



25th April 2022

Dear Year 6 Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you had a lovely, restful Easter holiday. We have many exciting things happening this term; the children will be incredibly busy!

Our topic for this term is, '**Inheriting the World: Our impact on the world/what we leave and what we take**'. This topic has a science focus. We will be learning about Evolution and Inheritance, as well as our impact on the environment and what we can do to protect it. Whenever possible, this topic will be covered through cross curricular teaching and learning – linking subjects together to ensure a wholesome experience for the children.

In **English**, we will draw inspiration for our writing from the novel 'Darwin's Dragons' by Lindsay Galvin. It is a fictional tale chronicling Charles Darwin's epic voyage on board The Beagle to the Galapagos Islands. We will begin our writing journey by developing ambitious setting descriptions and diaries in role as Darwin to describe the sights and sounds of the dramatic islands in the Pacific Ocean that helped to develop Darwin's ideas around evolution and natural selection. Later in the term, we will be writing a biography of Darwin and other inspirational scientists from diverse backgrounds.

In **reading**, we will be using the text to develop our inference and retrieval skills. At the start of the term, in preparation for our SATs assessments, we will spend time working on practice papers to prepare for the tests in May. Please continue to read at home with your child. Despite their growing independence, it is still very important to listen to your child read. Please ask questions about the text to help develop comprehension skills. Encourage your child to complete the practice SATs reading comprehensions set as homework by giving them a time limit in which to complete them. This will provide valuable preparation for their upcoming assessments.

This term, grammar will be taught in both in context when writing to embed the objectives for KS2, and as discrete lessons. This again is to help prepare them for their assessments. The focus for spelling will be to revise the words on both the year 3 & 4 and 5 & 6 spelling lists. Please take the time to regularly test your child on these words at home.

In **Maths** we will begin the term by exploring angles. The children will practise how to use a protractor and calculate missing angles in triangles and quadrilaterals. We will then spend some time exploring statistics (line graphs, pie charts and finding averages) before moving into an extended period of revision before SATs. This term will also have an emphasis on arithmetic as we consolidate their written methods across a range of areas. Please let me know if you need any information regarding the methods we use in class. I will send home

arithmetic tests to help the children prepare for their assessments. Giving them 30 minutes to complete the test is a great way to get them used to completing their assessments.

In **Science** during the first half term, we will be learning about evolution and inheritance, which includes Darwin and his Origin of the Species. In the second half term, we will look at microorganisms and have opportunities to conduct a number of investigations. We will link our understanding to what is happening in the world at the moment.

In **Geography** we will focus our attentions on learning about the Galapagos Islands and its geographical regions, physical characteristics, key topographical features (including volcanoes) and climate. We will explore map reading as we track Darwin's travels through the region. We will cement this with a trip to London Zoo to complete a Galapagos Islands workshop to find out more about the wildlife native to the area. Whilst away on our residential, we will also have the opportunity to develop our orienteering, compass and map-reading skills.

Art and D & T. In **Art**, we will focus on sketching as we explore Darwin's finches and other birds native the Galapagos islands. After this, we will look at sculpture as we make 3D models using wire frames of our initial sketches.

In **Computing**, we will return to programming by deepening our knowledge of Scratch as well as exploring HTML. In the second half of the term, we will move on to blogging as a way of capturing our final moments at primary school and prepare for year 7.

In **P.S.H.E.** we will complete our unit on Relationships and Sex Education. Following this, we will focus on supporting the children's transition to secondary school.

PE/Games

Year 6 will continue to have **games** on **Friday** afternoons with Coach Charlie. It is vital that your child comes to school wearing their PE kits on these days. Appropriate clothing and footwear must be worn (no jewellery and long hair must be tied back). There will be no changing into PE kits on these days. As the weather gets warmer, we will be travelling to Regents park or Hampstead Heath to play rounders and work on other team games.

French

Year 6 will have **French** lessons with Chloe on Friday afternoons.

Home Learning

Every **Friday** your child will be given homework via Google Classroom. A range of tasks will be set that consolidate the learning of the week. This enables you to see what your child has been learning during that week. Please participate in their homework but allow the child to take the lead, assisting only if they are unsure or need something reading or explaining. Please also ensure that your child tries their best to ensure that their homework is of a good standard. Homework is due back on the following **Thursday**.

Year 6 Performance

The children will begin their year 6 performance rehearsals. We will be holding auditions for the lead roles. There will be an opportunity for all children to take part. If you are able to help with set design, costumes, lighting, etc, please let me know. It would be much appreciated!

Punctuality

Please remember that children should be in the classroom at 8.55 am each morning. If they are not in the room by this time they will be recorded as late.

Visits and workshops this term:

Parents information meeting Year 6 residential
London Zoo
WAC Arts weekly workshops in school
Year 6 residential

Wednesday 4th May 2022
Monday 16th May 2022
TBC
22.6.22 – 24.6.22

Yours sincerely,
Melissa Law