

Year Six's Half Termly Newsletter – Autumn 1

Mrs Ben-Ali, Mrs Reid and Miss Williams (mornings)

A New School Year – September 2021

Welcome to Year Six

We are really excited about starting a new school year and welcoming the children back. Year Six will be full to the brim with lots of learning, hard work and laughter! We know that our pupils will have many different emotions as they return to school but are sure that they will soon feel relaxed and back into the swing of things with our busy Year 6 timetable.

We will hold our annual Meet the Teacher meeting on: Thursday 23rd September 2021 at 3:30pm, in the school hall. Y6 pupils will wait in the Y5 classroom until the meeting is over. Please do come along to this meeting if possible, as we will give out plenty of important information about the year ahead whilst also giving parents an opportunity to ask questions.

If you have any worries, concerns or something you would like to discuss, please feel free to make an appointment to meet with either myself, Miss Williams or Mrs Reid. It is our priority to ensure that all pupils settle well into their new school year and make the progress we know they are capable of.

We will use your child's Learning Journal as a source of communication from time to time so please aim to check these frequently. Parents are free to write a message to teachers in their child's Learning Journal, but please bear in mind that these are not checked every day, so do prompt your child to bring it to the teacher when they get into class. Alternatively, you can email the office for any messages to be passed on to the class teacher.

The Year Six Curriculum

There is plenty of information on our school website about the curriculum, including knowledge organisers, year group specific curriculum maps and home learning resources, so please head over to find out about all of the Year Six Curriculum. You will find this information under 'Children' and then 'Class Pages'.

Home Learning

In Year Six, we continue to prioritise reading. We ask that pupils read at least five times a week at home. We understand that it is not always possible for pupils to read with an adult every time so we also encourage independent reading. Please can an adult sign their child's reading journal when they have read. As usual, we will complete a weekly reading raffle as an incentive for children to read frequently.

Children will be provided with a home reading book: this may be a banded book or an 'open read' book chosen from the class library. We encourage pupils to read these books at home, but to also feel free to read any other book they may enjoy – this could include books from home, a library or even magazines and newspapers. All reading is good reading!

Pupils will continue to be encouraged to access Times Table Rockstars 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 Rockstars daily.

Spellings will be sent home at the beginning of each term (see attached sheet – these are also saved on the class webpage). We encourage pupils to practise these spellings as frequently as possible at home.

Test dates are recorded at the bottom of each spelling list – if



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



there are any changes to these dates, we will inform you via your child's Learning Journal.

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 encourage pupils to complete at least one activity from the menu per half term. We will dedicate time at the end of the half term to share and celebrate any work completed from the menus.

Book Bags

Please ensure that your child's book bag comes to school each day. Pupils should ensure that they have their reading book and Learning Journal in their book bag every day. Letters sent home will be placed in book bags, so please do check frequently for these.

Home-time

In Year Six, pupils are trusted to walk to the front gate independently. Pupils are reminded that they must come straight back into school if there is not an adult there to collect them and that they must not go with another adult unless previously arranged. Please reiterate these messages at home.

A reminder that for safeguarding purposes, you must inform a member of staff if you wish your child to be collected by an adult that does not usually collect them. If you wish for your child to **walk home independently**, please send a letter of consent into school as soon as possible.

Seesaw

Seesaw will continue to be used by class teachers and your login details should stay the same. If you have any problems logging in, please let us know and we can send the details home. Seesaw may be used to send announcements, any extra home learning or even to showcase excellent work, but please note that the message function will not be in use. If you wish to speak to a member of staff, please make an appointment to do so at the school office. Miss Barton will continue to use the Seesaw messaging function to liaise with parents about music lessons.

PE

Please ensure that pupils bring their PE kit into school at the start of each half term. During the winter months, pupils will also need an outdoor PE kit. This half term, Year Six pupils will be attending swimming lessons at Meadows Leisure centre, beginning Tuesday 7th September. Please ensure that your child has their full swimming kit, including swimming cap.

To ensure pupils always have a PE kit in school, we will not send kits home until the end of a half term (unless they have gotten particularly dirty). If your child takes part in a sporting club, please can they bring their own games kit into school each week.

Trips

Information about trips will be shared at the Meet the Teacher meeting with more information to be sent home shortly after.

We very much look forward to the year ahead and thank you in advance for your support this year. Please do not hesitate to contact us at any point this year.

Kind regards,
Mrs Ben-Ali, Mrs Reid and Miss Williams

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



Year Six Curriculum Map

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



In the first Autumn term, we will be learning about:

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 David Almond text, 'Skellig'. We will respond to the text creatively through discussion, drama, storytelling and role play. We will then be writing some poetry, stories with suspense and diaries. 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 annual 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 blood, the heart and the circulatory system in our human body unit. We will be investigating the components of the heart, blood pressure and the impact of exercise on our heart rates.
PE We are fortunate to be able to have swimming lessons this term in Year 6 so our swimming lessons will be our PE focus for this term.	Music In music, Year 6 are really fortunate to be able to learn to play the violin with Miss Barton. The whole class will be learning to play the violin from Monday 6th September.	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.		

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/carers, 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.

