



# Year 6 Newsletter – Autumn 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 used the books studied in English to make inferences about the main characters and their actions. We then looked at smaller texts and practice answering a range of vocabulary, retrieval and inference questions.

**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.

**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. We made deliberate choices to create our final pieces. We then self-evaluated our own work using critical vocabulary to compare with the Renaissance artist.

**Design and Technology** – In DT we explored the culinary Asian culture, looking at different types of samosa, bringing to the table our own knowledge and experiences and planning for a unique cooking experience – a savoury samosa recipe which we then prepared individually and cooked with support.

**History** – We have been exploring the Roman era. We will have used a range of sources to find out about their army, how they invaded Britain and what life was like under Roman rule. 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 mental health and how we can take care of ourselves.

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

**Computing** – We have been learning about how data is transferred over the internet. We initially focused on addressing, before moving on to the makeup and structure of data packets.

**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** – We have been learning how to attack and defend in Tag Rugby. In gymnastics, we created routines using levels, different ways to travel, asymmetry and balances. In Dance, we have been learning a routine to 'Thriller' by Michael Jackson by incorporating partner and group lifts and maintaining characterisation throughout the piece. For our fitness unit, we have been learning about the nine components and four types of fitness training.

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

**Other** – Bike ability and fire safety. Fire safety taught the children that fires need three things: heat, fuel and oxygen. The children were shown 2 types of fire alarms and learnt how to look after them and how to plan an escape route.

## Next term's home-learning:

TTRockstars – the battle continues!!!

Practice your weekly Spellings which we send home via Marvellous Me.

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 and improve our reading skills. We will be looking for features and characteristics that help us identify specific texts.
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. Compare, order, and find the 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	Health and wellbeing –trusted adults and healthy living. Relationships – healthy friendships, respectfulness, and responsibilities. Safety - Fire, road, and water safety. Money management.
RE	The concepts will be Sacrifice (looking at WW2 and Franz Jagerstatter) and Power.
History/Geography	The Maya Civilisation.
DT/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, compose a piece of music.
Spanish	LOS VERBOS REGULARES (To learn about regular verbs)
PE	Gymnastics, Outdoor Adventure Activities, Dance and Netball.

### Key Dates

- Question of Faith day on Sacrifice – Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January
- Spring Art competition – Dates to be confirmed.

