



West Hill Primary School
(a partner in the SMILE Learning Trust)
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Friday 18th September 2020

Autumn Term Curriculum newsletter-Class 6

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Class 6. It has been wonderful to see all the children return to school. They have been incredibly quick settling into the new routines of school life. The various monitor roles and responsibilities available in the current circumstances have already been selected and we hope that your child will enjoy taking on extra responsibility in Class 6.

Mrs Harris will teach the class on Mondays to Wednesdays and Mrs Bennett will teach on Thursdays and Fridays. We are also delighted to welcome Mrs Quincey to our team as Y5/Y6 Teaching Assistant who will support Class 6 throughout the week.

Curriculum

As we are unable to hold a Meet the Teacher evening this year, this letter will hopefully tell you a little bit more about the curriculum for year 6.

SATS

SATs will take place the week commencing 10th May. The tests take place throughout the week. The children will be sitting three maths papers, a reading comprehension paper and a grammar, spelling and punctuation paper. Writing will be assessed by the class teachers based on the written work that is produced throughout the year.

English

We will be looking a wide range of texts and genres throughout this term and have already begun the term by reading Street Child by Berlie Doherty. Other books that we will be looking at in depth this term are Anne Frank's Diary and also Charles Dicken's A Christmas Carol. The children will learn how to write for a range of purposes and audiences and will learn how to select vocabulary and grammatical structures that reflect what the writing requires.

There will be a reading challenge that will be presented to the children this term to encourage the children to read the new books purchased by the PTFA.

In spelling, we are encouraging the children to develop their own personal spelling lists as well as learning key patterns. The personal lists will be kept in their spelling homework book so that they can refer to them at home as well as in school.

Maths

In arithmetic we will begin with place value before moving on to the four rules of number. Our work will have a strong focus on problem solving and investigative skills. In topic Maths, the children will develop a deeper



understanding of 2D and 3D shape. Not only will they be able to classify a wide range of shapes using technical vocabulary but they will also be able to draw a wide range of 2D shapes using protractors and rulers accurately. We will also look at statistical data and how to interpret and present given information including using pie charts.

Topic overview the Academic Year 2020-2021

SUBJECT	AUTUMN	SPRING	SUMMER
HISTORY	VICTORIANS		ANGLO SAXONS
GEOGRAPHY		OUR CHANGING WORLD	
SCIENCE	1. LIGHT 2. CIRCULATORY SYSTEM	1. CLASSIFICATION 2. EVOLUTION AND INHERITANCE	1. EVOLUTION AND INHERITANCE 2. ELECTRICITY

History

Our history topic this term is Victorians. If there are any experts out there Mrs Harris will be pleased to hear from you. We will look at a range of areas within this topic including The British Empire, School Life, Children at Work and also Inventions. To support our topic we will explore some historical texts in our English lessons and will base some of our art around the Victorian designer William Morris.

Computing

In computing, we will be exploring how to create and interactive and engaging biography on a key figure from the Victorian Era by using hyperlinks and animations within our presentations. A key element to our computing lessons will be to look at staying safe on line and consider how we post and respond to messages.

Science

In science, we are exploring light in the first half term. We will look at how light is reflected and how light travels. The children will also be encouraged to set up their own investigations to prove or refute theories and ask questions about the science that they are studying. After half term we will look at the circulatory system and describe the effects of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on how the body functions.

PE

At the moment, PE will be taught on Tuesdays and Fridays. During the term, the children will develop a range of skills within dance, gymnastics and invasion games and will be taking part in inter house competitions within the sports that they are learning. This half term, on Fridays, the children will be taught dance by Katie Murray. Our theme is Musical Theatre – The Lion King. After half term, one of the sports we will be playing is hockey. We have hockey sticks in school but please be aware that all children will need to wear shin pads and gum shields in order to play hockey. Due to the current pandemic, it is essential that all children bring in their own gum shields. Please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school every day.

Homework

We do encourage the children to become more independent this year in readiness for secondary school. They should now start to organise their time and themselves! The need to organise themselves has been explained to them and they must make sure that their homework is put in their bags on completion, ready to be handed in the following day. This is encouraged so that it is not hidden and then lost under a pile of things in their bedroom! It may also be a good idea to encourage your child to do smaller amounts of homework over several nights rather than in one large amount. This should ensure that it is not all being left until a Sunday night! Writing homework will be sent home on Mondays by Mrs Harris. If possible, the children should do this independently but if you do need to support them, please just make a note of this at the end of their work. Spellings and Maths will be sent home on Fridays by Mrs Bennett. A spelling sheet will also be handed out to reinforce the spelling work. Reading homework is ongoing and should be done for at least twenty minutes every day. Most children are already in the routine of reading before they go to bed. Reading daily is the key to much of the work in Class 6. Times tables are also essential this year and most Maths will include multiplication/division skills. Could we please ask that you sign the homework diary weekly so that we know you have seen the homework set. In theory, the children should be independent and ask you to sign their book but they may need a reminder. If you have any concerns or problems during the term, then please do not hesitate to contact us through the school office.

PGL

At this stage with COVID we are unable to guarantee the PGL week next year but we have been given a further extension for our deposit. All deposits must be in by Friday 9th October. By this date we should have confirmation of PGL's Covid guarantee for refunds. Once we have received this then we can confirm our trip which is booked for the week beginning 15th March 2021.

Kind regards

Nicky Harris and Clare Bennett