

Year 6 Newsletter – Autumn Term 1



Dear Parents/Carers:

We are very excited to have the privilege of working with your children. There are so many important and exciting milestones that will be happening for your child this year; we have no doubt that it will be fantastic! The Year 6 team consists of: Nina, Jill, Steve, Mrs. Sutherland and Mr Griffiths.

The following is an overview of what your child will be taught in the first half of the Autumn term, as well as general timetabling information.

In **English**, our first novel will be "Goodnight Mr Tom" by Michelle Magorian. We will be investigating the book together. Some of the genres we will be writing this term include a diary entry, description and a short story. We will also be focusing on key grammar and punctuation skills. A big focus this year will be on spelling. In order to ensure the children are improving their spelling, tests will happen every Friday.

We will be continuing our **Reading** program: Destination Reader. We would like you to discuss the key skills of reading with your children (predicting, making connections, asking questions, evaluating, inferring, summarising and clarifying.)

Our **Maths** focus this half-term will include: place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will be solving word problems, developing our ability to explain and check our working out. We will also be taking part in several maths investigations. Children will also be practicing mental maths strategies and arithmetic. **We will have an arithmetic test every Friday.**

Our **History** topic will be **World War 2**. We will be learning about the experiences of child evacuee's as a result of The Blitz and the experience of Jewish people in concentration camps. We will also discuss how the war started in 1939 and the key events that took place up to the end of the war in 1945.

In **Science**, our topic will be about **Electricity**. We will learn to compare and give reasons for variations in how components function and use recognised symbols when representing a simple circuit in a diagram.

In **Art & DT**, we will be learning how to paint perspective drawings linked to the topic of World War 2. We will discuss ideas, methods and approaches used by artists and the children will adapt and refine their own ideas.

Our overarching theme in **Religion** this term is: "The Journey of Life and Death". In this unit the children will be investigating beliefs about life and life after death and encouraging them to reflect on and express their hopes for the future

Physical Education will be on **Wednesday**. This term, our topic is orienteering and adventurous activities. Physical education will take place outside this term (unless raining), so please ensure your child has the correct kit on this day. The PE sessions will be led by Anna, who is the lead member of staff for PE at St Luke's.

In **French** this half-term, Year 6 will be learning through the French language about some of the key leaders, dates and events of World War II in France.

Finally, in **Music** children will be exploring rhythm and melody through singing, movement and dance. In our World Unite unit they will take a trip around the world to celebrate the universal language of music.

Homework will be set for the half term and will focus on numeracy and literacy work with a list of spellings. We would also strongly encourage all children to complete a homework project. This half term we would like to see some 3D work on World War 2. In addition to this, your child will be assigned **15-20 minutes of reading every night**. We will also have spelling tests every Friday afternoon.

Willow class mass will be on **Monday, 16th September** and Cypress class mass will be on **Monday 30th September**. We hope to see you there!

We are looking forward to a great year! If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact us. Otherwise, we will see you during Parents Evening, which is Thursday 26th September and Wednesday 2nd October – note this is different to other year groups due to a Year 6 staff conference on the Thursday. Please choose whichever date suits you better when the sheets go up in the office.

Kind regards,

Mrs. Sutherland, Mr. Griffiths, Nina, Jill & Steve

The Year 6 Teaching Team

