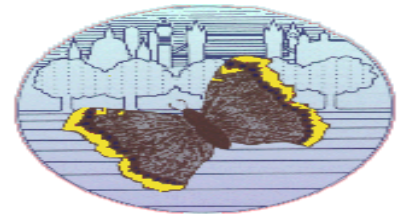


TERMtalk

CURRICULUM NEWS
FOR THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY
Issued termly Year 6 Autumn 2015



Maths

This term year 6 will be focusing on our areas of Mathematical knowledge.

Number Pupils will be reading, writing, ordering and rounding numbers up to 5 million, including those with up to three decimal places. Children will be calculating using formal written methods for all operations and will also secure their knowledge of fractions decimals and percentages.

Geometry Pupils will identify, explain and sort 2 dimensional shapes by their properties. They will draw and manipulate these shapes across a four quadrant coordinate grid. Children will also identify, measure and draw angles, including those in a triangle.

Statistics Pupils will learn how to pose questions, plan and develop lines of enquiry. They will use their mathematical skills and knowledge to interpret data . They will look at averages and find the mean of data sets.

Measurement Pupils will learn how to convert units of measurement for length, mass and capacity. They will also look at converting between imperial and metric units e.g. cm to inches. They will look at time and timetable work, solving problems involving the 24 hour clock.

Science

This term we will be studying 2 topics

Our first topic is **Living things and their habitats**. The children will be looking at what makes something alive and then trying to break this down into the different characteristics of living things. We will be learning how to use **keys** to identify animals and plants and how they are specifically adapted to their environment. We will learn the terminology involved with categorisation and understand the reasoning behind it. We will include investigative work to develop the children's key scientific skills and focus on hypothesising and explaining our findings.

After the half term break, we will focus on our second topic, **Evolution**, we will be Recognising that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago. The children will recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents.

They will then link to their previous work by Identifying how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution.

English

We will start our term in English by looking at Autobiographies. The children will explore the different features and produce their own autobiographies, this early piece of work, allows us to ensure that the children focus on planning, editing and reviewing their work before publication. We will then move on to a drama based biography topic focused around the life of Harriet Tubman, an American Civil Rights activist. This will tie in with Black History Month, but primarily provides a platform, through drama, to produce some wonderful biographical pieces.

After our Biographies, we will link together our English and History topics and will focus upon fiction writing. We will take inspiration from Viking myths and sagas to create our own stories set in this world.

The second half term will see us balance a topic in which we use our Religious base of Hinduism to create Non-Chronological Reports, with freedom for the children to develop their own writer's voice with less structured fiction writing tasks.

Our second topic for the half term is Journalistic writing, this will coincide with our Justice topic in RE and will involve the children spending a day in court at the Royal Courts of Justice acting out a case. This will provide the platform for journalistic writing on the case itself.

Throughout the term, the children will be concentrating on improving the quality of their writing by using different types of punctuation, a wider range of descriptive vocabulary, and by writing more complex sentences, which include greater detail to engage the reader. Children will also be encouraged to edit and up-level their writing.

OUR FOUNDATION



Art / Design Technology

We will start the year with some design and technology work, where the children develop their sewing skills, creating a class patchwork, with each child creating a square to represent themselves.

Then we will look at **A sense of Place**. The children will be exploring the local area and studying the architecture of the buildings around the school. They will be making sketches of buildings which they believe create an impact on the local area and explain why.

Following on from this, the children will be using photographs to make a montage of images of a local buildings on a newspaper background. Finally they will use mixed media, including charcoal, water colours, crayons, coloured pencils and pastels to create a group collage.

We will then look at Christmas related art activities to ensure that we are properly celebrating the birth of our Lord.

Computing

Blogging: The first half term this year will be used to set up blogs for each of the classes. These blogs allow the children, in a safe way, to share and develop their writing. The children will learn to manipulate the text and layout of the posts to make them appealing to the reader and how to offer constructive feedback to each other.

Each post and comment must be verified by a teacher before it appears online to ensure e-safety, why not come and have a look at your children's work.

