

Working Together

Learning Muscles.

This year the children will be focusing on building their learning power. This means stretching the muscles and practising the skills they need to be good learners—not just in school but after they leave school too. Essentially, they are the attributes children need to grow into healthy, independent learners who enjoy learning as well.

Some of these learning muscles include:

- * Perseverance—keeping going even when it's hard.
- * Empathy and listening—listening to others and understanding their views.
- * Collaboration—working well in a group and sharing ideas. This also links to listening too.
- * Questioning—constantly questioning the world around them e.g. "How does that work? What would happen if? Is there a better way of doing this?"
- * Managing distractions—not letting other people or things distract you from your work.

Overview: -

Our Topics this year will include:

- *Looking at careers and our future aspirations.
- *The Aztecs and Chocolate.
- *Disasters.
- *Is it right to fight— A look at how wars start.



Welcome to Year 6

September 2016



Welcome to Year 6!

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your child to Year 6. This is a very important year for your child. This leaflet is designed to give you and your child information about the year and an overview of the curriculum and the topics that take place.

The Year 6 Team

Teachers: Miss Maddocks and Mrs Lawrence

Teaching Assistants: Mrs Hayes and Miss Samuels

If you need any assistance or have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us. You can talk to us when you pick up your child or make an appointment if necessary through the office.

General Information

To help your child to be organised you may wish to use this checklist of items required in school:

- * Water bottles will be refilled in school
- * Indoor and outdoor PE kit will be needed throughout the week - Children will need a navy t-shirt with school logo, navy shorts, pumps or trainers and a navy tracksuit (for outdoor P.E.)
- * P.E. kits will be required every Thursday and on Wednesdays when the children have Sports coach.

Summer 2—Showtime!

If you ask any child on the entrance to Year 6, 'What are you looking forward to the most in Year 6?' They will often say one of two things: Year 6 show or Activity Week. Both of these events will occur during Summer 2. This final half term it often seen as a celebration for the children and a final opportunity to show both parents and adults in school what they can do! As in previous years, there will be auditions held before hand and parts will be assigned according to both child's requests and from the auditions.

The theme of the show is currently undecided as we like to engage with the children to take their opinions into account. Likewise the activities for Activity Week. Over the course of the year, the children will carry out some research and write us a persuasive letter regarding what activities they would like to do. If any of them are feasible, we will try our best to include them in the week.

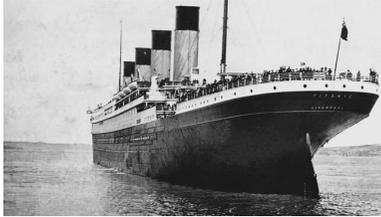


During this half term, the children will also be completed many different projects using and developing both their ICT skills and Modern Foreign Languages.

THE CURRICULUM

Summer 1—Disasters

We hear all too often about natural disasters that occur around the world—Tsunami and Earthquakes to name just a couple. We also have heard of many 'man-made' disasters such as The Titanic. This topic delves into both natural



and man-made disasters looking at the possible causes for them.

Revision and SATs

Straight away, after Easter the children and Year 6 staff will all be busy with their preparations for the SATs, which as already mentioned, will occur at the beginning of May.



It is during this time that we will be including any last minute revision for the children. We want them to be as ready as they possibly can be!

This year, the SATs are a little unknown as it is the first time that these current tests have been sat by the children. However, the process of them will not be any different and the children will have seen some examples of the styles of questions within class.

Homework

Homework will be set every Thursday and will be due in the following Wednesday. There will be a Maths sheet and an English sheet (sometimes double sided). We try hard to prepare your children for high school and therefore expect that they are responsible for their own homework and deadlines! If the work is not handed in by Wednesday morning, they will stay in Wednesday lunchtime to complete it.

SATs

As you are more than likely aware, your child will be part of the Statutory Assessment Tests that take place in May. This year they will be in the week beginning 8th May. Please remember that the Governing Body have agreed that no holidays will be authorised for all children during school time. It is vital that your child is in school at every opportunity in order that we maximise their learning potential and give them the best possible start to their high school career. Even one day off can have a significant impact on your child's follow up learning.

