



Year 6 Curriculum Newsletter – Autumn Term 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new academic year 2022 – 2023. 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, which will be used as inspiration for writing and reading activities. 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 and creating non-fiction pieces, using a number of texts (to be shared soon with the children). 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 split across the autumn term: we will be looking at our local area to start, with a focus on the history and geography of St Neots. Following this, we will be looking at 'Life on the Fault Lines' – a geography topic looking closely at volcanoes, earthquakes, tsunamis and other extreme weather. These themes 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), 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) 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 club 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 and thank you in advance for your continued support.
Miss Smith, Mr Gross, Mrs Lee and Miss Stokes

Year 6 Curriculum Topics – Autumn Term 2022



Topic

Our topic this term will initially focus on St Neots, before looking at extreme geological and weather events that occur across the globe. These will include volcanoes, earthquakes, tsunamis and hurricanes.



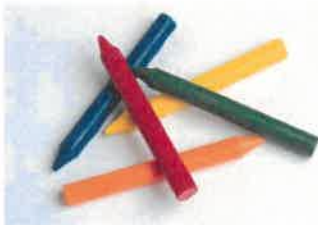
Computing

The children will use laptops and i-pads to support and extend their learning in core areas. They will refine their research skills, particularly in the context of their Science and Geography learning.



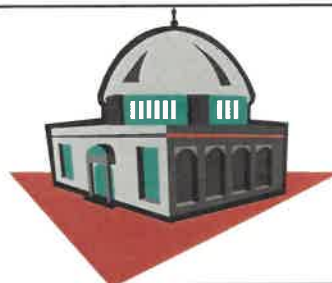
Science

Our first topic is *Living Things and their Habitats*. The children will learn about micro-organisms, and the identification and classification of different animals and plants.



Art

In art this term, the children will be completing an art unit looking at self-portraits. This unit will incorporate a number of skills, including drawing, painting and printing.



RE

In our RE sessions, the children will learn about the main religions from across the world and the religious celebrations these religions celebrate



Music

The children will learn about a number of different musical styles and genres, commenting on what they like/dislike, as well as learning about different instruments in an orchestra.



Physical Education

Each Wednesday, Mr Franco will be doing PE. The term will start with invasion games, with a specific focus on tag rugby and netball.



Design Technology

The children will learn about different structures and how buildings are designed. They will have the chance to design and create their own structure to be used on a playground.



Geography

The children will use atlases to develop their map skills finding the location of extreme events such as earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. This will include a study of the Pacific 'Ring of Fire'