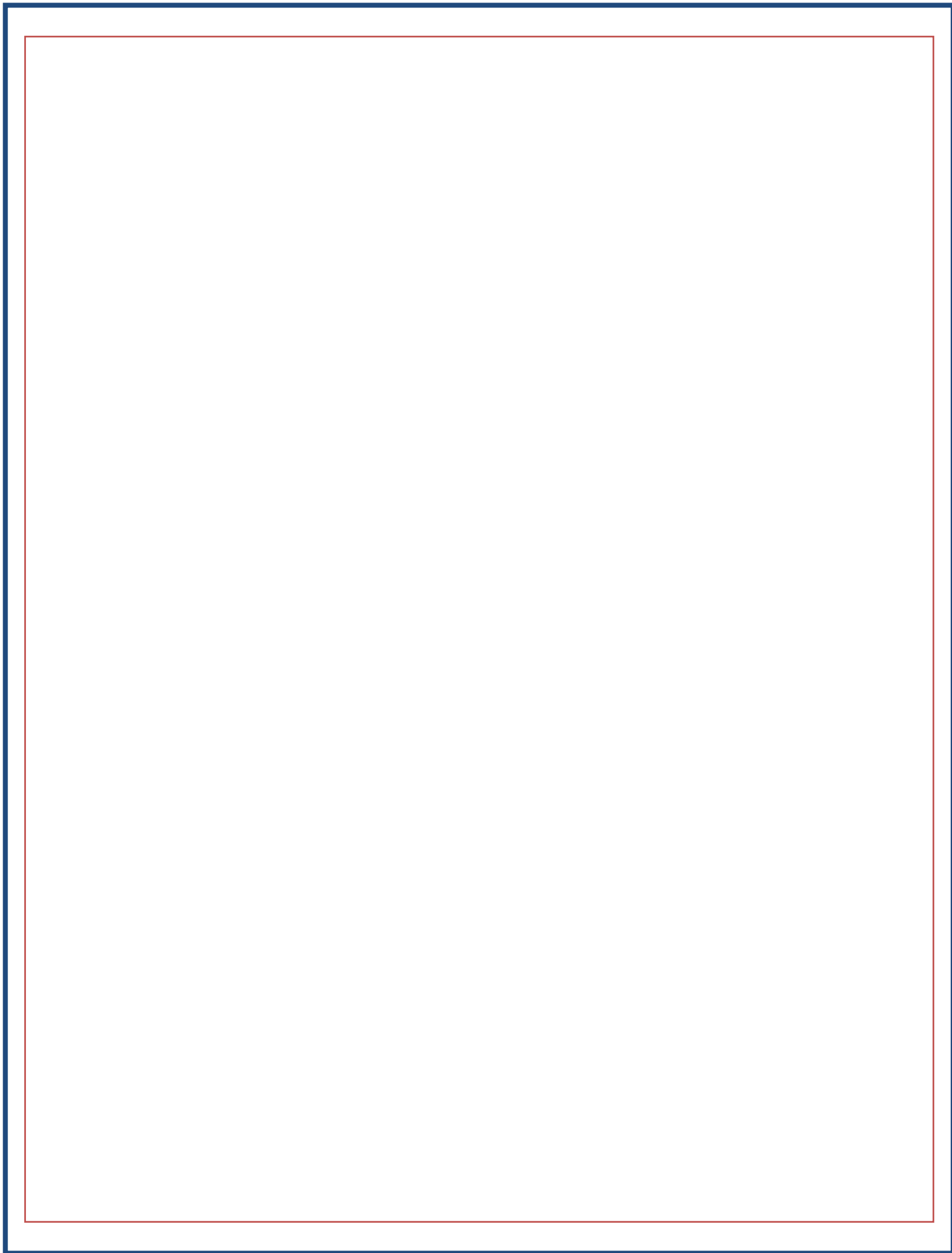


Cheddington Combined School



Outline of Spring Term
2018/2019

Year 6



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to this New Year; I hope you had a relaxing holiday!

Year 6 is an extremely busy year and I feel that we have lots of exciting learning to fit in to such a short period of time.

As far as the curriculum is concerned we need to cover and revise much of the English and Maths curriculum before the SATs in May, which all children sit nationally, whilst also keeping our broad and engaging study of other subjects.

English

In English we will be writing using *Street Child* by Berlie Doherty as our inspiration, set in the Industrial Revolution. We will also learn about the work of Charles Dickens and write across a range of genres.

In reading we will be developing comprehension skills (especially inference and identifying the impact of the writers' choices). We will continue to develop our understanding of spelling, punctuation and grammar with regular spelling tests and lessons learning about the correct use and understanding of grammar.

Mathematics

In Mathematics we will be covering decimals, percentages, algebra, measurement and geometry and statistics. As mentioned, **it is imperative that children are secure on their times tables in Year 6**, and we would encourage you to practise these as much as possible with your child if they are less confident. Times Tables Rock Stars should be used regularly to help develop the children's fluency with their tables. If you require any help then please let us know.

