

Autumn 1 Newsletter

Year 6

Well done to everybody for a great start to Year 6. The children are settling into the classroom routines very well and we are looking forward to an exciting year ahead.

Y6 Staff

The Year 6 class teachers are Mrs Wade (Elder class), Mr Holder (Chestnut class), with Mr Naylor teaching the third group for Maths and English. During the morning lessons, we are supported by Mrs Firth and Ms Henry. Ms Reddish and Ms Henry teach the children on Thursdays for French, PE and RE.

Organisation

We will use the children's planners every day to share news with you such as house points received as well as homework and messages. Please sign the planner at the end of each week to say that you have checked it. In Year 6, children still need to be reading at home every day and noting down the pages they have read. Please continue to sign your child's planner when a book has been read or is finished and to let us know how you think they're getting on.

English

In English we will be concentrating on stories of adventurers and explorers linked to our Mountains and Volcanoes topic. Our main text, an abridged version of 'Journey to the Centre of the Earth' by Jules Verne, will be used to develop our narrative writing skills. As always, there will be a big focus on reading skills throughout the year and we will use our class novels, along with relevant non-fiction texts and text extracts, to support our children's development. Each child will get a reading book which must be taken home to read and brought back to school each day.

Maths

Our focus this term will be to secure the children's understanding of place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will be teaching the children to use formal written methods for each type of calculation. The children find Times Table Rockstars a particularly fun and engaging way of practising their times tables, and the improvements in school since using this site have been noticeable. As part of their home learning, please encourage your child to use Times Table Rockstars regularly.

Science

Our science lessons will focus on the classification of living things. We will be describing how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics. As well as this, pupils will focus on the enquiry skill of research to answer the question, 'Are all micro-organisms harmful?'

French

The children will be developing their language around family, including asking questions about their family members.

Geography

This half-term our topic is Mountains and Volcanoes. We will be learning about the physical features of volcanoes and mountains and understanding how they are formed. As well as this, we will be using maps and atlases to locate them around the world and will study the structure of the Earth (including tectonic plates) so that the children understand why mountains and volcanoes are found in certain areas. During our residential, we will take part in some fieldwork, collecting data on how temperature varies at different altitudes and we will practise our navigation skills using compasses.

History

As part of our History learning, pupils will research Cartimandua, a queen of the Celts during Roman Britain. Her tribe, the Brigantes, held the largest territory in Britain and it is even believed the remains of her tribe's hill fort can still be seen on Ingleborough today. We will then compare and contrast Cartimandua with the more well-known queen of that time, Boudicca, with pupils engaging in a debate about who they feel was the more effective leader.

PE

Year 6 have PE on Tuesday and Thursday. They will need a plain white, round-neck t-shirt, blue school shorts or blue jogging bottoms, black or royal blue leggings or skins, and trainers or pumps. Jewellery, including earrings, must not be worn during PE lessons. Please ensure that PE kits and school uniform are clearly labelled with the children's name and class. Please remind your child to take their kit home for washing every Friday and return them to school on a Monday morning.

Ingleborough Hall Residential

We are delighted to have started the year with another fantastic visit to Ingleborough Hall. We are sure that the teamwork and co-operation skills developed over the three days will greatly benefit the children with the challenges of Year 6. We look forward to applying our experiences to curriculum areas including English, Geography, History and Science.

Uniform

Please make sure that your child is wearing the correct school uniform. This means a white t-shirt, a school jumper with the school logo, grey or black trousers, shorts or skirt, with predominantly black or grey shoes. As we will be using the school grounds for outdoor learning as much as possible, please ensure your child has a pair of trainers or pumps to change into as part of their PE kit.

Attendance

The last year at primary school is very important and good attendance is crucial to your child's success in Year 6. It is also important for children to arrive at school on time. Certificates and prizes are awarded throughout the year to the children meeting or exceeding school's 97% attendance target.

We are looking forward to a successful and enjoyable year. Thank you for all your support so far.

The Year 6 staff team: Mrs Wade, Mr Holder, Mr Naylor, Mrs Firth and Ms Henry