



Autumn Term – Curriculum Newsletter

Year 6

English

Speaking and Listening

These skills are addressed throughout the day particularly during whole class guided Reading. As this session focuses on the teacher reading, children are able to listen and follow along with the text, allowing both listening and questioning skills to develop.

Reading

In the autumn term, we will be reading 'Pig Heart Boy' by Malorie Blackman and 'Skellig' by David Almond. We will be using VIPERS, a range of reading skills used across the school. These skills include looking at the choice and meaning of vocabulary, inference, prediction, explanation, retrieval and summary. The children will enjoy a modelled read, building on their listening skills whilst developing a love for reading. Discussions and formal questioning will be practised throughout the week following a structured focus on certain skills. The children will also have the opportunity to read aloud, read to partners and read to themselves, each important skills to develop.

Writing

In writing, we are focusing on the 'Power of Imagery' through a number of visual texts: City Jungle, The Sea and 'Take One Picture'. We then move on to Non-chronological Reports and will look a variety of non-fiction texts to support with this.

Maths

This term, we will be covering number and place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, ratio, fractions and geometry. The children will be using varied fluency to support and aid their reasoning and problem solving attributes.

Our topic for the Autumn term is Ancient Civilisations. During this topic, we will be focusing on the following subjects: Art, History and Design Technology. The following skills and knowledge will be covered this term:

- **Art** - children will be introduced to Islamic art through a 'passport' where they travel to different countries and explore art in use. They then learn how to create the Islamic star through a build-up and repetition lesson, after they explore x4 different paints and decide which medium they want to use. The next few lessons are focussed on planning which contrasting colours they use, drawing their pattern and using paint to build colour.
- **History** - children will understand how a timeline works looking at the different major events in British history. They will be looking at the Mayans and how they have affected the world we live in. After understanding who the Mayans were, the children will look into the different jobs and roles that they have to in their civilisation. The children will compare contrast different civilisations how they differ in the same and/or different time periods. The children will also have a debate on how the ancient Mayans have affected on modern day society.
- **D and T** - children will research different prototypes and ideas into Mayan houses by sharing ideas in small groups and as a class. The children will build on their research to plan and create using a range of materials and tools to build their own sturdy Mayan house. After completing their ideas, the children will evaluate their work to so how they can improve their individual work. The children will need to choose the best materials for the task using various tools with increasing accuracy.

In this topic we will be using the following vocabulary, if possible please talk about these words at home to ensure your child has good understanding of their meaning:

Mayans, cultural, economic, military, political, religious, social and civilisations.

As part of the topic the children will go on the following trips/have the following experiences:

Cadbury World - this trip is planned but may not take place due to Covid 19 restrictions.

Science

This term, we are studying evolution including:

- Recognise that living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago
- Recognise that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally offspring vary and are not identical to their parents
- Identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution

We are also studying living things and their habitats:

- Describe how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including micro-organisms, plants and animals
- Give reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics
- Identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood
- recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function
- describe the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within animals, including humans

PSHE/Peacemakers

Our topics this term are: Making Agreements, Exploring Family Structures and Diversity of Belief and Values.

We use Peace Circles to explore these issues and ensure that all children are heard and respected during this time.

PE

During the Autumn term, we will be swimming every Wednesday. Swimming is a core part of the National Curriculum and as a result is something every child will take part in.

Please send your child in to school with swimming costume or shorts (not board), swimming hat (if they have long hair) and a towel.

In our other topics being covered throughout the term, we will be looking at invasion games and dance. The children will need to make sure they have both an indoor and outdoor P.E kits in relation to the school's P.E uniform policy and wear the kits on their allocated day to school.

RE

In RE this term, we will be seeing how civil order and laws are included within society, including how unfairness, prejudice and discrimination are tackled. Also, to understand further the word equality and the fairness of various religions. Finally, we will be looking at unity and harmony. This will be taught through dispositions and religious stories.

French

The topics we will be covering are:

Let's visit a French town and Let's go shopping.

Homework

This year, we will continue to use Topic Homework grids. Every other week, your child must complete one item (they can choose) off the selection. Other homework (Maths & English) will be sent out when appropriate, all homework will be due in on Thursday Morning. Please remember Times Table Rock Stars and Bug Club!

Key Dates

- 6A Lapworth Musuem Trip.
- 6B Lapworth Musuem Trip.
- Year 6 Cadbury World.

Dates to be confirmed if Covid guidance allows for these trips to take place.