

Year 6 Newsletter –

Spring Term

What we have been learning this term:

English - This term's focus has been on narrative features which we have explored and applied when writing our own final pieces in response to the texts 'The Arrival' and 'The Promise'. We have made curriculum links to develop our own Science learning and write a discussion text based on the book "Can We Save the Tiger?"

Reading – We have studied The Explorer by Katherine Rundell by reading chapters aloud through echo reading and during an extended read. We answered questions across the text using our reading skills such as retrieval, inference and vocabulary questions. We then applied the same skills when looking at the book Greta's Story.

Maths – We have developed our number knowledge with the place value of whole numbers up to 10 million by comparing numbers and putting them in order. We have learnt the formal written methods for addition, subtraction, division, and multiplication as well as trying to find more efficient mental strategies where it is more appropriate. We have also been learning about common factors, common multiples, rules of divisibility and prime and square numbers to 100. In the last couple of weeks of term, our focus has moved to fractions.

Science – We have recapped our learning about life cycles from year 5 and explored in greater detail their similarities and differences. We looked at a range of everyday materials based on their properties (e.g., hardness, solubility, and conductivity) and identified reasons for similarities and differences. We learnt in what ways the earth moves (rotates, revolves and orbits) and why there is a night and day on Earth. Finally, we investigated whether the size of a parachute would affect air resistance.

Art – We have taken inspiration from Leonardo da Vinci's sketches to create form and capture movement and emotions when drawing a human hand. We have used a range of materials – a variety of pencil grades, charcoal, ink- and employed different skills and techniques and made deliberate choices to create our final pieces. We then self-evaluated our own work using critical vocabulary to compare with the Renaissance artist.

History – We have been exploring the Roman era. We have used a range of sources to learn about their army, their invasion of Britain and what tactics they used which led to their success. We have also explored the motivations of Boudicca and why she is significant.

Geography – We have been learning about tourism in general, eco-tourism, and researched costa tourism in Asia.

PSHE – We have been learning about how to keep safe, protect ourselves and why permission seeking is important in relationships. We have learnt how to recognise if a diabetic has low blood sugar and know what to do. We have explored and discussed how to keep ourselves healthy through the Early Life Lab program where we looked at healthy diet, sleep and exercise to be Health Heroes.

RE – We have learning about the concepts of Justice and Interpretation.

Computing – We searched the web and learnt how results are ranked and influenced.

Music – We have been learning that an ostinato is a repeated sound or pattern, how to read notes on a musical staff and how composers create lyrics to represent their culture. Finally, we have learnt how to appraise a piece of music using correct musical terminology.

PE – In gymnastics, the children have been learning specific moves incorporating a partner and focussing on maintaining characterisation throughout. We have also been focussing on our fitness.

Spanish – We have learnt about clothes, 'La Ropa' by recalling different items and describing them by colour.

Next term's home-learning:

TTRockstars – the battle continues!!!

Practice Spellings online with Emile.

Read and share your ideas with your friends and family; write a line to share with your teacher and the class.

Next half term, we will be learning...

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Learning</u>
Reading	We will be focusing on building our stamina by reading extended texts. To do this, we will focus on the books Goodnight Mr Tom and Kensuke's Kingdom. We will be developing our understanding of whole texts and extracts and answer questions based on this.
Writing	We will be looking at the story 'The Princess' Blankets' by Carol Ann Duffy. Drawing upon our previously learnt narrative skills, we will plan and create our own modern fairy tale using 'Story Path' and 'Character building' activities. Later in the term, we will explore and consolidate our journalistic skills whilst studying the text 'The Boy in the Tower' by Polly Ho-Yen
Maths	Recap fractions of shapes, quantities, and amounts. Find equivalent fractions and learn to simplify. Find fractions of an amount. Add and subtract fractions (including mixed numbers). Multiply and divide fractions by integers. Recall and use equivalence between fractions, decimals and percentages and solve problems using ratio and proportion. Shapes will be described, drawn, reflected, and translated using co-ordinates (all four quadrants). Angles will be measured, and unknown angles found in triangles, quadrilaterals, and polygons.
Science	Understand the human lifecycle and foetal development. Identify similarities and differences between the gestation period of animals and humans. Investigate water resistance by creating our own experiments. Compare the time of day of different places on Earth and understand why. Investigate and explain how shadows are formed. Compare and give reasons for the variations in how components function in an electrical circuit.
PSHE	Relationships – healthy families and friendships, respectfulness, and responsibilities. Safety – Staying safe in our local communities such as fire, road, water safety and what to do if faced with anti-social behaviour in the community.
RE	The concepts will be Sacrifice (looking at WW2 and Franz Jagerstatter) and Power.
Geography	In Geography, we will continue our learning about tourism and infrastructure. We will learn about the effects of tourism over the natural environment and use our mapping skills to locate costal resorts around the globe. Finally, will conclude our learning by looking at similarities and differences between tourism in UK and Asia.
Art	We will take inspiration from the work of L.S. Lowry and experiment with tints and tones in painting and apply this learning to create mood.
Computing	We will be learning about web page creation and what makes a good website.

Music	We will be learning how to sing in a round, group and perform a melodic ostinato. Also, we will compose a piece of music.
Spanish	LOS VERBOS REGULARES (To learn about regular verbs)
PE	Dance – we will be learning dance routines to a famous song from Grease the Musical.

What else is happening in Spring?

- Spring Art competition – Date to be confirmed.
- DT cookery day – Date to be confirmed.
- Parents' Meeting – SATs – Date to be confirmed

