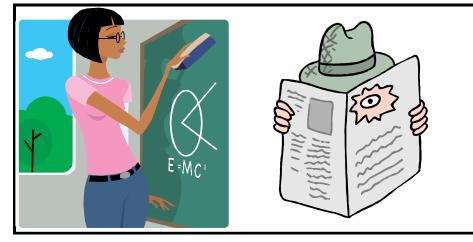


CURRICULUM NEWS FOR THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY Issued Termly Spring 2016 Year 6 January – April 2016



#### Maths

In the first half of the term we will be exploring number, the concept

of estimation, partitioning and calculation using the four operations of +, - , x and  $\div$ , building on what they learned in the Autumn term.

In addition to this the children will look at working with negative numbers and using them in the context of everyday life—such as in temperature and with money. Th children will also have the opportunity of consolidating the knowledge they gained last year about Roman Numerals.

The children will also be given a range of challenging problems which involve estimation, multi-step calculations and being able to explain the strategies they

have used. Following on from this, the children will improve their knowledge of the properties of 2-D and 3-D shapes. This will increase children's knowledge of the properties of a shape in terms of size of internal angles, parallel and perpendicular lines.

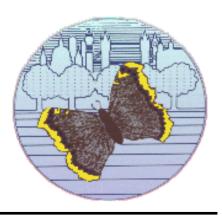
In the second half of the term the children will continue to undertake a wide range of problem solving challenges through a range of topics. These include **Handling data**, **drawing and interpreting a range of graphs**, **measuring shape**, **calculating area and perimeter.** There will be a great emphasis on children being able to explain, using mathematical terms, the strategies they have used in order to solve a problem.

We ask all parents to support their children with the Maths and ensure they are confident knowing, using and applying times tables.

#### Science

This term the children will start by continuing with the topic Evolution and Inheritance. They will be learning about scientists such as Charles Darwin and Alfred Wallace and looking at their theories of evolution.. They will then discover how animals and plant adapt to fit their surroundings and in order for them to survive. Following this topic we will move on to look at Animals including Humans. The children will be given the opportunity to Identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system and explain the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood. As well as learning about how the body works we will also be looking at the importance of diet, exercise and lifestyle and the effects that these can have on our bodies and how they function. To conclude the topic we will look at how the nutrients and water is transported through both human and animal bodies, to keep us functioning properly.





#### English

We will be starting the term by using drama to help the children learn and retell the 'Briar Rose' story. This will be followed up by creating work linked to the text 'The Wedding Ghost'. Whilst working with this book the children will be given the opportunity to write character descriptions; write to build suspense; write story flashbacks and an alternative story ending.

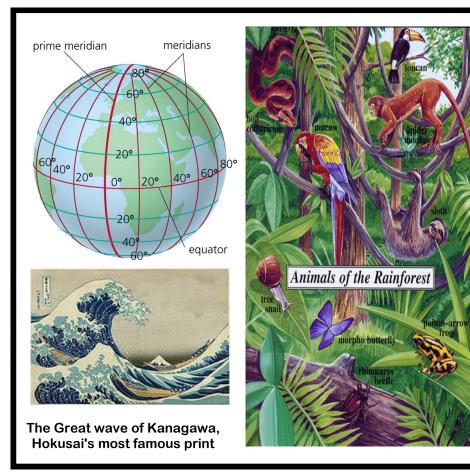
During the second half of the term the children will be reading and working with the book Kensuke's Kingdom. The children will be exploring a variety of themes addressed in the text which will result in the children focusing their longer writing tasks on **fiction writing** as well as the writing of **arguments**.

The children will be exploring what makes a good story and writing their own fantasy story in the first person, as Michael Morpurgo does in Kensuke's Kingdom. There will be opportunities for descriptive writing, writing in the role of a character, diary extracts as well as character profiling and letter writing. Later in this first half term the children will be looking at balanced and biased arguments and the features that make up this non-fiction text type. Alongside this English work the children will also be completing spelling and grammar work. Each week they will cover a different grammar objective and will be encouraged to include what they have learned in their written work throughout the week and also in their written work.

The children will also continue to receive a weekly spelling test and it is extremely important that they learn their spelling list each week as homework. Each list is based around specific words and spelling patterns which they are required to be able to spell by the end of the year.

