



## **Year 6 Curriculum Newsletter – Autumn Term 2021**

10.9.21

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new academic year 2021 – 2022. We hope you enjoyed a wonderful time during the summer holidays. Please find below a summary of Year 6's main learning areas for this term. We are sure you will agree that Year 6 is a significant year in the life of your children, as they will embark on their last year at primary school before moving on towards secondary school. Our main focus this year will be towards both the SATS tests later in the year, and the transition from primary to secondary education. Please find below a summary of the main learning areas during the first term this year along with some general reminders.

### **English**

Our English lessons this year will follow the National Curriculum and will include reading, writing, spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG). Most lessons will be based on key texts, with the first one, The Adventures of Odysseus, following our topic work on the Ancient Greeks. Using high quality texts will enrich and extend vocabulary as well as acting as a stimulus for powerful writing. This term the children will be writing in a wide variety of genres with a particular focus on writing in role from other viewpoints. Additionally, they will be using their skills across the curriculum to write information in lessons such as Science and Geography.

### **Maths**

As with English, our Maths lessons will be following the National Curriculum. The term will begin with a focus on place value, including rounding, positive and negative numbers, and the value of digits. We will then focus closely on addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, to provide a strong base to develop our knowledge across the rest of the year. Maths lessons will be driven by investigation, with the children encouraged to explain their thinking by reasoning and problem solving on a regular basis. There will also be regular arithmetic work, as the children refine their mental and written methods for all four operations (+, -, x, ÷). Towards the end of the term, the focus in learning will be on fractions and decimals.

### **Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)**

The children will have weekly sessions with Mrs Street in which they will learn about the culture of France as well as learning to understand and speak simple phrases.

### **P.E.**

Year 6 will have PE sessions every Wednesday with Mr Franco. The children will be changing for PE at school so need to come to school in normal uniform with their kit in their bag: please ensure your child's PE kit is in school every Wednesday and they are prepared for the unpredictable Autumn weather. PE kit is a plain white t-shirt or polo shirt, black shorts or joggers, a plain outdoor jumper (when the weather requires it), outdoor trainers suitable for both field and playground (these must be different shoes to the ones your child wears to school) and a water bottle.

### **Topic**

In Year 6, our topic will be following our history and geography unit on the Ancient Greeks. This theme will run throughout the term and will be touched upon during topic lessons, as well as incorporating skills covered in art, design and technology, music, English and computing lessons.

### **Homework**

**English** spelling homework will be handed out each Wednesday to be returned the following Monday. We expect the children to take care to learn these spellings in preparation for a spelling test the following week, as well as writing out sentences in their homework book using their best presentation skills.

For **Maths** homework, the children will be using two online resources. The first is Maths Whizz ([www.whizz.com](http://www.whizz.com)), an online maths education website that is tailored to each individual child. The Maths Whizz week will start each Monday, and **45 minutes** should be completed by each Sunday evening. The second site is Times Tables Rock Stars ([ttrockstars.com](http://ttrockstars.com)) which is an online game for learning and reciting times tables. This is available to use on a laptop, or an app you can download to a tablet or smart phone. Children need to spend **at least 15 minutes** practising their tables. If your child does not have access to the internet, there will be a homework clubs after school where they can complete their Maths Whizz and TT Rock Stars homework (please refer to the after-school club letter for dates and times).

**Reading:** In Year 6, children need to read for the equivalent of at least 20-30 minutes every school night (it might be that some nights they read more than other nights). They need to complete their reading diary each time they read. We would very much appreciate you listening to your child read and discussing their book with them. The children should write a comment in their book and we request that you sign it too. This will really help them to progress in reading and writing. Reading diaries will be checked every day, so we value any feedback you can provide us with.

If you have any questions, please do come and speak to us as we are always happy to help. There will be fortnightly curriculum newsletters to keep you updated and informed about your child's learning, particularly in English and Maths, with further information around updates, notices and transition information (when required). There will be regular updates over the term on our class pages on the school website, plus information on our Class Dojo and Facebook pages.

We are looking forward to an exciting year ahead, thank you in advance for your continued support.

Mr Gross, Miss Smith and Mrs Lee

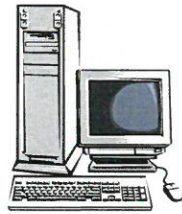


## Year 6 Curriculum Topics – Autumn Term 2021



### Topic

Our topic this term is the Ancient Greeks. We will look at the Greek way of life, beliefs and culture, and will study what made the Greeks great warriors and the impact the Ancient Greeks have had on our world today.



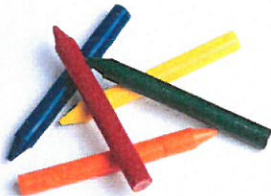
### Computing

The children will be carrying out research for our topic of the Ancient Greeks. The children will be accessing many platforms including laptops and ipads, and will be looking at how to keep safe online.



### Science

Our first topic is Living Things and their Habitats, where the children will be looking at how living things are classified, whilst looking at the similarities and differences within animals, plants and micro-organisms.



### Art

Our art lessons will follow our learning in topic, as we will be looking at Greek art and pottery. The children will also be creating images of Medusa using a range of media.



### SMSC / RE

Through key events in the term (such as Remembrance Day and Bonfire Night) the children will learn about British values. They will learn about creation stories from different faiths and cultures.



### Music

The children will learn about tempo, pitch and rhythm through increasing their repertoire of songs. Some of these songs will be linked to other curriculum areas.



### Physical Education

We will be doing invasion games with Mr Franco, including tag rugby and netball.



### Design Technology

Our technology this term will include designing and making an Ancient Greek inspired vase. We will also be looking at food hygiene and preparation when cooking.



### Geography / History

We will be using map skills to locate Ancient Greek cities and landmarks. In history, we will be looking at key events in Greek history and plotting these onto a timeline.