



Year 6 Curriculum Newsletter

November 2014

Dear Parents,

We have enjoyed getting to know your children over the first half-term and have been pleased with the work they have been producing. We hope you enjoyed sharing this with them on our recent open evening. We are excited about the upcoming new half-term and wanted to share with you some of the content of the coming weeks.

ENGLISH

We will be focusing on poetry around a theme of 'The Sea'. Children will learn to appreciate and read poetry, exploring aspects such as a writer's choice of words and the effects of features such as assonance, rhythm and rhyme. Children will also focus on writing and performing poetry. We will later cover classical fiction, including British and American authors and learning the features and structure of explanatory texts. We will also be continuing to work separately on spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPAG).

MATHS

We will cover the following areas of mathematics; data-handling, including the reading, construction and interpretation of pie charts; algebra – this will include an introduction to algebra for those who are new to this topic as well as work to stretch those who are ready to develop a deeper understanding of this area; fraction, decimals and percentages and how to utilise these when problem solving, and statistics, where we will explore probability.

THEME

The themes for the half-term are cross-curricular with many links between Science, Geography, ICT, Mathematics, Art and English.

Theme - Geography and History: We have begun our theme "Our Wicked World.' Within this theme we will explore the amazing planetary forces that shape the world we live in today. We will take a close look at physical geography and discover how the earth's structure creates volcanoes, mountains, earthquakes and coastal formations. We will also learn about contour lines and how the different surfaces of our planet can be represented in different ways.

Art, ICT and DT: We will use Google Sketchup to create cross-section diagrams and computer aided design. We will link this into our Wicked World theme. We will be focusing on the power of the sea to inspire our work in poetry and using a range of media in Art activities.



PSHCE

We will cover a variety of issues around the theme of 'Getting On and Falling Out'. Children will learn to develop their friendship groups and deal positively with negative issues that can arise from differences of opinions and issues with friendship groups.

MANDARIN

In Year 6, children will be introduced to the following skills through various activities. Lessons focus on reading comprehension, grammar for writing and speaking and listening.

Pathway 1 pupils will consolidate their learning on self-introduction, reading and writing the date and days of the week. They will continue to extend their vocabulary on the topics of "Countries and nationalities" and "Family". Pupils will learn to talk about their nationalities and where they live. They will also learn to talk about their family, e.g., 我家有五口人，这是我爸爸，我爸爸工作，我姐姐不工作，她是中学生。我们住在香港。

Pathway 2 pupils will learn more sentence structures and reading skills. They will be working on a presentation based on a book report and complete different types of comprehension. Pupils will write a short essay.

Pathway 3 pupils will study chapters including 《一次成功的实验》、《马来鼓“贡邦”》《露营记》和《语言的力量》. They will share their book reports, write letters and complete different types of comprehension. *Mandarin Team*

SPANISH

In Spanish we are going to start the half term by focusing on pronunciation and the Spanish accent, Spanish alphabet and its differences around the world. We will learn about countries and pupils will be asked to produce a presentation about their country of origin in English and Spanish. Pupils who can speak another language will have the opportunity to teach us some important words in their mother tongue.

Our subtopic for this half-term will be 'Family and Friends' which will be consolidated by producing a family tree in Spanish in which pupils will also be able to add personal descriptions such as hair colour, height and pets. Our grammar focus will continue to be using the present tense. We will also be learning new connectives and adjectives.

In the run up to Christmas we will focus on Christmas traditions in Spanish speaking countries around the world and will celebrate with a Spanish Christmas party at the end of term.

Pupils are able to practise their Spanish online on:

<http://www.Linguascope.com> (ask teacher for username and password)



<http://www.espanol-extra.co.uk/>

<http://www.aprender.org.uk/>

Mr. Lopez

MUSIC

This term, Year 6 students will study the 'elements of music' through a topic called 'Night and Day'. Students will listen to a variety of music and compose and perform, experimenting with dynamics, texture, timbre, duration, silence, pitch, tempo and attack and decay. They will use a combination of music notation and graphic score in this unit.

Miss Rowan

ART

Pupils will continue to explore "Our wicked world" theme during art lessons by investigating the volcano paintings by Katsushika Hokusai. Pupils will develop their painting skills through a series of different exercises before recreating a Hokusai volcano study by working collaboratively in groups. *Mrs Pate*

PE

Pupils will be following a unit of ball skills that will develop fundamental sporting skills such as throwing, catching, passing, tackling and kicking. Pupils will be able to make a connection between these skills and major sporting activities and be able to transfer these skills across a wide range of sports. *PE Team*

DRAMA

As part of the "Our Wicked World" theme, we will first cover a series of lessons which explore Shakespeare's "wicked witch" play *Macbeth*, this will be followed by a scheme of work in which pupils will use newspaper headlines as a stimulus for devising drama and working towards producing and filming their own television news programs.

Miss. Bovingdon

Thank you for your continued support. Please keep checking the Blog for our regular updates.

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