



## Spring Term Newsletter 2024

### Year 6

**Welcome:** Mrs. Julien and I would like to say welcome back once again.

We hope that everyone has had a lovely Christmas and we wish you all the best for a happy and healthy New Year. This term, Mr McDermott will continue to run a maths club every Thursday after school which we hope will help your children with written and mental maths strategies. Please remember to sign up for this if you would like your child to participate. Home learning will be set on Friday each week and will continue to be a mixture of online learning and paper-based activities. Please encourage the children to complete this as it will support their learning in class and their preparation for SATs in May. Home learning club will be during lunch time on Friday for any children who have not completed the previous week's work. Please remember that your child will need their reading book and record with them each day as we continue our Accelerated Reader journey. Children need to read for 20 minutes, 5x each week and their reading record should reflect this with at least one adult signature.

**Religious Education:** The themes for this term are:

- Sources and we will be focussing on: The Bible, the special book for the Church.
- Unity and we will be focussing on: Christian denominations and Jesus's prayer for unity.
- Death and New Life' and we will be focussing on: Celebrating Jesus' death and resurrection.

**RSE:** The main theme is The wonder of God's love in creating new life.

**Mathematics:** The children will learn how to:

- Add and subtract fractions with different denominators and mixed numbers, using the concept of equivalent fractions and identify common factors, common multiples and prime numbers.
- Use ratio to solve problems.
- Multiply and divide decimals by integers and find fraction / decimal equivalents, find percentages and solve related problems.

**Reading:** This term we will be focussing on:

The Happy Prince by Oscar Wilde, drawing inferences and supporting them with evidence in addition to identifying how language contributes to meaning.

**Writing:** The children will study:

- 'The Selfish Giant' by Oscar Wilde and write their own classic narrative and explanation.
- 'Island' by Jason Chin and 'Jemmy Button' by Alix Barzelay. They will use this text to write a journalistic report about Charles Darwin.

**Spelling:** Using the Supersonic Spelling Stars scheme, the children will be studying the word endings '-ant', '-ance' and '-ancy' as well as continuing to learn spellings from the statutory Y5 and Y6 word list.

**Grammar:** The children will be learning how to use the passive and subjunctive voice to formalise their writing in addition to using semi-colons, colons and dashes.

### How you can help at home:

- Create a special place for a Bible or other religious book at home and talking about your favourite books as a family;
- Work through the arithmetic test they bring home each week, concentrating on the questions which were nearly correct;
- Encourage them to complete homework set via Google classrooms and on paper;
- Practise words from the Y6 spelling list;
- Hear them read regularly at home and ensuring that there is 4x child signatures and at least 1x adult signature in their reading record each week.

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**Science:** The themes for Spring are:

- Electricity - recall and expand on knowledge of circuits, and understand how variable resistors work. Learn about how to measure electric charge and then consider the impact of conductors and insulators on an electric circuit. Further circuit building, and understand the impact of adding or removing components from a circuit;
- Light - explore key light phenomena centred around transparencies, lenses and coloured light. Refer to ray diagrams that show how the light rays are travelling, discuss materials of different transparencies and related shadows.

**Computing:** The themes are:

- Networks – explore the World Wide Web and the internet, our school network and access to the internet and research Tim Berners-Lee.
- Blogging – exploring how blogs are used and writing and publishing their own.

**History:** The theme is The Blitz - focus on researching World War Two using maps, documentaries, photos, newspapers and poetry, explore the role of the British Empire as well as the role of the women and children during this time period, the locality and how the war impacted people that lived here.

**Art:** : The theme is 2D drawing to 3D sculpture and the children will be redesigning food packaging to create sculptural forms.

**Music:** The theme is melody and tonality - explore melody and scales, learn about Tone Poems, Baroque Variations, Arias and Jazz Scat and use scales to improvise a melody.

**French:** The children will explore the following content, topics and language through songs, games, native speaker clips and independent tasks:

- Talk about sports which they like and dislike.
- Create extended sentences about sports.
- Describe a sport using simple sentences.

**PSHE:** The themes are:

- The Power of Words
- Fair Trade
- Important Women in History

You can support your child by:

\*Talking to them about how they speak to and communicate with others.

\*Sharing stories of inspiring women from history.

**PE / Sports:** The themes are:

- Badminton – movement, serving, netshots, overhead volley.
- Volleyball – passing the ball using dig, set and spike.
- Netball – taking part in competitive games using attacking and defending skills appropriately.

**How you can help at home (in relation to the above subjects):**

You can support your child by:

- Exploring electricity and circuits using the weblink <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zj44jxs>
- Helping them to talk to relatives about memories of World War Two and choosing a book to read such as Goodnight Mister Tom or My Secret War Diary, by Flossie Albright.

*Thank you*

*Mrs Woodward and Mrs Julien*

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