



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome to year 6! We have lots of exciting and challenging things planned for this academic year. We continue to offer a creative and innovative curriculum for all the children, with the added benefit of specialised teaching in P.E, Music and Drama. Here's what we have to look forward to this term:

Literacy, Oracy and Language

The children will continue to develop their writing skills through the The Big Write, focused grammar and reading comprehension lessons, in addition to daily Literacy lessons. We will be studying one of Shakespeare's plays, A Midsummer Night's Dream, working with The Troublemaker Theatre Company to perform the play in front of an audience at Norden Centre for the Arts. The children will use drama activities to explore typical characters, setting and events, they will plan and write their own stories linked to themes from the play. They will work on individual sections from it adapting and rewriting it.

Poetry: This work will begin with the poetry from our play and then the children will explore the use of personification and imagery in other poets' work. They use this experience as a basis for shared and independent writing of their own personification poems.

Newspapers: The children will use the styles and conventions of journalism to write newspaper articles. They will read reports from a variety of newspapers and analyse them, identifying key language, structure, organisation and presentational features, as preparation for writing.

Useful website: www.crickweb.co.uk/ks2literacy.html

Mathematics

The children will kick off the term with recapping number and place value, specifically reading, writing, ordering and comparing numbers up to 10 000 000 and determining the value of each digit. They will also be solving number and practical problems that involve number, place value and rounding. There will be a focus on applying all four operations to number problems as well as identifying factors and multiples.

Useful website: www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/maths/

Science and Technology

The children will carrying out investigations linked to separating mixtures & materials. This unit consolidates and extends children's understanding of what happens when a variety of solids dissolve, that some materials will dissolve in liquid to form a solution, and how to recover a substance from a solution.

Investigative work focuses on:

- making and testing predictions
- planning a fair test
- repeating observations and measurements and evaluating these
- representing data in line graphs and interpreting what these show.

Useful website: www.bbc.co.uk/schools/scienceclips/ages/10_11/interdependence.shtml

Place and Time

Our topic will be The Vikings. Themes we be studying include: how the Vikings lived; why and when they came to Britain; who were the Anglo Saxons? Vikings beliefs and other areas of the culture and history.

Useful websites: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/ztyr9j6>

Physical and Emotional Health

PE this term will be taught by myself and specialist sports coaches, and will focus on team games such as football, rugby, netball and hockey, and improving the children's spatial awareness and specific skills. Please note, PE will take place on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Arts and Creativity

Portraits. The children will be studying the work of various portrait artists and copying the style and technique. Some art work will be linked to other areas of the curriculum eg Faith and Belief. In music, the children will be learning about cyclic patterns by exploring rhythm and pulse through percussion.

Ethics and Citizenship

Our Citizenship and Ethics theme this term is 'Our Rights.' In Year 6, we will be specifically looking at our rights in the community in which we live, focusing mainly on 'Tolerance and Anti-Social Behaviour'. Discussions will include examples of different types of behaviour and their consequences.

Useful websites: <http://www.schoolbeat.org/en/pupils/age/7-11/I-Didnt-Think/>

Faith and Belief

Our topic for this term will be about Saints. Children will decide, through their research, if they think that Saints are good role models. They will learn about the persecution of Saints and study modern day Saints including Mother Theresa, who will made a Saint at the beginning of September.

Useful website: www.request.org.uk

Homework

Homework will be set daily and is usually due the next day. Weekly spellings will also be given and children should continue to read daily. Times tables and/or maths competencies should also be rehearsed on a regular basis. Any questions or queries, please feel free to come and see me.

Finally

Please can I please remind parents and carers about our Breakfast 'Booster Club', where we are currently covering all aspects of spelling, punctuation and grammar - there is noticeable improvement in the progress of children who attend regularly. Please can I encourage you to send your child – it would be great to see as many Year 6s as possible. Classes run from Monday – Thursday.

Yours faithfully,

Mr David Morgan