



St. Mary's Church of England Primary School

**Year 6: Half Termly Letter to Parents**

*Autumn 2, November 2018*

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn Term. We hope you had a lovely half term break. The class have come back full of enthusiasm and keen to work hard - we hope this continues! We are writing to inform you of the Year 6 curriculum for the coming weeks.



School Journey Residential Trip

Year 6 will attend their school journey trip to Sayers Croft from Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November to Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2018. A parent information meeting about Sayers Croft will take place on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 6pm.

The Curriculum

Below is an outline of the Year 6 curriculum for this half term:

- English** Our **Power of Reading** novel this half term will continue to be *Skellig* by David Almond. The children are really engaged with this book and they will be developing their writing using a range of genres including recounts, descriptions, newspaper reports and letter writing. After *Skellig* the class will look at *Sensational Poems* by Roger McGough. An imaginative poetry anthology featuring sections on sight, sound, touch, smell and taste. The children will explore the use of figurative language and create their own anthology of poems. Grammar, punctuation and spelling will focus on; phrases, singular and plural nouns and pronouns, direct speech and concrete and abstract nouns.
- Maths** The children will be covering the following areas: Number and place value; Problem solving, reasoning and algebra; Fractions, ratio and proportion; Measurement; Geometry: properties of shapes; Mental multiplication and division; Written multiplication and division; Decimals, percentages and their equivalence to fractions. We are sure with continued hard work and the right attitude excellent progress will continue to be made. Keep up the mental arithmetic and rehearsing of the times tables at home please!
- Topic**  
(Science & Geography) We will first conclude our topic **Full Power** and the school trip to **The Crystal** takes place on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2018. Our new topic for this half term will be '**What a Wonderful World**'. In Science we will be learning how to classify different types of rock and soil, about the movements of the Earth, Sun and Moon and about different types of cloud and how they are formed. In Geography we will be studying the different regions and environments around the world together with the possible causes of climate change and its effects on our planet. We will also study about extreme weather conditions and how they affect people and localities.
- R.E.** **The Journey of Life and Death** - We will first complete our topic that

looks at attitudes, values and commitments towards life and death. Then the class will move on to **Christmas** and exploring the question 'How would Christians advertise Christmas?'

- Computing **Computing Skills** - skills will be enhanced with the class following a touch typing programme that will help them to word process at a quicker pace. They will also be learning to code with BBC micro:bit - a pocket-sized codeable computer. The children will consider issues relating to e-Safety, in particular they will be thinking about the SMART rules.
- P.S.H.E. **Celebrating Difference** - in this topic the class will consider the following: accepting that everyone is different; including others when working and playing; knowing how to help when someone is being bullied; trying to solve problems; trying to use kind words; and knowing how to give and receive compliments.
- French Madame Goalen will continue to deliver specialist teaching of French every Wednesday afternoon. "Ecoutez et repetez!"
- Art & Design Mrs Forsyth will continue to provide specialist teaching of art and design lessons.
- Music Mrs Le Prevost will continue to teach specialist music lessons. This half term the class will be completing our project on syncopated rhythms then move onto developing an appreciation of the contemporary music genre using just body percussion and sounds. Drawing on a piece created by a current UK composer as inspiration, we will be exploring how to use body percussion in canon form then adding vocal sounds and movement in order to create a group piece. This will develop our understanding of the importance of pulse to pull together musical sounds as well as the use of other musical elements to enhance our pieces, which we will video and watch back so that we can evaluate our work. We will also be rehearsing songs for our Christmas nativity.
- P.E. Year 6 shall spend their Tuesday morning lesson working with Ms McCrone this term learning the key skills for playing hockey. The class will cover dribbling, passing, control and possession techniques which shall filtrate into mini game situations, both possession based and match based. There shall be an element of team tactics and match play techniques taught. On Thursday's Year 6 shall start basketball with Mr Naughton. Here they shall learn to pass, send and receive effectively, movement in and out of space, marking techniques and then small sided games which shall then grow into competitive matches. Within these sessions, the children shall be encouraged to think tactically about their game play. They shall finish the term with two tag rugby sessions also. On alternate Tuesday mornings Y6 shall take part in Yoga with Ms McCrone. These sessions are designed to draw inner focus, confidence, both physical and mental strength as well as teaching the children tools to cope with anxiety in their busy lives. The sessions shall encourage individual and pair work to build friendships and fun.

**PE LESSONS FOR YEAR 6 WILL USUALLY TAKE PLACE TWICE A WEEK - EVERY MONDAY AFTERNOON AND EVERY THURSDAY AFTERNOON. PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD'S PE KIT AND TRAINERS FOR OUTDOORS ARE IN SCHOOL ON THESE DAYS AND LABELLED CLEARLY.**

### Home Learning

In Year 6 all children will usually be given three sets of main home learning to complete each week. We advise our children to spend no more than 40 minutes on each piece of main home learning and to let us know whether they found it too complicated or too easy at the end of the assignment. We expect all of our Year 6 children to complete their home learning independently but it would be beneficial for them to have it checked over for accurate punctuation, accurate calculations and neatness before it is handed in. Please comment if you have had to help significantly. Home learning is structured as followed:

**Wednesday:** English, Maths and Topic - all due in on the following Tuesday.

The children will continue to need support in organising and managing how they will complete their 3 pieces of home learning over the course of the week.

In addition to the main home learning Year 6 pupils will also be expected to conduct these:

- 1) Spellings - need to be learnt weekly, set every Monday for a test on Friday.
- 2) Times Tables - need to be rehearsed regularly for a test on Friday.
- 3) Mental Arithmetic - need to practise regularly for a test on Monday.
- 4) Guided Reading - tasks will be set on a designated day for completion **at home** and handed in for the following week's session with the teacher.

### Diary Dates

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2018 - Start of Autumn Term 2

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2018 - DT Day

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 6pm - Sayers Croft School Journey Parent Meeting

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2018 - The Crystal Trip

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 9.15am - Celebration Worship & Good Work Assembly

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2018 - Godly Play sessions at St. Mary's Church

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2018 - Sayers Croft Residential School Journey

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2017 - Progress in Learning Meetings 4-7pm

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 9.15am - Celebration Worship & Good Work Assembly

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at 2.30pm - FoSMS Christmas Fayre

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at 9.15am - Celebration Worship & Good Work Assembly

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at 1.45pm - Beauty and the Beast Pantomime

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at 9.45am - Christmas Service at St. Mary's Church

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018 - Christmas Jumper Day! Christmas Dinner!

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018 - Last Day of Term - school finishes 2.30pm!

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019 - INSET DAY (school closed to pupils)

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019 - Start of Spring Term 1

### Communication

If you have any queries about the daily routine or what your child is learning, or perhaps to inform us of other matters relating to your child, then do not hesitate to get in touch with any member of the Year 6 team. As always the best way to do this is through the use of your child's PACT - which as you now know has moved to an electronic e-mail system! The PACT e-mail is a great tool for communication between home and school, so please do not hesitate in using it. The address is:

[class6@st-marys-putney.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:class6@st-marys-putney.wandsworth.sch.uk)

Kindest regards,

Mr Lett and Ms O'Connell