Science

We will start the Spring Term participating in Science Oxford's 'Big Science Event' where pupils will plan and conduct their own investigations which will be written up in the form of a poster and presented to the class. A class winner will be selected to go forward to judging by an external Science Oxford Stem Ambassador judge. We will also participate in the RSPB's 'Big School's Bird Watch' in January. Two additional units will be covered this term: Evolution and Inheritance and Electricity. In Evolution we will look at the work of Charles Darwin and adaptations of species. We will be visiting Waddesdon Manor's Aviaries to learn about their conservation in action and rare species breeding program. In Electricity we will learn to build working circuits and how to identify electrical component symbols and use them to draw circuit diagrams.

History

In History we will study the Industrial Revolution as a turning point in the History of Britain. We will consider the impact of these changes at both a local and national level and learn about some of the technological changes that created this period of change and upheaval.

We will also learn about the reign of Queen Victoria.

Geography

Our work in Geography will focus on mapping skills and we will devise simple maps with keys to locate the world's countries. We will also name and locate the counties and cities of the United Kingdom, as we learn more about The Industrial Revolution.

Design Technology

In DT we will be focusing on 'frame structures', designing, making, testing and evaluating kites.

PE/Games

We will be concentrating on Dance, using working machinery as our inspiration, as well as Multi-Skills, Netball and Basketball including Invasion Games. Please make sure that your child has the **correct** kit with them for a PE lesson. PE will take place on Tuesdays (indoor) and Fridays (outdoor).

I would like to remind you that during PE, for safety reasons, long hair must be tied back and earrings should not be worn. However, if your child cannot remove their own earrings, please supply plasters or tape to cover them up. No jewellery is permitted in school except for a watch and plain stud earrings. Please note that aerosol sprays are not permitted in school.

Music

In Music we will be looking at exploring a range of music from the 18th and 19th centuries from work songs to music hall.

RE

In RE we will be considering the question 'How can what we experience influence our beliefs?'

Art

In Art we will be drawing profile silhouettes and making 3D cameos inspired by the Victorian Era.

IT

This term we are concentrating on research based project work. We will learn about using AND, OR and NOT to perform advanced internet searches. We are also using MyMaths to support our work in maths.

Modern Foreign Languages

Our French this term will be based around vocabulary describing the house and home.

Philosophy for Children (P4C)

Philosophy for Children is studied across many primary schools and is becoming more and more popular. It develops independent thinking and questioning skills and allows children the chance to discuss ideas in an informal situation. This is a most valuable life skill for the children to develop and aids learning in other areas.

There is a great deal to cover in the curriculum in Year 6. However, it is also an important year in which to prepare the children for life at secondary school. In order to prepare them as well as possible, we will be continuing to encourage the children to take responsibility for remembering equipment, homework and handing things in on time. Keeping to deadlines and managing homework is probably one of the things that can be the most difficult to deal with when starting secondary school, and we strongly believe that starting off with a set routine in Year 6 is important to help them in the transition to Year 7.

Homework

For this term Year 6 will get the following amount of homework a week:

- 1 piece of English.
- 1 piece of Maths.
- We have invested in CPG homework books for maths, reading and grammar. 1 test should be completed for each, weekly.
- 30 minute activity which may be research or a project over a longer period.
- Reading to an adult for at least fifteen minutes three times weekly.
- Practise spellings and times tables (using Times Tables Rock Stars) during the week.

I am sure that you will understand that this is only a guide and depending on the week, alterations may be made! All homework will be recorded by children in their planners and we ask Parents to **sign planners weekly** to indicate they have seen them ready for **Monday morning**.

Homework that is not completed will incur sanctions, as we continue to prepare Year 6 for their transition to Secondary School in September. We are encouraging them to take more responsibility for their personal organisation and homework tasks.

We appreciate the majority of children are confident in reading by the time they get to Year 6, but it is still important that they read out loud to an adult and spend time discussing the book. The depth of comprehension that children need to be able to use involves complex inference and deduction skills along with being able to pick out specific evidence from the text and commenting on how the author has used specific words for effect. These are skills that we try to develop in Year 6, and we encourage parents to help as well, thus ensuring maximum help for your child. If your child is continually reading a specific author or style of books, please encourage them to read a wider variety, as this not only helps to develop their reading skills, but hugely improves their writing development and vocabulary skills.

Each child is expected to provide their own equipment needed for a lesson (again, vital for secondary school), so please ensure that they have the correct equipment required in school; handwriting pen (blue ink), pencils, coloured pencils, ruler, glue stick, reading book, planner, PE kit, water bottle. With our behaviour policy we will keep a note of forgotten PE kit and equipment and send notes home.

Please do feel free to contact us if any issues should arise. We would much prefer to deal with a problem at the time, rather than letting it escalate. If your child does have a worry, please would you encourage **them** to talk to one of us or any adult at school as soon as possible, as dealing with situations straight away is usually much better for all concerned.

We are looking forward to another exciting term of learning and discovery in Year 6.

Mrs Van de Linde, Mrs Hughes, Mrs Webber, Mrs Knight and Mrs Dryburgh.

