



St. Mary's Church of England Primary School

Year 6: Half Termly Letter to Parents

Autumn 2, November 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn Term. I hope you had a lovely half term break. The class have come back full of enthusiasm and keen to work hard - I hope this continues! In light of all that is going on at the present time I am so impressed with the class and their attitude as Y6 School Leaders they really are super role models for younger children in the school.



The Curriculum

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

- English** Our **Power of Reading** text this half term will be a poetry anthology by **Grace Nichols 'Cosmic Disco'**. Described as a 'sparkling galaxy of new poems' this wonderful collection explores a range of themes vividly and beautifully expressed to create images and stir emotions that stay with the reader long after the book has been put down. The overall learning intentions for this teaching sequence are; to use art as a stimulus for writing, to use poetry for a stimulus for art, to explore how language and structural devices are used in poetry to create powerful responses and to explore ways in which we can use our voices, facial expressions and body language to perform poetry. Our whole class guided reading text is the contemporary novel **Cosmic by Frank Cottrell Boyce** the children will all have their own copy of this in class so we can read and explore it together! We will also have a weekly comprehension focus exploring five thinking and reasoning skills - literal thinking, deductive reasoning, inferential skills, evaluative assessment of texts and study skills which promote wider independent study. Grammar, punctuation and spelling will focus on; active and passive voice, adverbials, layout devices, tense choices and conjunctions.
- Maths** We continue with our Maths Mastery Power Maths approach which the children have responded to brilliantly. This half term we will be exploring:  
**Unit 3 - Four operations (2)** - common factors, common multiples, recognising prime numbers up to 100, squares and cubes, orders of operations, brackets, mental calculations and reasoning  
**Unit 4 - Fractions** - Simplifying fractions, fractions on a number line, comparing and ordering fractions, adding and subtracting fractions, multiplying and dividing fractions by fractions and whole numbers, calculating fractions of amounts and problem solving.  
**Unit 5 - Geometry** - Plotting coordinates in the first quadrant and then in all four quadrants, plotting translations and reflections and reasoning about shapes with coordinates

Topic (Geography)	Our new topic for this half term will be ' <b>What a Wonderful World</b> '. This is a Geography based topic within which 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 focus on developing knowledge and understanding of the world involving developing map skills, map reading and map drawing.
R.E.	We will complete our work on Liturgy and then the class will move on to focus on <b>Advent and Christmas</b> exploring the question ' <b>How would Christians advertise Christmas?</b> '
Computing	<b>Computing Skills</b> - We begin with the launch of our digital learning platform - Microsoft Teams - and setting up the Class 6 Team. Initially we will begin using the platform to set some home learning tasks so we all get used to the new systems and processes involved. We will then be finding out how to put together PowerPoint presentations in class and this will then become a focus for home learning later in the term! We will also be considering issues relating to <b>e-Safety</b> , in particular exploring <b>Online Safety</b> . The activities cover the following themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social networking</li> <li>• Online friendships</li> <li>• Sharing pictures and videos</li> <li>• Live streaming</li> <li>• Gaming</li> </ul>
P.S.H.E.	<b>Celebrating Difference</b> - 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 Claudine will continue to deliver specialist teaching of French every Wednesday afternoon. "Ecoutez et repetez!"
Art & Design	Mrs Adams will continue to provide specialist teaching of art and design lessons.
Music	This half term we will be completing our body percussion composition project from last half term. Then we will move onto our next project to link in with their class topic of 'What a Wonderful World' except that our musical world will be entirely mythical and based on make-believe creatures. We will be creating art-work, poetry and music inspired by a piece of orchestral music by a modern composer, using instruments to put together different musical motifs into a formal structure which will culminate in a performance.
P.E.	Year 6 will be participating in PE lessons every Monday morning and Tuesday afternoon led by our specialist PE coach, Ms Wolkowska. Our focus this term will be on:

**Basketball** - passing/defending/dribbling/marketing/safe tackling/drills to adapt pivot and passes and an introduction to shooting and scoring  
**Tag Rugby** - passing, receiving, defending and attacking skills /understanding the rules of the game/ effective passing, movement/change of direction and speed. Agility and speed are the key fitness components this half term!

CHILDREN ARE ASKED TO COME INTO SCHOOL IN ST. MARY'S TRACK SUITS WITH TRAINERS ON THESE DAYS .

Home Learning

This half term we will begin by setting one piece of home learning via Microsoft Teams - this will be either English or Geography based, information has been provided about this and support will be given if additional guidance is needed.

Mathletics will be set weekly **in addition to** an Arithmetic test which will be sent home (paper format) on Friday to be handed back in on the following Wednesday.

The children will continue to need support in organising and managing how they will complete their home learning over the course of the week however I would like the children to try to navigate the digital learning platform more and more independently as the term goes on.

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. 100 Club sheets have been sent to parents to use at home to aid fluency and speed!
- 4) Reading - children should be reading daily. Parents have been sent home information regarding Top 100 books to read before leaving Primary school

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 email. 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:

[class2014a@st-marys-putney.wandsworth.sch.uk](mailto:class2014a@st-marys-putney.wandsworth.sch.uk)

I look forward to meeting (virtually!) with you in the up and coming Progress in Learning Meetings (18<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> November) in the meantime wishing you all well and kindest regards,

Mrs Bishop  
Y6 Class Teacher

Miss Overton  
Y6 Teaching Assistant