



St. Peter's C of E (V C) Primary School

Sible Hedingham, Halstead, Essex, CO9 3NR

Head: Miss J Harper MA
Tel: (01787) 460362
Fax: (01787) 461657
Email: admin@st-peters.essex.sch.uk

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you all had a fantastic summer holiday and I am sure you are all ready to start the new school year. I am looking forward to getting to know you and working together so that we have a very exciting and productive year. I hope that your child enjoys the new challenges and approaches to learning that Year 6 has to offer!

As you are aware, Year 6 is an extremely important year as your child concludes their learning in KS2. Over the coming year it is vital that we work closely together to help ensure that your child reaches their full potential and becomes 'secondary ready'. Our learning will be split into three termly topics designed to engage, motivate and enthuse children into learning key skills outlined in the National Curriculum.

The theme for the Autumn term is ***Extreme Earth!*** This topic will be separated into two parts. The first will focus on the extreme conditions of Earth, including natural disasters. The second part will focus on extreme issues on Earth providing children with an opportunity to explore issues that we face on our planet, conflicts and important current affairs from around the globe.

In **English** we will begin by creating recounts and fictional writing about being trapped in an extreme location. We will focus on survival and explore what it would be like to spend a night in the Arctic or Sahara desert. Later in our topic, we will focus on natural disasters and create explanation texts, information texts and reports. Combining all of our learning from the first half term, we will write our own disaster story focusing on a chosen natural disaster.

After half-term we will be focusing on extreme issues and conflicts on Earth. This will involve a Shakespeare study on 'Romeo and Juliet' about the conflicts between the Capulet and Montague family. Bringing this to the present day, we will focus on a range of conflicts from around the world. We will also explore extreme issues on our planet such as global warming, deforestation, homelessness and war. These will all inspire a variety of different writing types and will allow us to develop our skills in creating verbal and written balanced arguments.

Throughout our writing topics outlined above children will be developing their discrete literacy skills in grammar, punctuation and spelling. Regular guided reading sessions will also allow your child to develop their comprehension and inference skills and ability to study a text in greater depth.

In **Maths** we will be having a heavy number focus this term. In order for children to become competent and confident mathematicians children need to have a firm understanding of number. We will begin our learning with focus on number and place value. Children will learn to: read, write, order and compare numbers up to 10,000,000 and determine the value of each digit; round any number to a required degree of accuracy; use negative number in context; and solve number and practical problems. Following this, children will learn to use all four operations to calculate both mentally and using written methods. A heavy focus will also be placed on fractions this term including: comparing and ordering fractions; adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing fractions and recalling and using equivalences between simple fractions, decimals and

percentages. Throughout our math's learning children will have the opportunity to improve their number fluency, their ability to reason mathematically and solve problems.

In **Science** we will be exploring our 'extreme' bodies. This will involve studying our circulatory system. This unit considers life processes that are internal to the body, such as the circulatory system, part of the digestive system and how they transport fluids around the body. The impact of lifestyles on bodies, particularly of humans, is also explored.

After half term, we will take a closer look at the animal kingdom. We will explore the huge variety of living organisms around the globe and how many of these have adapted in order to live in extreme conditions.

In **Computing** we will begin by learning to become computer coders. We will explore more complex algorithms and generate a series of computational instructions to create a variety of different computer programs and games.

We will also explore the purpose of an 'app'. In groups we will come up with our own idea for an app and begin to research ways to make this interesting and accessible for our target audience.

In **Geography** we will be exploring the extreme conditions of our planet. We will look at the climate of our planet and the extreme weather conditions that can be experienced around the globe. In addition to this, we will explore volcanos and earthquakes and the devastation that they can cause for inhabitants.

In **Art and Design** we will be using the famous artwork 'The Great Wave Off Kanagawa' by Hokusai as inspiration for our own 'Great Wave' piece of art using block print.



In **Design and Technology** we will explore building structure. What makes a strong and secure building? During this mini-project children will work together in groups to try and build a structure that will withstand the forces of an earthquake.

In **Music** we will be listening to the work of Gustav Holst (1874-1934).

In **R.E.** we will begin with exploring the key questions: What is the best way for a Muslim to show commitment to God?

After half term, we will explore the key question: How significant is it that Mary was Jesus' mother?

P.E. will take place on a Thursday afternoon, so please ensure that the correct P.E. kit is in school. P.E. will be taught by Mrs Stopps. Alternative P.E. sessions may occur throughout the term so kits should remain in school at all times.

Homework

Your child will be given a reading record in order to record their reading both at home and at school. We ask that your child reads every night. In Year 6 we encourage your child to become independent in their learning outside of school and we therefore encourage children to sign their own reading record each night after reading. We will check your child's reading log on a daily basis to ensure that they are reading regularly and reflecting upon the books that they read.

In addition to daily reading, your child will have regular homework activities set in relation to our learning in school. Each week your child will have spelling homework which will be covering our weekly spelling objectives in class. Your child will be encouraged to explore each of these words in greater depth, finding out their definition, origin and putting them all into their own sentences.

Each week your child will also have tasks set on MyMaths.co.uk. These will be set in relation to our classroom learning or as pre-teach activities for upcoming objectives. This year, we also have access to an online Maths revision website through Rising Stars. Your child will receive a username and password for this and will be encouraged to use this regularly to support classroom learning.

Throughout the year, children will also receive projects to complete at home as well as some additional homework activities to help consolidate learning from school. These could be reading comprehension, grammar, punctuation or writing activities.

Children will be encouraged to take great pride over their homework and make sure that all of their out-of-class learning is presented in a neat and tidy fashion.

Year 6 homework grid

Reading	Spellings	Maths	Topic	Additional
Try to read every night and sign your reading record!	Weekly spellings. Lists will go home on a Friday. Spelling tests will be every Thursday.	'MyMaths' or 'Achieve online' activities will be set every week on a Friday. Keep practising your times tables regularly!	Every half-term a project will be set focusing on research and creative skills.	Sometimes additional homework will be sent home in a general homework folder. This could be focusing on reading comprehension, grammar, punctuation or maths.

General reminders

Please ensure that your child has a water bottle in school. It is important that your child keeps hydrated throughout the day so that their mind stays active and ready to learn!

As highlighted previously, we encourage all children to become independent learners and in charge of their own organisation between home and school. Please can children bring their own pencil case and maths set to school for use in lessons.

Please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see me after school if you have any questions, worries or concerns!

Mr. Hancock
(Class Teacher)