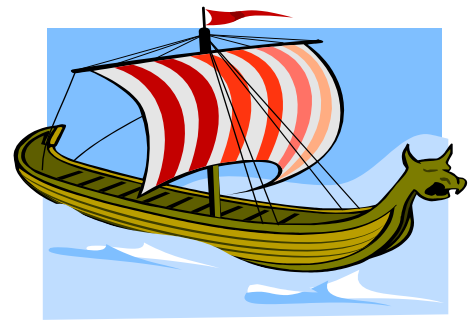
After the half term break we will be looking at developing our programming and coding skills. The children will be using the 'scratch' programme, which is free to download to use at home, to produce algorithms through a drag and drop format, allowing them to create their own computer games.

History

The Vikings will be the major focus of our history this term, as we follow them along from invasion to the defeat of the Danes at the battle of Edington.

This unit will allow the opportunity for children to develop chronological time lining skills, to place these events in context with other historical periods studied as well as providing a broad base to look at the lives, clothes, diets and habits of the Danish invaders.

This history topic also offers a broader platform to allow the children to discuss issues around immigration throughout the ages, why people move and settle in different areas and how this might have changed over time.



Guided reading: This will provide the children with the opportunity of taking a closer look at particular sections of the text. This will include looking at the **language structure, style of writing, choice of vocabulary or what has been revealed about plot or character**. All children will benefit from regular opportunities for small-group reading, discussion and writing with a teacher or teaching assistant.

Homework

Homework tasks are given to consolidate your child's learning. It is **essential** that all children are given support with all their homework; this includes learning to spell the words on their weekly spelling list, completing activities on their blog and on mymaths.

Parents are also expected to hear their child read every evening and sign their reading diary.

SUBJECT NEWS



Religious Education

The first topic for this term is the Kingdom of God. The theme of this topic will be Family & the Domestic church. In this topic we will be looking at the roles and responsibilities of belonging to the Kingdom of God and the importance of the invitation to it. In our classes we will be reflecting on what the kingdom of God is like and the importance of responding to the invitation to the Kingdom. The children will explore how Jesus used parables to explain how his followers should live and follow God's law. They will also learn that Jesus' miracles reflected the beginning of the Kingdom and show us what God is like. This topic will also enable the children to reflect upon the words and deeds necessary to show commitment to the kingdom.

After half term our topic is Justice. The children will learn what the term justice means and understand that we all have a God given duty and a responsibility to work towards achieving justice for all. During this topic the children will undertake research about significant prophets in the Bible, including Elijah and John the Baptist, who spoke out against injustice and learn that many individuals have been persecuted for speaking out about injustice. Finally the children will take part in role play activities which will help them reflect on the fact that justice starts with the individual and understand that this requires sacrifice and commitment.

As we prepare for Christmas, Year 6 will be learning about the importance of the spiritual preparations we make during Advent as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus. They will also be given the opportunity to investigate how our Christmas customs are drawn from different countries and cultures.



Music

This term, as well as the individual instrumental lessons running throughout the year, we will focus on African Drumming.

The year group will have whole class African drumming sessions, learning to manipulate the instrument to make a number of different sounds.

This will allow them to develop their understanding of pitch, tone, and instrumental work within an orchestral group.



If your child has been given the opportunity to learn how to play an instrument, please ensure that you encourage them to practice on a regular basis so he/she can improve their skills.

Physical Education

In our outdoor games lessons, we will be focusing on Football, hockey and netball.

In football and netball we will be looking at different ways to move and pass the ball. The children will practise their football skills before playing small games against each other. There will also be opportunities for the children to compete against other schools.

In hockey we will be looking at stick handling skills and how to pass and shoot. Children will be developing the basic skills and advance to use them in a game situation.

All children will get an opportunity to try all three sports on a rotation.

This term we will also be entering a Year 6 boys and girls football team in an inter-schools competition.

As always there are lots of opportunities to represent the school in year 6, with the cross country championships occurring within the first month.

- ★ Please note: Correct PE kit, including trainers or plimsolls **not fashion trainers**, must be worn at all times. A plain white T-shirt and navy blue or black shorts/skirt. A plain navy blue or black tracksuit may be worn for outdoor games during winter.