

Year 6RB

Curriculum Newsletter



BRINGING YOU THE LATEST NEWS STRAIGHT FROM THE CLASSROOM



KEY DATES

End of Term 1:
Friday 22nd October

Start of Term 2:
Monday 1st November

Parent Conferences:
Thursday 2nd and
Tuesday 7th December

Welcome back to school everyone. We are looking forward to an exciting new year of learning now that you are in Year 6.

Our first trip this year will be on Monday 18th October, when we will be visiting The Monument to the Great Fire of London, which is linked to our British History topic this term.

English

This term, the class will be reading Geraldine McCaughrean's retelling of Homer's *Odyssey*. Homer was a poet who lived approximately 2,800 years ago in ancient Greece. The *Odyssey* tells the story of Odysseus' journey home from Troy, which takes him ten years. Travelling in boats with his companions, Odysseus has many exciting and terrifying adventures, meeting exotic people, monsters, gods, goddesses and witches. All that our hero wants, however, is to return home to his son, Telemachus, and to his faithful wife, Penelope, who believes that her husband is still alive and who therefore refuses to remarry. As well as reading the tale and exploring the ambitious vocabulary it contains, children will write recounts from Odysseus' perspective. This will give them the opportunity to practise using techniques such as extended noun phrases, rhetorical questions and idioms to convey characters' emotional responses.

British History

Following on from last term's study of Oliver Cromwell, we will be learning about the restoration of the monarchy and the reign of King Charles II. We will be focussing particularly on The Great Plague and The Great Fire of London.

Key words: **Catholic, Protestant, Puritan, restoration, monarchy, revival, bubonic plague**



Ancient History

This term, we have begun our study of Ancient Rome. We have already learnt about Roman numerals and are now beginning to learn about the origins of the city of Rome. We will be learning about Romulus and Remus and about how Rome came to be built. Next, we will learn about the end of the monarchy and the beginnings of the Republic of Rome.

Key words: **myth, conquer, empire, banish, River Tiber, Italy, brawl, rival, sewers, defensive walls, chariot, monarchy, Republic of Rome.**

Science

This term, the children will begin by studying atoms, the building blocks which make up all matter. They will learn the sub-atomic particles which give atoms their charge and the way an atom's charge can cause forces including current and static electricity. The children will consider this both as a theoretical concept and also apply this to their own observations of the world around them.

Key words: **atom, proton, neutron, electric, positive, negative, static, current, electricity**

Geography

In geography, we will be studying from the text book, 'Geography of Europe'. Students will focus on the human and physical geography of Europe. This term we will be studying maps and compasses, longitude and latitude, the seasons, and we will begin to investigate the seas and oceans around Europe.

Key words: **lowland, upland, mainland, plain, sediment, transportation, deposition, erosion.**

Suggested home activities:

Read an atlas and study the countries of Europe. What is the difference between mainland Europe and Europe? Why do the seasons differ so dramatically in Norway?

Maths

In maths this term, we will be looking at the place value of up to 6 digit numbers, learning key words: **representations, value, partitioning and position.** We will use place value to add and subtract $1/10/100/1000/100000$ to these numbers.

Music

We will continue our weekly music lessons with Mr Bazalgette where we will work on singing, notation and rhythm activities.

PSHE

During the first few weeks of term, as we welcomed children back to school, form teachers spent a considerable amount of time getting to know the children in their classes. As part of this, the children revised the school's rules and routines, and discussed how these rules will help them have a happy and successful year. They also explored the importance of respectful relationships and discussed the practical steps we can take in a range of contexts to improve and support them. The children also explored their own identity and considered what made them special and unique, helping them to appreciate the importance of self-respect.

Much of this autumn term will be devoted to learning about the media and social media. The children will learn what bias is and develop strategies for identifying 'fake news', both online and in other contexts. They will also discuss the advantages and disadvantages of social media, including the risks that its use brings. As part of this, children will explore the reasons why many social media sites and apps have age restrictions.

Towards the end of term, the children will start to think about life beyond school. They will learn about the range of different careers that people have, and discuss the importance of perseverance and commitment in preparing for them. One important idea that we shall discuss will be stereotyping and how stereotypes should not limit a person's goals or ambitions.

Over the course of the year, our PSHCE curriculum aims to help children learn to live as kind, tolerant members of our diverse community, and to give them an understanding of how to keep themselves safe and both physically and mentally healthy. Our teaching will be adapted to the needs of our children and will respond to issues and events in our community and in the wider world.

PE

This term, we will be doing basketball and fitness. Basketball will focus on passing, shooting and dribbling with a significant emphasis on teamwork and co-operation. In fitness we will be looking at different muscle groups and building stamina.

Teaching Team

Mrs Whitehead – Class teacher (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday) English, British History, Ancient History

Ms Spring – Class teacher (Thursday)

Ms Creegan – Class teacher (Friday)
Geography, ICT

Mrs Tylee - Maths

Ms Sheridan - Science

Mr Bazalgette - Music

Coach Lucy – P.E.

Reminders and Homework

REMINDERS

School begins at 8:40am. Please make sure you are here on time!

- Bring reading diaries to school every day.
- Our P.E. days are on Thursday and Friday. Please wear P.E. kit to school on these days.
- We visit the school library every Wednesday afternoon. Please remember to bring your library book back every Wednesday.

Half-term break – The last day of school is **Friday 22nd October**. School begins again on **Monday 1st November**.

HOMEWORK

Daily grammar homework and maths homework is being sent home. We mark this together in class every day and expect everyone to complete their homework every evening.

Weekly spelling tests are on Tuesday mornings.

Reading Diaries

Please encourage your child to read at home every night and to complete their reading diary. Weekly spellings will be stuck into the reading diaries so please practise these at home. Please use the reading diary to communicate with your child's class teacher.

