



15th September 2023

Dear Year 6 Parents/Carers,

Parent meeting – Wednesday 20th September

Welcome back and welcome to year 6! The new Year 6 team and I (Sam, Fatima and Jenny) hope you had a lovely, restful summer. I am very happy to be here and to have the opportunity of taking your children through their last year in primary school. I am really enjoying getting to know them and I am excited about our year ahead.

Our topic for this term is **History** and our two focus areas are centred around understanding WW2 and the Kingdom of Benin. Whenever possible, the topic will be covered through cross curricular teaching and learning – linking subjects together to ensure a wholesome experience for the children. Linking our Benin topic with Black History month, there will be a trip to the British Museum. **Geography** will be incorporated into both our history topics.

In **English** our texts link to both WW2 (Letters from the lighthouse) and Benin (Children of the quicksands) and there will be other shorter texts we will read to enhance our background knowledge so that we can incorporate that in our writing. We will cover several different genres focusing on improving our syntax and grammar and using mature and interesting vocabulary. Grammar will be taught in context when writing to embed the objectives for KS2 and discretely. Spelling and handwriting will be taught regularly in addition to English lessons, although the children will be expected to transfer these skills when writing.

In **Maths** we will be consolidating our understanding of place value for numbers up to ten million. We will be revising the four operations as well as learning long division and the order of operations for the first time. When studying fractions, we will be revisiting our existing knowledge as well as learning how to multiply and divide fractions. We start the term with weekly times tables as this is the basis of nearly all year 6 maths and then we will replacing this with arithmetic; by the time we have reached Christmas all the arithmetic necessary for their SATs will have been covered ready to practise regularly for speed and accuracy.

In **Science**, we start by refreshing what we have previously learnt about electricity and then we learn about circuits and circuit diagrams. using different components in a circuit we will investigate the effect of those components. In Autumn 2 we move on to a different type of circuit - the human circulatory system. We find out about the function of the heart and different blood vessels, the components of the blood, how to keep your heart healthy - healthy lifestyles in general. In our lessons, the children will develop skills in scientific enquiry as they plan and carry out investigations. They will have opportunities to explore the components of blood through practical activities and get to dissect a sheep's/lamb's heart to

identify its different parts. A letter will be sent out with further information before this activity takes place.

We are also lucky enough to have a trip to the Royal Institute for a Cosmetic Chemistry workshop on Sept 18th

Art and D & T. will begin with a self-portrait incorporating symbolism. We will then focus our attention on the skill of sketching by creating sketches in styles similar to those of different WW2 artists. As we move into the second half of the autumn term, we will look at the bronze plaques and sculptures from the Kingdom of Benin and attempt to create replicas using clay, metal and mod roc. We will also develop our DT skills in cooking as we prepare and cook a yam based dish. We have a CSM & STEM workshop that is linked to **computing** starting on Sept 22nd called 'All About Me'

In **Computing**, we will be learning about how to keep safe online as well as deepening our understanding of social media.

In **R.E.** we will be learning about 'Prophethood' in Islam and exploring the concept of 'Authority' Judaism during the second half-term.

In **P.S.H.E.** we will be thinking about our targets for the year ahead, healthy eating and learning about drugs and the risks involved which links to our science learning.

PE/Games

Year 6 will have **Gymnastics** on **Monday** afternoons with Sam and **Netball** with Coach Alfie on **Thursday** afternoons. 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.

French

Year 6 will have **French** lessons with Sabrina Hamash on Friday afternoons and the two topics for Autumn are 'All around town' and 'On the move'.

Music

Music lessons are on a Wednesday for year 6 in the Autumn term, focusing on Blues and film music with Olga, Brass is taught by Peter and Bradley.

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. Homework will include a maths task or activity; an English task (reading, writing or grammar); spellings for the week; and a project based task. Homework will consolidate the learning of the week and enable you to see what your child has been learning during that week. Allow your child to take the lead when completing their homework, 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 Planners

The children will soon be given their Year 6 planners. These are to be used to help prepare them for secondary school and encourage organisation and independence. These planners can be used to record key information and events that they need to remember. However, they must primarily be used as a record of their reading. Reading is **extremely important** so please ensure your child is reading a book everyday. They should record a little bit of information about what they have read in the diary section each day. These will be monitored on **Fridays** to keep track of your child's reading at home.

Remember it is still important to listen to your child read. When reading with your child, please ask questions about the text to develop comprehension skills.

Punctuality

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

Visits and workshops this term:

British museum	TBC
Royal Institute	18th September

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with me if you have any questions regarding your child's learning in Year 6. I look forward to meeting and getting to know you soon.

Yours sincerely,

Sam Craig