

# Year 6 Autumn Newsletter

Welcome back to a new school year. We hope you all had a very enjoyable and relaxing holiday.

Thank you for your support in making the beginning of the school year run so smoothly and calmly. The children have settled in well and are keen and eager to learn!

## English

Much of our English work in Year 6 is linked to our topics. Our first topic this term is the 'Victorians' and we will use this fascinating area of history as a basis for our writing. Therefore our whole class reading books this term will be 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty and 'Oliver Twist' by Charles Dickens. Throughout the year, there will be a huge focus on spelling, punctuation and grammar, the children will be expected to apply their learning across all curriculum areas, including their homework. Spellings will be given out every Monday and the children will be tested on a Friday.

In reading we will focus on how to make deductions from our reading beyond what is simply written in black and white. To help your child with their reading at home there are some things you can do.

- Hear your child read as often as possible.
- Talk about the text with them. What is happening and why?
- Help your child to make meaningful comments giving their opinion on what they have read.
- Do skimming and scanning exercises. Choose two pages and make up a couple of questions. Then encourage your child to scan through looking for key words that might help find the answer.

## RE

St. Paul's R.C Primary continues to follow the RE scheme, 'Come and See'. The three topics that the children will be learning about this term are:

- Loving

- Vocation and Commitment

- Expectations

A copy of the Diocesan parents' leaflet with extra information will be sent home soon.

## Maths

In Mathematics, the children will develop and build upon their skills from Y5.

We will be exploring place value, and we will be moving onto standard written methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Later in the term we will focus on ratio and proportion, algebra and fractions, decimals and percentages.

The children will also continue to learn their multiplication tables up to 12 x 12 and related division facts. As always children are encouraged to practice their times tables and other skills such as telling the time at home regularly. Pupils may wish to practise their skills using the following web links:

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/maths/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/maths>

<http://www.timestables.me.uk/>

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/>

Weekly homework will ensure that the pupils consolidate and reinforce their learning within mathematics.



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**Daily Checklist: Water bottles, reading book, homework diary.**

## Science

This term the children will be learning about 'Animals including humans,' where the children will be exploring the circulatory system, the effect of exercise on pulse rate, healthy bodies and staying healthy. Later in the term they will be learning about 'Electricity'.

## Geography / History

In history this term we will be exploring life in Victorian Britain. Through this topic the children will also learn more about the industrial revolution, railways, mining and famous Victorians. This is a fantastic topic which is always thoroughly enjoyed by the pupils.

## French

The children will continue to have a weekly French lesson, where they will learn more about the French language and culture.

## Computing

The children will start with an exciting unit this term on developing their programming skills.

## Homework Diary

The children have a diary to encourage them to become more independent and responsible for their homework. Within this children should record their given homework and make daily comments from their independent reading. Each week they will ask a parent/other adult to sign their diary to confirm they have read independently and completed any homework. If you would like to make any other comment about their reading or homework, please feel free to do so in the diary. Their diary will be checked each week so that this home/school partnership is developed. Of course, if you would like to discuss anything in detail, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Thank you for your continued support.**

*Miss Wilberforce*

## Art & DT

In art lessons, the children will be exploring the work of many famous Victorian artists including William Morris, Charles Rennie Mackintosh and Turner.

In DT children will be learning about structures and designing bridges linked to the work of the Victorian engineer Isambard Kingdom Brunel.

## Music

We are very lucky to have Mr Harbisher from Tees Valley Music to teach us music this term. We will be learning to play the recorder as well as learning lots of Victorian songs linked to our topic.

## PE

Class 6 will have their P.E sessions each **Wednesday afternoon** with Miss Wilberforce and each **Friday morning** with Mr. Sheehan. Please make sure your child has their P.E kit on these days and that it is clearly labelled with their name. This term the children will be developing their indoor athletics and dance skills while also exploring invasion games.

