

Year 6 – Spring Term



Topic (Including trips/experiences)

In Year 6, our Spring Term topic is Eco-Warriors. The topic is predominately Geography based with a focus on environment issues, environmental sustainability and Global citizenship. Children will learn about the impact of HS2 on our local environment; how non-recyclable rubbish is disposed of in Aylesbury Vale and how water is at the core of sustainable development and is critical for socio-economic development, healthy ecosystems and for human survival itself. We will also undertake a short geographical study of South America.

In Art lessons, children will be introduced to Bridget Riley's optical art; they will re-create her paintings of black and white checks and swirling curves to produce optical illusions of their own. In DT children will create designs to upcycle an old piece of clothing. We will have 2 further RE days in which we will look at the four denominations of Hinduism- *Saivism, Shaktism, Vaishnavism and Smartism* and have our second study of Judaism focussing on prayer (Shema) and mourning (Afterlife beliefs). We will have music lessons with a focus on rhythm and pulse.

We will be visiting Greatmoor EfW to learn how non-recyclable rubbish in our area is used to generate electricity. A parent letter in January will provide more details.

Homework

All homework is now paper-less but children will be given homework books to write in to keep at home. Homework will be uploaded onto Seesaw on a Wednesday. It should be completed and uploaded into their journal by the following Tuesday.

Weekly tasks will include:

MUST: Learn times tables and read 5 times.

SHOULD: A Maths tasks based on that week's learning or revision from previous years or reading comprehension task or a writing task.

COULD: A more open-ended task linked to our topic.

PE

Year 6 have PE on Friday. There is an indoor AND an outdoor session on this day. Outside lessons will be on the top playground and will involve netball and football skills and drills. If and when we have use of the hall again, children will be working on circuit training linking to our Science topic of the human circulatory system – we may possibly be able to do this outside!

On Friday, children need to come into school already dressed in their School PE Kit (not a football strip).

They will stay in their kit all day and will not need a change of clothes. Please ensure children have a warm jumper and tracksuit bottoms as the weather is very changeable in this term.

Reading at Home

Children should be reading every day at home if possible. Home school diaries should be signed by parents so that the daily reads can be added to house totals for the House Reading Competition. Home school diaries should be brought in every day for staff to check. In school, Year 6 pupils will continue to expand their vocabulary through exposure to books and other writing that they have not come across before – hearing and learning new vocabulary and grammatical structures and having a chance to talk about this. You can support this at home by:

-Encouraging discussion with your child when pronouncing new words if their reasonable attempt does not sound correct.

-Broadening the vocabulary that you use when speaking to your child and being prepared to clarify the meaning of a wider range of words, modelling them within sentences.

-Encouraging your child to read silently to themselves but check their understanding of what they have read after doing so.

- Reading more difficult texts to your child and allowing them the chance to listen and ask questions.

Respect-Positivity-Honesty-Perseverance- Courage- Loyalty

English

In English this term, we will be working on the following genres:

- Newspaper Report (-Hook: The Highwayman poem)
- Discussion Text: (Hook: local issue HS2)
- Post- apocalyptic narrative (Hook: Short Film: Replay)
- Explanation Text: (Hook: Visit to Greatmoor EfW)

We have daily whole class reading sessions. In these, as well as practising comprehension activities, we will study a science- fiction novel about a boy living through strange events taking place around his tower block. Children will continue to work weekly on Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar with Mrs Rawlins on Fridays.

Maths

In maths this term, we will cover:

Ratio
Algebra
Fractions, Decimals,
Percentages
Area, Perimeter, Volume
Fridays with Mrs Rawlins : Statistics and Shape

Every morning starts with *5-a-Day*: a set of 5 maths reasoning problems (at each child's level). We do daily number and arithmetic sessions and have a weekly times-tables test on Fridays. Children should know all of their tables to 12 x 12. If your child is still not confident at recalling these, they must be practised at home weekly as part of the homework.

Science

Our first Science topic of the term looks at the human circulatory system, the impact of exercise on the heart, lungs and blood and the impact of diet and drugs (legal and illegal).

We then move on to looking at classification systems, the use of identification keys and contrasting eco-systems. The children will also devise their own classification systems and keys to identify local animals and plants.

Computing

Each half term starts with lessons on e-safety. Children learn how to use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly. Then children will continue to progress their computing skills so that they can:

- Create appropriate animations for a story scene.
- Structure and control the timing of events
- Use a spreadsheet to solve problems.
- Plan and calculate a spending budget.
- Design a spreadsheet for a specific purpose.

PSHE/RSE

Our whole school themes for the Spring term are: Dreams & Goals and Healthy Me.

In Year 6 will focus on the following areas:

- Personal Goals
- Steps to Success
- My Dream for the World
- Helping to Make a Difference
- Taking responsibility for my health and well-being
- Drugs
- Exploitation & Gangs
- Emotional and Mental Health
- Managing Stress and Pressure

Useful Websites

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>
<https://www.thenational.academy/>
<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/> - National Geographic for kids
<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/>
<https://www.dkfindout.com/uk/>
<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/>
<https://www.nhm.ac.uk/> - Natural History Museum
<https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/visiting/virtual-tours>
<https://ed.ted.com/>

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