



Year 6 Spring Term Newsletter

Welcome back to Year 6! I hope everybody had a relaxing time over Christmas. This half term, our value is Wisdom and after half term our value will be Hope.

English

This term we are exploring two different authors - Shaun Tan and his picture book 'The Lost Thing' and Mordicai Gerstein, with 'The Man who walked between the Towers'. Both are very different books, but with deep insights into immigration, big changes in our lives and how we feel when presented with different places and circumstances. We will be writing postcards, news reports and biographies. In addition to our English curriculum and as part of our K&U work on Anglo-Saxons and Vikings, we will learn about the Old English language using the poem, 'Beowulf'.

Our daily Guided Reading activity will focus on reading comprehension. **Please read regularly at home with your child** as this is vitally important for the development of their reading and writing skills. We appreciate your help in looking after your child's **reading record** and ensuring they are **signed regularly** and are kept in your child's book bag.

Homework

Homework will be sent home on Friday and **must be handed back in by the following Thursday to be checked**. Spellings will be sent home on Friday and tested the following Thursday. Please help your child to learn their spellings. It is important that the children take pride in their homework and look after their book by keeping it safely in the plastic wallet provided.

We will continue to set homework through 'mymaths' and we will also use the new study books from CPG (letter to follow).

PPA

On Thursday afternoon I have my weekly non-contact time. During this time the children will have a Science session led by Mrs Boyle followed by P.E led by Mr Smith.

Maths

In Maths, this half term, we are concentrating on Number and Place Value, Fractions and Ratio and Proportion. It is very important that children feel confident in their knowledge of numbers and their properties. Please feel free to come and speak to me if you need clarification on our methods of teaching Mathematics. Our daily session of Number Club has been fantastic and everybody has improved in their timetables knowledge, using both multiplication and division. To help them improve further they should practise their times tables at home as much as possible. It is important that the children learn them 'off by heart' so that they can perform rapid recall of any question.

RE Understanding Faith in our Community

This term the children will be learning about how Faith has changed in the Surrey. To enhance our learning we are visiting Christ Church.

After half term, we will also be studying the Easter Story in more detail and looking particularly at the individuals involved in the events leading up to the Crucifixion.

Expressive Arts

In Art this term we will be improving on our drawing and painting skills. In drawing will learn to do Anglo-Saxon patterns, looking at Anglo-Saxon and Viking jewelry for inspiration. We will also be looking at the artists: Lichtenstein, Warhol and Frida Kahlo.

This term we will be using drums and home-made string instruments to understand the music of the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings.

Knowledge and Understanding of the World

Our main topic will be the Anglo-Saxons. We will develop children's knowledge and help them understand how this important group fits into the chronology of Britain. Through discussion and investigation, children will understand the terms 'invaders' and 'settlers' and discuss motivations for emigration. They will gain an historical insight into the lives of Anglo-Saxon and British people. To encourage learning in a creative and fun-filled environment, we will be taking part in a workshop where, with the use of props, costumes, artifacts, and what children love the most - 'fun' - our topic will come to life

Philosophy and P.S.H.E.

At Nutfield Church Primary School we are encouraging our children to listen and respond with thoughtfulness and respect. This year we will continue to teach Philosophy for Children to facilitate critical and deeper thinking, and to provide opportunities for children to practice this skill. Our first session was led by Miss Woods with a great response from the children. In P.S.H.E. we will use our school values as the basis of our work: Community, Peace, Wisdom, Hope, Dignity and Joy.

Uniform

Uniform should consist of grey trousers, shorts or skirt, a yellow polo shirt, a blue sweatshirt, cardigan or fleece, grey socks and dark coloured shoes or sandals (no open toes please). Jewelry should be minimal, for health and safety reason. Please check that all the items are labelled.

Science

Our Science topic is 'Living things and understanding of Habitat'. Children will learn how to describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird. We will also study the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals. After half term our topic will be 'Electricity'. We will consolidate the children's knowledge of materials which are electrical conductors, extend their understanding of ways in which the brightness of bulbs or speed of motors in a circuit can be changed and develop children's understanding of the value of using conventional symbols for communication. The children will carry out a complete investigation relating to electric circuits.

P.E.

On **Thursday** afternoon the children will have P.E. with Mr Smith. A second session will also take place during the week, however, not always on the same day. Please ensure children have the correct P.E. kit in school every day of the week. Correct kit is as follows: navy blue shorts/tracksuit bottoms, yellow T-shirts, socks and trainers. All items should be named and taken home at the weekend.

Dates for your diary:

- 22.1.18 - After school clubs to start
- 7.2.18 - Year 6 Collective Worship - 9.05am
- 5.2.18 - PTFA Disco - 5.15 - 6.15pm
- 6.2.18 - Safer Internet Day
- 8.2.18 - KS2 Grammar Workshop (all welcome) (7.00pm)
- 9.3.18- Anglo-Saxon workshop
- 19.3.18, 20.3.18 and 22.3.18 - Parents' Evenings 3.30-6pm

And finally...

Thank you very much for your support. We all know Year 6 is very a special year for our children. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to catch me at the end of the day. I am very happy to answer your queries and it is always good to see you! If you would like to speak with me more privately, please see me to arrange an appointment.

Mrs Cox, Year 6 Class Teacher