



Year 6 Curriculum Newsletter

April 2016

Dear Parents,

Welcome Back! We hope you had a relaxing break with your family and are ready for our exciting and packed Summer Term.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Please remember we have a 'no hat no play' policy therefore children must remember their hats each day. Sun lotion protection is also a good idea.

CURRICULUM INFORMATION

ENGLISH

In English we will continue to work on quest stories for the first few weeks of term. Children will write non-linear stories based on their understanding of the genre. We will then cover debating and continue our look at Japanese poetry. In debating, we will build on children's understanding of persuasive language and encourage children to use this both in written and oral debating.

In poetry, we will work on Renga and Tanka poems. Through these forms, children will explore and develop their understanding of poetic devices and description.

MATHS

In the first two weeks we will revisit and extend our work on algebra. We will then spend a few weeks reinforcing work on fractions and decimals. Children will learn how to multiply fractions and complete division problems where the answer has two decimal places. Children will be taught about statistics and probability.

We will finish the year covering the four operations and reinforce methods to successfully solve problems using our knowledge of the number system.

THEME

Our Theme lessons will start off by focusing on Singapore and the impact of the war on this city, as well as other geographical information comparing it to Hong Kong. Then we will move onto our final Theme of "The Sixties", where in History we will study "Heroes of Peace". We will learn about the lives of important world figures. We will look at the discrimination faced by various groups of people and how this has been combatted. We will finish with a production of 'The Peace Child', which we look forward to sharing with you in the final week of school.

During our Science work children will learn to Identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood. They will be taught to recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function and will learn to describe the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within animals, including humans.

Ecology:

Ecology is the scientific study of interactions of organisms with one another and with the physical and chemical environment. An understanding of ecological principles can help us understand the global and regional consequences of competition among humans for the scarce natural resources that support us. The children will create a Biome in a Bag and a DIY 'Eden Project' with its own mini guide or



poster, based on their research using maps, globes, atlases, digital mapping, Internet websites and studying a manmade biome. The children will learn about the key aspects of climate zones, biomes and vegetation belts.

PSCHE

Children will examine how different age groups behave and develop empathy and an understanding of the needs and pressures associated with each stage of development. A focus on some of these changes advances the development of self-knowledge and self-esteem in children. This leads into a series of lessons about growing, changing and puberty and follows on from the unit the children studied in Year 5 last year. A second theme of the term is the exploration of fairness and justice, prejudice, discrimination, and sectarianism and how these affect young people individually and in groups, at home, in school and in the local and wider community.

MANDARIN

Beginner pupils will be introduced new words and expressions related to professions, transportation, and clothing. They will also learn to express likes and dislikes in relation to daily activities. Pupils are expected to read and write simple characters independently.

Lower Intermediate pupils will learn how to describe their family members or friends, talk about people's nationalities and languages, express what kind of job they would like to do when they grow up and speak about their home address and which transport they usually take.

Upper Intermediate pupils will study topics including 《不一样的快餐店》·《词典大楼》·《中秋游园会》·《三借芭蕉扇》·《一碗云吞面》. An increasing focus will be placed on how to analyse a passage structure and encourage the pupils to express their own ideas. Oral presentation skills and listening comprehension will continue to be developed.

Advanced pupils will study chapters including 《珠穆朗玛峰》《蝙蝠和雷达》《古诗两首》《徐悲鸿的故事》《郑和远航》《达尔文》. Their reading and writing skills will continuously be developed, especially the narration skills to describe a person.

SPANISH

In the summer term we will be studying *La Comida – Food* in which pupils will be able to link food vocabulary with opinions, new connectives, adverbs and verbs. We will finish summer term with an individual or group presentation from pupils where they will be able to choose from one of the topics learned during this year.

MUSIC

During term three, Year 6 will explore aspects of the core works, Beethoven's Symphony No.5, and Gershwin's song 'They can't take that away from me.' They will also learn flute, keyboard or guitar, depending on which class they are in.

DRAMA

In Drama pupils will be rehearsing for a musical adaptation of *Peace Child* by Mark and Helen Jonson. Each child will have the opportunity to take a speaking and singing role in the performance, which will be presented to parents at the end of the Summer term.



ART

Year 6 pupils will investigate the different areas of theatre design to support their forthcoming production. Pupils will have the opportunity to create props for their show using a 3D modelling making materials such as mod roc and papier mache. They will also contribute to the design and creation of the production set by creating collaborative, large-scale paintings. This project will introduce pupils to a wide range of materials and techniques in order to further develop their skill set.

PE

Pupils will develop fundamental movement skills whilst taking part in net games (tennis & badminton). Pupils will take part in increasingly challenging situations and will improve their hand to eye co-ordination. Pupils will also focus on communicating, collaborating and competing with each other. Pupils will be taught to review performances and be given opportunities to demonstrate improvements.

Pupils will also investigate movement, stillness, and how to find and use space in gymnastics. Pupils will develop their gross motor skills, become increasingly competent and confident and access a broad range of opportunities to extend their agility, balance and coordination.

Pupils will refine technique in athletics events including sprinting, middle distance, shot put as well as high jump and long jump. Striking and fielding skills as well as tactics for cricket/T-ball will also be refined.

Children will continue with our NAIS swimming programme this term. Swimming is a compulsory part of our curriculum and like other subjects all children are expected to attend every week. Please support us in ensuring that all pupils develop this vital life skill.

To ensure that children are well prepared for Year 7. There will be various opportunities for Year 6 to interact with Year 7 staff and students during this term and they will also receive targeted information about next year.

We are looking forward to an exciting final term in Year 6. As always, please contact us if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,
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