

Year 6 - Autumn 1 2023/24

Welcome back!

Welcome back to school and we hope that you've all had a fantastic summer. We have had a great first week back in Year 6 and all the children have already been working hard and showing us that they are ready for the challenges that are ahead of them this year.

As you may already know, Mrs Lester will teach Year 6 on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and Mrs Strong will teach on Thursday and Friday.

If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to come and find one of us on the playground or pop into the school office and make an appointment.

PE

This term, Year 6 will have PE every **Wednesday** with Miss King. Please ensure that children come in wearing the correct uniform for PE. This includes a plain blue t-shirt, shorts and trainers. This uniform must not be branded. No earrings should be worn on PE days.

Swimming

Year 6 will be swimming this term with Mrs Rous every **Tuesday**. Children need to come into school with their swimming kit and a towel. No earrings should be worn on PE days.

Homework

Every Friday, homework will be set to go home and must be completed by the following Wednesday. This homework will either be on Maths or English (spellings, grammar or reading comprehension.)

Reading

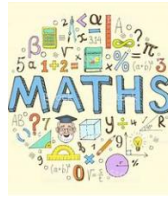
Children are expected to read four times a week at home and this must be signed off by an adult in their homework diaries. This is checked regularly.



It is essential that children learn their times tables fluently. Most of the maths curriculum relies on the children having a good understanding of their tables. Please encourage your child to continue to use TT Rockstars to practice at home.

Here's what we will be learning this half term:

Maths



This half term, in Maths our topic will be place value. This is a fundamental area in maths which will help to underpin all of the other concepts we will teach later in the year. Children will build on the previous steps to explore numbers up to 10,000,000. We will be ordering and comparing numbers as well as rounding. Negative numbers will also be covered this half term.

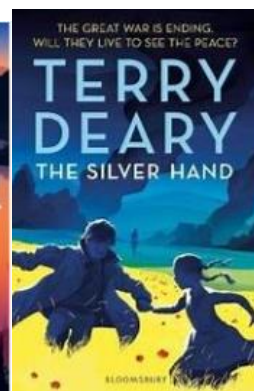
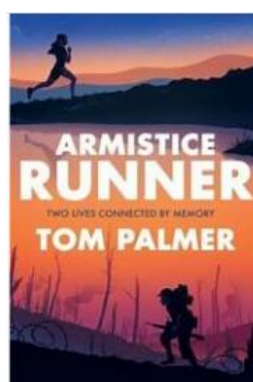
English

To begin with this year, we will have a writing focus on biographies. Focusing on the Egyptian pharaoh Hatsheput, we will find out about her life and then identify the content and language features of a great biography. We will then practice our sentences and improve on our vocabulary in order to then write our own biography. Later in the term we will move onto narrative by looking at Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo. We will write our own adventure stories, thinking carefully about how we can excite and engage the reader. Finally, we will examine non-chronological reports, in particular, Everest by Sangma Francis and Lisk Feng.

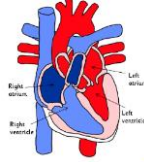


Reading

In guided reading this half term, we will be reading the Armistice Runner by Tom Palmer. This is a story about a young girl who has a passion for running but is struggling with her grandmother's recent Alzheimer's diagnosis. She finds her great, great grandfather's WW1 diaries and they help her to find the courage she needs to face her own challenges. In class, we will also be reading The Silver Hand by Terry Deary. Set in WW1, Aimee has just found out that her mother is part of a spy network working with the British. After reluctantly befriending Marius, a German boy who has been left behind by his countrymen, she must try to help him get back behind German lines while evading a traitor she has helped.



Science – The Human Body



In Science, we will identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system, and describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood. We will also look at the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way our body's function and how our bodies change as we get older.

History – World War 1

This half term our focus will be on WW1. We will explore the causes of the war and how it was fought across land, sea and air. We will also look at what life was like for soldiers in the war and for those who were left behind. Finally, we will examine the consequences and impact of the war.

Geography – Spatial sense



To begin with, we will recap our knowledge of longitude and latitude and then explore the Arctic and Antarctic circles. We will investigate maps of the world and look at how where we live in the world effects time zones.

RE

What does it mean if God is loving and holy?



We will be asking what characteristics God has and how this is portrayed through the trinity. We will then extend this knowledge to look at how God's characteristics are reflected in the Holy Communion and Baptism.

Computing – Computing Systems and Networks



We shall be focusing on Bletchley Park (where they worked on code during World War 2) and looking into codes being used for a number of different reasons including decoding messages, ensuring passwords are secure and how this works, creating a simple website with information about Bletchley Park including the need to build electronic thinking machines to solve cipher codes as well as explaining the importance of historical figures and their contribution towards computer science.

French – Phonetics and At School



To introduce the aim of the unit À l'école and to introduce the vocabulary for school subjects as well as revising numbers and learning how to tell the time in French.

PHSE – Being Me in My World



We shall identify goals for the year, understand fears and worries about the future and know how to express them. We shall discuss universal rights for children and the fact that these are not met for all children. We shall compare our wants and needs to those in different communities. We shall look at the effect of our actions on others and those around us. We shall look at the positivity of working in teams and groups whilst understanding that democracy and having a voice benefits the entire school community.

Music



All of our learning is focused around one song: Happy by Pharrell Williams - a Pop song with a Soul influence about being happy. What makes you happy? We will listen and appraise different genres of music, we shall explore some musical instruments and learn notes to play whilst also learning to sing some of the songs. We shall also look into composition aiming to perform and share at the end of the unit.