



## Year 6 Curriculum Information Autumn Term 2017

### English

During English lessons, we will study a variety of genres of writing. This term, these will include adventure stories and stories including historical settings. We will also be studying Shakespeare's Hamlet during which time, we will be attending a performance specifically designed for children. In our non-fiction writing, we shall be writing biographies.

Grammar teaching will take place within the context of writing lessons; spellings will be taught 3 times a week and reading teaching will occur daily as an integral part of our curriculum. In Reading, we will focus on retrieving information, inference skills and understanding word meaning. Strategies will be taught to extend written and verbal responses when justifying ideas about a text.

**Library time: Friday**

### Mathematics

Initially, we will focus on arithmetic skills, including formal written methods such as short and long division/multiplication. We will use estimation to increase accuracy of these calculations. While developing our understanding of multiplication, we will investigate factors, prime and square numbers. To consolidate knowledge and understanding of place value, we will be rounding; ordering positive and negative numbers in context and identifying the value of digits in whole numbers and decimals. In all areas of our mathematics we will be using our reasoning skills to solve problems.

Later in the term, we will develop understanding of area and perimeter in our shape work; mean, median and mode in our data handling lessons and reading and converting scales and imperial and metric conversions in our measurement topic.

### Science

Our topics this term are 'Living Things and their Habitats' as well as 'Inheritance and Evolution'. Children will learn what evolution is and how it occurs, what factors may affect it and how evolution influences the natural world and vice versa.

### Humanities

During this term, our History topic will centre around the Mayan Civilisation as a non-European society study. We will be considering how faith shaped the lives of the Mayans and linking our learning to sculpture in Art. We will think about Mayan architecture and past times and consider how the beliefs of ancient Mayans have shaped modern Mexican culture as well as investigating the influence of geographical features on historical settlements.

### Art and Design & Technology

At the start of the term, we will be working on our Take One Picture painting (Penelope and the Suitors by Pintoricchio) and using this as a stimulus for both art and other curriculum areas. Following this, we will use carving techniques to recreate Mayan sculptures and consider the importance of symbolism in Art and society.

### **Information, Communication and Technology (ICT)**

The main focus of Computing will be the development of coding (programming) skills and knowledge. Children will learn to write their own procedures and debug programmes. We will be using iPads and laptops for research using the internet and for programmes such as Word and Publisher to present and display documents. E-safety discussions will be ongoing, with an emphasis on cyberbullying and protecting ourselves online.

### **Physical Education (PE)**

Outdoor PE will place an importance on developing skills and tactics within competitive team sports with a focus this term on hockey and netball. Indoor PE will refine skills of rhythm, movement and transitions in dance and gymnastics. Children must remove earrings before each PE session, for health and safety reasons.

#### **PE times:**

Chestnut PE days are Tuesday (outdoor) and Friday (indoor)

Oak PE days are Tuesday (outdoor) and Thursday (indoor)

Sycamore PE days are Tuesday (outdoor) and Friday (indoor)

Children should have PE kit in school every day.

### **Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) & Philosophy**

We will focus on health and nutrition and how the health service can help to maintain a healthy lifestyle. We will discuss the concept of assertiveness and accepting our part in conflict as well as communication in relationships, which will include online safety. Our discussions will also focus on relevant global topics as well as the values for this term, which are Respect and Friendship.

### **Religious Education (RE)**

The topics are Buddhism - 'What is important in this religion?' and Judaism - 'Understanding how and why Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are celebrated'.

### **Spanish**

In Spanish we will be learning to use verbs in the context of sports and hobbies. We shall also be researching Christmas customs in Spanish speaking countries in the second half term.

### **Music**

We will be developing our singing voices and our understanding of rhythm and beat in the coming term with an extra focus on theoretical knowledge and understanding of how pieces of music are structured.

### **How can you help us?**

Please ensure that your child is in school and punctual at all times (excluding when they are ill) as any time missed will affect your child's learning.

Children should be reading regularly – at a minimum four times a week for 20 minutes - and it would very much help them if you were to discuss their reading with them. Maybe try reading the same news article and sharing opinions about it. Please ensure that your child is completing their reading journal regularly and bringing it in every day. It should be signed by a parent at least once a week.

If your child is anxious about tests or transitions, please let us know if we are able to help. We try to ensure that learning, not testing, is the focus of this year and hope that you will support us in this.