

Spring term 2024 – Curriculum News

January 2024

Welcome back from the Christmas break and a happy new year to you all! We have an exciting spring term planned which we are keen to get started!

We begin our term with a History focus on the Ancient Maya where we will be learning about how they lived, their city-states, inventions and their demise. In Geography this term, we will be learning about the layers of the earth, earthquakes and volcanoes. Our Science topic is the circulatory system where we will be learning about blood, how nutrients travel around the body and how the heart works before learning more about how to have a healthy lifestyle.

DT this half term is textiles where we will be exploring the concept of reducing, repurposing and recycling. Next half term is food and nutrition and we are excited to be developing this life skill further. Our art modules this term will focus on painting, printing and textiles; we will also be introducing them to batik and dyeing fabrics as well producing a 3-colour reduction print. Lots to look forward to!

Speaking and listening will continue to be a central aspect of PSHE where we will be focusing on our dreams and goals and learning more about healthy lifestyle choices. RE focuses on Christianity and the question 'Is anything ever eternal?' and later this term we will investigate and debate how strong Christianity is as a religion in today's society.

Year 6 Staff

Mr Dominy

South Africa Class teacher

Miss Thurlow

Thailand Class teacher

Mrs Heath

UKS2 Lead/Year 6 teacher on
Wednesdays

Miss More

Tutoring/intervention teacher

Mrs Loker-Steele

LSA

English

Our English lessons this term start by exploring and writing our second narrative of the year, which is inspired by a brilliant short film called 'Eye of the Storm'. We will then delve into the world of journalistic writing where they will write a newspaper report linked to their geography topic of natural disasters. Finally, we will be producing an explanatory text linked to our science topic, the circulatory system. Technical accuracy of sentence structure will be of fundamental importance with oral rehearsal being key to success.

Maths



At the beginning of this term, we will explore ratio and algebra; these are fairly new concepts which we are sure the children will get stuck into. As the term progresses, we will secure the children's understanding of fractions, decimals and percentages. Finally, we will turn our focus to measurement, exploring perimeter, volume and converting units. Although arithmetic will remain a focus, we will also be exposing the children to an increasing amount of reasoning questions, enabling the children to apply maths in a range of contexts. Children's knowledge and practising of times tables will be significant again, as will their mental maths skills. Using mental maths strategies in real life situations at home would be hugely beneficial. Each week, the children will bring home completed arithmetic papers, any support with these at home would be greatly appreciated.

Home learning

This term, your child will continue to be given a maths and English task to complete. Some will be on Showbie, others will be completion of certain parts of their CGP revision books. Where appropriate, these tasks will be related to the learning in the classroom. It will be set on Friday and due in the following Wednesday.

Children will be taught a spelling concept each week; through dictation, we will monitor their application of these concepts. Spelling Shed can be accessed at home to practise these concepts.

Reading continues to be hugely important. It is expected that children will read at home daily and this will be individually signed by an adult in their planners a minimum of 3 times a week. Please encourage your child to record the title, pages read or how long they have read for. Thank you for your support with this.

PE



PE will be on Wednesdays and Fridays with Mr Newson. The indoor PE focus will be gymnastics during spring 1 and dance during spring 2. Outdoor PE will be football followed by basketball. Please ensure your child comes to school in the correct kit on these days. Warm clothes will be needed; this includes dark, plain coloured jumper and plain trousers. Long hair must be tied up and earrings need to be removed for safety reasons.

Rainbow Challenges

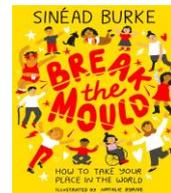


- Design and make a Mayan Mask.
- Create a Fact file about the Mayan people.
- Create an erupting volcano or design a creative way of representing the layers of the earth.
- Write a book review of Pig Heart Boy by Malorie Blackman (once we've finished reading it)!
- Create a game inspired by Pok-ta-Pok
- Draw a diagram or create a model of the inside of the heart.
- Create a replica Mayan building (temple, pyramid).

SATs update

The SATs will take place from **Monday 13th May – Friday 17th May 2023** where the children will be tested on their reading, maths, grammar, punctuation and spelling. In the weeks of both the 22nd January and the 4th March, they will complete a set of mock tests. Any support with completing their CGP books would be greatly appreciated.

Recommended read



A book for children, but it has lessons for all of us.

There are so many people in this world - 7.53 billion to be exact. But there is only one of me and one of you. It's easy to think we are not good enough, or that our nose is too big, but the world would be different without you. You are enough just as you are.

Spring Term Key Dates

SATs information session: 18th January at 5pm.
Mock SATs week: 22nd January
Half term: w/b 19th February
Mock SATs week: 4th March