

Year 6 Half-Termly Newsletter – Autumn 1

A New School Year – September 2023

Welcome to Year 6!

We are really excited about starting a new school year and welcoming the children back. I'm sure the children will settle in quickly and soon get used to the Year 6 routines and responsibilities.

Meet the Teacher

The Year 6 Meet the Teacher meeting will be on **Friday 22nd September** at 3:40pm in the Year 6 classroom. Y6 pupils will wait in the Y5 classroom until the meeting is over. Please do come along to this meeting if possible, as there will be lots of important information about the year ahead whilst also being an opportunity to ask questions.

Home Learning



In Year 6, we continue to prioritise reading. We ask that pupils read at least five times a week at home. Please can an adult sign their child's reading journal when they have read, even if your child has read independently, as the journals will be checked every Monday. Our new whole-school reading incentive will reward children for regular reading at home.



Pupils will continue to be encouraged to access Times Table Rock Stars and take part in numerous battles throughout the course of the year. A strong times table knowledge builds an excellent foundation for mathematical understanding, so please do encourage your child to access TT Rock Stars daily, even just for 10 minutes.



Spellings will be sent home at the beginning of each half term. We encourage pupils to practise these spellings as frequently as possible at home. They are also available on the school website.

A home learning menu will be sent home at the start of each half term, providing your child with lots of different ideas to further their learning at home. We will dedicate time at the end of the half term to share and celebrate any work completed from the menus.

Knowledge Organisers will be sent home at the start of each half term, which can be used for studying at home. Questions that relate to the units of work the children are learning about are attached to this letter. Further guidance about how best these can be used will be shared at the Meet the Teacher meeting.

Seesaw

Seesaw will be used to share notices, photographs of what we have been doing in class, as well as excellent pieces of work with parents. Please have your notifications turned on so you don't miss any updates!

I very much look forward to the year ahead and thank you in advance for your support this year. If you have any questions or would like to discuss any concerns, please don't hesitate to get in touch. You can phone or email the office and I will get back to you, or feel free to pop round to the classroom door after school.

Kind regards,
Mrs Ben-Ali

Please see overleaf for an overview about what we will be learning this half term.



Jesus said, 'Come follow me, live your lives the way God wants you to.'



Year 6 Curriculum Map

Autumn 1

Maths In maths we will be learning about numbers and their place value up to 10,000,000. Initially we will be revisiting and revising previous Year 5 place value and rounding objectives before moving on to Year 6. We will then be strengthening our understanding of the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division,) order of operations and beginning work on fractions.	English In our first term in English, we will be reading and exploring the book, 'A Story Like the Wind'. We will respond to the text creatively through discussion, drama, storytelling and role play. We will then be writing some poetry, flashback stories and newspaper reports. We will also be continuing with our Reading Spine book at the end of the day and reading a range of extracts during Whole Class Guided Reading	RE In RE, our title is 'Life as a Journey'. It involves lots of thoughtful discussions about how life can be seen as a journey. We will also be thinking about what we can learn from Jesus' life story, and about Pilgrimage in different religions.
History In history, we will be developing our knowledge and understanding of World War 1, looking at reasons and consequences of it, and the impact this had on the world.	Geography In geography, we will be completing our spatial sense unit. We will learn about cartographers and why the Earth is split using imaginary lines. We will use the lines of longitude and latitude to locate co-ordinates on a map of the world.	Science In science this half term, we will be learning about classification of living things. We will be studying the five main kingdoms and how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics.
PE This half term we will be completing our basketball unit, where we will be practising our skills and playing small-sided games.	Music In music, Year 6 are really fortunate to continue being able to learn to play the violin. The whole class will be learning to play the violin as well as learning about the history of music.	MFL In French, our topic is A L'Ecole. We will be learning how to say what subjects we study in school, our likes, dislikes, favourite subjects and we will also be learning about time/ timetables.
PSHE/ Relationships and Health Education Through our 'HeartSmart' scheme, we will learn what it is to be HeartSmart and how we can keep our hearts soft but strong. We will also be focusing on family, friends, relationships and mental health in the first term.	Computing Computer systems and networks – Communication We will be learning about how search engines work and ways of communicating via the Internet	DT – Friday 6th October The children will be designing, making and evaluating a lantern using complex switches.

Year 6 Home Learning Menu

History: World War 1

Model Making

Create a model of a WW1 trench, using accurate colours and textures. Research the layout of trenches beforehand so your model can be as realistic as possible.



Be a Poet

Get creative and write some thoughtful poetry linked to WW1 in any format and style you like. Think about how you will present your poem and how you could illustrate it.



Life at Home

Research what it was like to be at home in Great Britain during the war and create a project presented however you wish that could help other children understand more about the Home Front, for example women's roles or rationing.



Wartime Engines

Find out some of the different types of vehicles that were used in the war such as tanks and aircrafts. Create a leaflet, model or other project to show what you have learned about them.



Take a Trip

With the help of a parent/carer, visit a museum that has an exhibition about WW1. See what you can learn all about this topic and consider how to share what you have learned – perhaps you could take some photos while you are there and write some captions to go with them.

You Choose!

Explore the topic however you wish and create a project in your own way.



Autumn 1 Retrieval Questions

	Retrieval Questions
History	What caused World War I? How was WWI fought? What was life like for soldiers on the Western Front? What was life like on the Home Front? What happened as a consequence of World War I?
Geography	What lines divide our world in to sections? What do lines of latitude tell us? How many hourly time zones is the world divided in to? What is map projection? What information can we take from maps?
Science	How many classification kingdoms are there? How are plant and animal cells different? How many vertebrate groups are there? Can you name the five vertebrate groups? Can you name the invertebrate groups?