

## General Information

### Visits:

- We will be having a visit from ZooLab and will take part in a workshop all about Charles Darwin

### Key Dates for your Diary:

- WC 13/11/17 Anti-Bullying week
  - Friday 17th November Children in Need
- \*Please note new day and time for Family Assemblies*

### PE

- No jewellery can be worn for PE.
- Appropriate PE kits need to be brought to school on Mondays and taken home on Fridays.

### Homework

- Homework will continue to be set on a daily basis and will be maths focused to begin with.
- We will be looking to incorporate SPAG homework later on in the year.
- It is expected that all children are reading on a daily basis, and recording this in their Home/School Reading Journal. Tasks will be need to be completed according to the reading challenge that your child is following.

*It is important to complete homework tasks as they reinforce classroom learning.*

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## Mallard Primary School



# Year 6 Curriculum Newsletter Theme 2

# CLASSIFIED



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### **Theme – Classified!**

*Where did we come from? Where are we going?*

*What did our ancestors look like? How do we know?*

*What skills and abilities do we have, that have enabled us to survive against the odds?*

*Have you ever wondered why an elephant has tusks, or where all the polar bears are going? Do you know what makes a bird a bird, or a mammal a mammal?*

*Join us, in a journey of discovery, from the age of the dinosaurs, to today and beyond. Get to grips with Charles Darwin, the 19th century naturalist, whose name will be forever synonymous with evolution!*

### **English**

#### **Fiction**

*We will be reading Journey to the River Sea by Eva Ibbotson.*

*“It is 1910 and Maia, tragically orphaned at thirteen, has been sent from England to start a new life with distant relatives in Manaus, hundreds of miles up the Amazon. She is accompanied by an eccentric and mysterious governess who has secret reasons of her own for making the journey. Both soon discover an exotic world bursting with new experiences.”*

#### **Non-Fiction**

*We will be exploring non-fiction texts, encyclopaedias and websites to find out about the lives and achievements of the famous naturalists of the past.*

*We will be learning all about the features of these non-fiction texts and will be recreating them through the use of ICT.*

### **Maths**

*Our main areas of focus will be fractions and we will study each of the areas within a problem solving context:*

- *Use common factors to simplify fractions; use common multiples to express fractions in the same denomination.*
- *Compare and order fractions, including fractions  $> 1$*
- *Generate and describe linear number sequences (with fractions)*
- *Add and subtract fractions with different denominations and mixed numbers, using the concept of equivalent fractions.*
- *Multiply simple pairs of proper fractions, writing the answer*

### **Scientific and technological understanding**

*We will:*

- *Develop our abilities to work scientifically; planning, questioning, reporting, presenting and predicting using appropriate scientific vocabulary and approaches.*
- *Identify how animals and plants have evolved over time to be better adapted for their environment.*
- *Work scientifically to classify plants and animals using specific characteristics to differentiate between them..*

### **Historical, geographical and social understanding**

*Our main learning area will be to understand:*

- *The geographical similarities and differences through the study of human and physical geography of a region within South America.*
- *The life and times of Charles Darwin, his discoveries and publications surrounding ‘Natural Selection’ and his contribution to scientific understanding of how evolution occurs.*

### **Understanding the Arts:**

*We will:*

- *Use sketch books to record observations of the plant and animal kingdoms, in the style of Charles Darwin, and use them to review and revisit ideas.*
- *Improve our mastery of art and design techniques, including drawing, painting and sculpture with a range of materials.*

### **Understanding Physical development:**

*We will:*

- *Take part in invasion games and gymnastics.*
- *Understand the effect of exercise on the human body.*

### **Health and Wellbeing: Celebrating Difference**

*We will:*

- *Empathise with people living with disabilities.*
- *Explore the meaning of prejudice*
- *Appreciate people for who they are*

### **Religious Education: Christianity**

- *Do sacred texts have to be ‘true’ to help people understand their religion?*

### **How you can help**

#### **Children:**

- *Learn your times tables; from your twos to your twelves!*
- *Read for pleasure: expand your knowledge; spark your imagination; increase your confidence and jump start your ideas for writing.*

#### **Parents:**

- *Regular practise of the times tables is key to their mathematics as it helps increase confidence and speed for calculations. Please could you encourage and support your child to practise these.*
- *Your child is following the Mallard Reading Challenge and will be awarded a wrist band and certificate when they complete each stage. Reading with your child will increase their vocabulary, imagination, knowledge of authors and styles as well as improving their own writing. It is as important to ask your child about their book.*
- *Encourage independence! The support you give your child is appreciated but through encouraging independence they will become more resilient and successful as learners; ready for their progression to secondary school.*

#### **Learning websites:**

<https://www.myminimaths.co.uk>  
<http://resources.woodlandsjunior.kent.sch.uk/>  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/>  
<http://barclayscodeplayground.co.uk/>  
<http://www.transum.org/Software/>