Tests will be taken in:

- * Maths—2 written and 1 arithmetic paper
- * Reading
- * Writing—spelling, punctuation and grammar test

Teachers also assess and submit an overall writing level judgement. There is a possibility that school will be selected to test science.

THE CURRICULUM

Maths

Children are taught mathematical skill and understanding through daily maths lessons which cover the spectrum of the maths curriculum including:

- 1) Using and applying mathematics
- 2) Counting and understanding number
- 3) Knowing and using number facts
- 4) Calculating
- 5) Understanding shape
- 6) Statistics

Each strand has identified objectives that the children work towards throughout the year. You can help your child achieve these objectives by practising areas of maths directed through homework and the information we give tonight. It is essential that your child is confident with all multiplication tables up to 12×12 including the corresponding division facts and quick fire addition and subtraction facts. They should be able to answer a questions as quickly as they can answer their name!

They will be receiving daily mental maths practise along with some designated arithmetic lessons but it is vital they still continue this practise at home.



Autumn 1—Careers

Did you know what you wanted to be when you were older? This is a mini topic that introduces the children to Year 6 and our rules and routines whilst ensuring that they begin to research their chosen possible future career. During the first three weeks, the children will be gathering lots of research to help them gain more of an insight of their chosen career.



Autumn 2—Chocolate

Chocolate—one of many peoples' favourite things to eat but have you ever thought about where and how it was made? We are not talking about Cadbury's World in Birmingham, we are thinking about right back at the start of the process—before it has even arrived in Britain! We may even get to taste and make our own chocolates! Yummy!



Spring 1—Is it Right to Fight?

This is a question which the children will be exploring over the course of the half term. They will be exploring the question whilst gaining a knowledge of Britain since 1930s and using this to develop their knowledge of World War 2. The children will be investigating the effects of the war from many different points of view—British Soldiers, Germans and the wives and children left behind. With the world in the current situation it is, we also want the children to become aware of what may cause a war and how we can help to prevent it.



THE CURRICULUM

Linked Learning

We feel that it is essential we help to develop an 'all rounded' child. We firmly believe that every child has a talent and should be given the opportunity to 'shine' in one area of school or another whilst developing our core drivers. Because of this, the children are provided with many opportunities to develop and apply many different skills in many different areas of the curriculum.



Over the course of the year, Year 6 will be applying skills and gaining knowledge through the following Topics:

Autumn 1—Careers and Global Citizenship

Autumn 2—Chocolate (Mayans)

Spring 1—Is it Right to Fight?

Spring 2—Crime and Punishment

Summer 1—Disasters

Summer 2—Showtime!

English

Children are taught English skills and understanding through daily lessons which cover strands of both reading and writing. We try to link writing to reading and encourage children to "read as a writer" by thinking about word and structure choice.

Writing

Teaching and learning in writing includes the discreet teaching of 'the basics' where children learn the composite skills—spelling, punctuation, handwriting and grammar— within sentence structures and have chance to practise these skills. This is balanced by opportunities to apply these skills and learn about writing for different purposes and audiences across a range of text types. Usually this type of writing teaching is linked to the topics and themes being delivered at the time. To aid the children with their Writing this year, school is focussing on the importance of Speaking and Listening and using this to aid their writing.



Reading

In Year 6, we continue to teach reading through focussed Reading sessions. These sessions are taught through daily English sessions which last an hour and a half. Some of the sessions have a heavy reading focus whilst some have a heavy writing focus. Over the course of a unit, there will be a balance of both skills been taught and practised. Higher order reading skills and methods for answering questions in the style of the tests are also learned along with extending the depth of discussions about theme, characters and issues.. In addition to this, your child will choose a book which they should read at home, independently or with an adult. Because of the change in the style of the reading test, pace and questions including use of author's intentions and language use are now more important than ever. This means that children should be reading a wide range of texts at home every night with a chance to discuss the text and what they have read.