To improve their reading further please read with your child for twenty minutes each night. Supporting your child when reading, by asking questions and discussing the text, is essential as this will help improve their ability to answer comprehension questions.

# OUR FOUNDATION



#### Geography

During this term the children will be focussing on the continent of South America.

Firstly we will revise on the main continents and oceans in the world. Children will develop an understanding of countries, continents, cities and towns and learn the concept of a political border.

Then we will look at south America as a continent, the terrain that it has, the countries and cultural diversity within it and identifying the key landmarks, both naturally and man made. Children will learn about the countries names and their political boundaries. They will be taught how to derive information from atlases such as capital cities, major roads and major rivers by using the key.

Children will be using atlases as well as electronic to find information on the landscape of south America and the topography of the countries within it. In addition to this, children will also be learning about the affects that the longitude and latitude lines have on climate and time. We will be reefing back to Greenwich mean time and how its used as a measure of time for the rest of the world.

You can help your child improve their Geographical knowledge and understanding by looking at different types of maps, how to read them and how to use the map key. Furthermore you can discuss the places in which you have traveled and compare the time differences and climate of that place to London.



### Computing

In our computing work this year we will be looking at developing some key skills related to s coding. We will be developing our maths skills, algebra in particular, through computer programming. We will be carrying out this work using the website code.org.

In the second half of the term we will be developing key skills, again linked to maths, using spreadsheets. We will be using Microsoft Excel to input formulas to create mathematical solutions and use variable 'if' statements.



### Art

During the first half of the term the children will have the opportunity of working with Mr. Jerry. They will produce work inspired by the artwork in the book 'The Wedding Ghost', which they will be reading in their English lessons.

In the second half of the term by exploring the techniques used in 'Hokusai Pictures'. Hokusai is an 18th century artist, who created water colour landscapes of Japan, using woodblock printing. Year 6 will look closely at a range of his work and use the colour plates and style of painting in order to create their own Hokusai inspired paintings. This topic links with the current

shared text, 'Kensukes Kingdom', in English.



## SUBJECT NEWS

#### Citizenship

Our PHSE work this term will focus around Justice. This links in with work we carried out last term in RE. The children will be considering what is fait and unfair and how we can work together and take the opinions and views of others into consideration. The children will be looking at the rights of a child, together with considering the rights and roles of others in both the community and the wider world. They will also be looking at he idea of British Values and what it means to be a good citizen. There will be lots of discussion work as well as debates to give the children the chance to voice their thoughts as well as listen to the opinions of others.

### R.E.

Our first topic this term is Jesus the Bread of life. In this topic we will be learning about the importance of faith and how the Israelites placed all their faith in Moses and God to liberate them from the tyranny of Egyptian slavery. The children will also be exploring the significance of the many religious objects used during the Mass and creating a mass booklet for Year 3 and 4 to use. During this time we will also visit Sacred Heart Church to learn about the significance of the holy objects used in Mass and the significance of the vestments colours. We will also learn about how God's love feed us, which relates to us receiving the Body and Blood of Christ when we receive Communion.

Our second topic will be Jesus the Son of God. We will be exploring the miracles which led people to believe that Jesus was the Son of God and what this means to us. As we explore the events leading up to his death, the children will reflect on Jesus' actions during Holy Week and discuss the impact this has on us. We will also consider the importance of Jesus' Death and **Resurrection and reflect on how** Jesus' sacrifices changed our lives.





## AMusicAA Physical

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

The year group will have whole class African drumming sessions, they will continue to build on and develop the skills they begun to work on last term.



Many of the Year 6 children are learning to play various instruments this term, including guitar. Please ensure that they practise playing the music they have been asked to and remember to write comments in their practise book.

The homework we set is of great importance and will ensure consolidation of work undertaken in class. Please ensure that all homework is completed carefully, with adult support, and is signed.

## Education

This term, once again, we will be working with the Year 10s at Sacred Heart school developing a range of sporting skills.

We will be looking at building up skills in hockey, athletics, tag rugby and netball aiming to enter competitions to win a place at the London Youth Games.

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	Please note:
-	The correct PE kit must be worn
	at all times.
-	🖌 This consists of a plain white
	T-shirt and navy blue shorts or
	P.E. skirt. A plain navy blue
	tracksuit may be worn for
	outdoor games during winter.
	Please ensure that your child
	also wears trainers or plimsolls,
	which are the correct size!
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