

Autumn Term Class Newsletter Mrs Cruickshank's class.

A note from Mrs Cruickshank.

It has been wonderful welcoming the children to the new school year in year 6. All children have started the year being ready, respectful and safe and I'm hoping this continues as we progress into the year; I'm excited for the year ahead. We have a busy term over the next few weeks, we are starting the OPAL scheme on the playground (which involves lots of new and exciting equipment), Y6s will lead the Remembrance Service and every child in class will take part in leading the Christmas Service at church. In October, we will have Money Mentors back in delivering lessons about being smart with money in everyday scenarios. I am available to message on Dojo if you ever have any questions.

English

In English this term we will be reading 'The Story of Tutankhamen' by Patricia Cleveland-Peck and 'Secrets of a Sun King' by Emma Carroll – which will also be our class read.

We are reading... following the 'Secrets of a Sun King' we will move on to read Room 13 by Robert Swindells. If the children have any of these books at home, they are welcome to bring them in to read alongside the class.

Maths

In maths we will be focusing on place value to start with: reading, ordering and comparing numbers to 10,000,000, negative numbers, rounding numbers and numbers on number lines. We will then move on to written calculations for the four operations.

Time is of the essence, please continue to ask your child the time on an analogue clock as well as digital.

Science

This term, we will be focusing on space and why the Moon appears to change shape: describing the movement of the Moon relative to Earth.

We will also look at properties of shape, looking at: hardness, solubility, transparency and conductivity. Living things and their habitats will then be our next unit. Here we will describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird.

History

In history, we will study Ancient Egyptians, linking nicely to our English books. We will look at the main events of the Egyptians, the society they lived in, what artefacts found teach us about their lifestyle and their beliefs.

Ancient Greeks will be our next history unit in which we will study their main events and location and what artefacts tell us about their culture, pastimes and society.

Geography

This term in geography, we will be studying how to use maps, learning the features of a map and how to find and read four and six figure grid references.

We will then move on to look at biomes and climate zones. Studying their physical features and the human processes that are involved.

Other curriculum information:

Homework

Homework will be given out each Friday and should be returned by the following Thursday. Homework will always be linked to something we are studying in class. Homework is **compulsory** for Y6.

Home Reading

Please listen to your child read at least **three** times per week for 15 minutes and record it in their school diary. Diaries must be signed by an adult after each read and need to be in school every **Wednesday** to be checked by Mr Yorke.

IT Rock stars and Spelling tests.

Children are expected to complete **20 minutes** of TTRS which will be set each week.

Spellings will be given out every Thursday for a spelling test the following **Thursday** and will follow the rule we have been learning in class.

Other curriculum information

Skills Builder- The first skill we will focus on is 'teamwork' and the second will be 'aiming high'.

Art and Design- This term, we will be developing our drawing and sculpture skills in the style of Robert McCall/Lucien Rudaux/Chelsey Bonestel. The finish piece will be a sculpture of an existing planet. Our design and technology topic this term will be looking at mechanisms and creating pop-up books.

Computing – Throughout the year we will complete Online Safety lessons, alongside that this term we will study stop motion animations in creating media and then search engines in computer systems and networks.

PSHE – We will discuss how to manage risks and living in the wider world. We will also have a Money Mentors session.

PE- Our first unit in PE will be basketball, followed by dance. PE is on a **Friday**- children are to come in their full kit.

RE – During the first half term, we will explore where why and how Hindus worship and in the second half term we will study incarnation, 'Was Jesus the Messiah?'

Music- This term, our units of work are called 'Classroom Jazz' and 'Happy' by Pharrell Williams. We will continue to learn the technique of improvising and use glockenspiels to learn how play a variety of notes, whilst considering the tempo, melody, rhythm and pitch of each song.

French- This term, our units of work are called 'Bon appetit, bonne sante' (healthy eating) and 'Les Planetes' (the planets).