



## Year 6 Autumn Term Newsletter

Welcome to Year 6! I am glad to see the children ready for an action-packed and exciting term. I will be teaching in Year 6 alongside our Class Teaching Assistant Mrs Ross, with Mrs Boyle covering my Thursday morning PPA times. This half term, our value is **COMMUNITY**. During our time for Collective Worship, we will be thinking about how we are part of our local and wider community and what we can do to reach out and support them. After half term, our value will be **PEACE**.

### English

Our English lessons will centre on a variety of high quality texts, which will enable the children to explore a vast range of genres and concepts. In addition to reading and writing, English will be taught through a range of medias (drama, art and role play). Every day we will start our English lessons with specific areas of grammar and we will be linking these to our writing. There will be a big focus on handwriting to ensure that the children have excellent letter formation. Please read regularly at home with your child as this is vitally important for the development of their reading and writing skills. Y6 children are asked to take ownership of their home reading and write their own diary comments each night.

### Science, Computing and Design and Technology

This term in Science, we will be learning about 'Living Things and their Habitats'. This involves describing how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics. After half term, we will be looking at 'Evolution'. The children will be able to identify how animals and plants are adapted to suit their environment in different ways and that adaptation may lead to evolution. This term in Design & Technology joint with computing, we will focus on designing healthy meals.

### PPA

On Thursdays mornings, I will be having my weekly non-contact time out of class for half a day. During this time, Mrs. Boyle will take the class.

### Mathematics

In Mathematics this half term we are concentrating on Number, Place Value and the four operations. It is very important that children feel confident in their knowledge of numbers and of their properties. Please feel free to come and speak to me if you need clarification on our methods of teaching any elements of Mathematics. We are also timetabling a daily session called Number Club. After lunch, the children have a 10-minute timetables test. To help them improve they should practise their times tables at home as much as possible. It is important that the children learn them 'off by heart' so that they can perform rapid recall of any question.

### History and Geography

Our main topic in History is the Vikings. We will develop children's knowledge and help them understand how this important group fits into the chronology of Britain. Through discussion and investigation, children will understand the terms 'invaders' and 'settlers' and discuss motivations for emigration. They will gain an historical insight into the lives of Vikings and British people.

In Geography, the children will be studying our local area and the changes it has seen during time. Finally, the children will be taught to use 4 and 6-figure grid references on OS Maps.

### RE

This term the children will be learning about the Buddhist way of life by comparing it to the Christian faith. After half term, we will be revising the meaning of Christmas for Christians.

## Arts

In Art this term, we will be improving on our drawing and painting skills. Our drawing unit will be based in our class Guided Reading book 'War Horse'. We will look carefully at some pictures of horses before drawing our own version, considering all of the details to include.

After half term, we are going to focus on the artist 'Jackson Pollock'. Music this term will focus on learning the song 'I'll be there' and learning about Jazz. In French, we will be learning how to say actions in the first person and third person and learning about France.

## Uniform

Please check that ALL items of your child's uniform, including coats and bags, are clearly labelled. The school uniform is grey trousers or skirt/dress with a yellow polo shirt and blue Nutfield Church jumper/cardigan. Please ensure your child has a winter coat during the colder months.

## Wellbeing - P.E, P4C and PSHE

On Monday afternoon the children will have P.E. Please ensure children have the correct P.E kit: navy blue shorts/tracksuit bottoms and yellow T-shirts. Please make sure all items of your child's P.E kit are named. If your child is unable to access a P.E lesson due to injury or illness, please write a note to let us know. Children will be required to remove earrings during P.E. P.E. kits should be brought to school on Monday and will be sent home on Friday for washing. We will continue to teach Philosophy for Children to facilitate critical and deeper thinking and provide opportunities for children to practise these skills across the curriculum. This term, we will be focusing on mutual respect and community cohesion. This will focus on diversity and migration. Additionally, we will focus on valuing Self and Others, particularly recognising different types of relationships, including those between acquaintances, friends, relatives and families. During our lessons in Wellbeing, we will be investigating the benefits of having pets; as well as, looking after our own school guinea pigs daily.

## Homework

Homework will be sent home on Friday and must be handed back in by the following Thursday. Spellings will be tested on Fridays. Please help your child to revise the spellings. Children should be encouraged to do their homework as independently as possible; in case of any difficulties in doing their homework, I will be able to help the children during lunch time. We will check the homework collectively in class. It is important all children take pride in their homework and look after their belongings.

## Dates

- Year 6 - Meet the Teacher Thursday 7th September - 3.25pm - 4.15pm - Classroom
- Year 6 - Residential Trip - High Ashurst Monday 18th September - Friday 22nd September
- Harvest Service at Christ Church Thursday 5th October - 9.30am
- Whole School Nasal Flu Vaccination Monday 16th October
- Buddy Collective Worship (Yr R and Year 6) Thursday 2nd November
- Remembrance Service Friday 10th 11.00am
- Parent and Carer Evenings 27<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> November

*And finally... Thank you very much for your support. We all know year 6 is very a special year for our children. If you have any questions or concerns, please email the office and they will forward it on. If you would like to speak with me more privately, I am very happy to arrange an appointment. I am very happy to answer your queries and no question is too small!*

Mr Bowen  
Year 6 class teacher