for holidays during this week please.

Finally, we value good communication between home and school and are usually available for a quick chat at the beginning and end of the day if you need to speak to us. If you feel you may need longer, please let us know and we will arrange a longer appointment.

Thank you for your continued support,

*Sheena Taylor, Caroline Morgan &
the Y6 Team*