

Year 6 Curriculum Newsletter - Autumn term 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to Yew Class. We have quickly settled into our new routines and are all enjoying being in Year 6 together. The children are already showing excellent team-work, respect for each other's ideas and a positive attitude towards their lessons. As we have discussed in class, there will be many challenges in Year 6 as we take on extra responsibilities and, later in the year, think about preparing ourselves for secondary school. It's going to be a busy and exciting year, starting with our residential in a few weeks' time.

This week, I was pleased to see that many children in Year 6 put themselves forward to take on a role within school. We now have two school council member, two eco-warriors and two arts ambassadors, along with our two Sports Ambassadors. Children will also be able to volunteer to become librarians next week.

Learning Behaviours

We have discussed these statements and talked about how the children can show these behaviours in class and around school.

Keeping going	I learn from my mistakes and persevere after a set-back.	
Risk taker	I can ask, "What shall we try now?" and explore a range of strategies and techniques.	
Respect	I value myself, others and their ideas, property and the wider community. I show empathy.	
Motivated and engaged	I stay focused and take an active part in lessons with a positive attitude.	
Taking responsibility	I will be organised and equipped each day. I can problem-solve for myself, but know when to ask for help.	

Team player	I work co-operatively in a group, listening to everyone's ideas and working together to find a solution that works for everyone.	
Aiming high	I can evaluate my own work and set myself challenging targets. I know what I need to do to make progress.	
Confident communicator	I volunteer to speak to my group, my class and in assembly, ensuring my views can be heard.	

Subjects

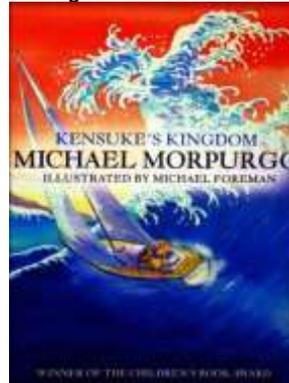
English

We are starting the year by finding out about some well-known legends and studying a version of the story of Robin Hood and the Golden Arrow. We will practise using expanded noun phrases, adding detail to descriptions to create atmosphere and build a vivid picture in the reader's mind. We will move on to look at journalistic writing and write our own newspaper reports.

We will be revising and consolidating our understanding of sentence structure and word classes, and thinking about how we can use commas to enhance and clarify meaning in our writing.

We are already enjoying our new class reader:

Kensuke's Kingdom by
Michael Morpurgo.



Maths

We have started the year by checking our understanding of place value. We will compare and order numbers, multiply and divide by powers of 10 and round whole and decimal numbers.

We will revise methods for addition and subtraction, and consider which strategies to use to solve multi-step word problems.

We will learn about metric and imperial measures, and practise converting between metric measures in order to compare and calculate.

During our work on fractions, we will revise strategies learnt in Year for adding and subtracting. Then we will learn new methods for multiplying and dividing fractions!

Each day we will have regular practice of mental maths skills and formal and informal calculation methods.

Science

We will be building on our previous work on classification, looking at inheritance and evolution. We will be deepening our knowledge of metals and light. We will continue to increase our independence in enquiry skills and scientific method.

Geography/History

This half-term we have started learning about South America. We will learn about mountains, rivers and the population.

In History, we will start to learn about WW2 and consider how we can use evidence to learn about the past.

Art/DT

In Art this term we will be looking at landscape art particularly how artists use perspective. We will be using the ideas we gather to create our own piece of landscape art. In DT we are studying Cam mechanisms. We will be looking at how these work and how we can use cam mechanisms in toys to make them move.

Please can everyone bring in an old shirt or apron that can stay in school to be used in Art and DT this term.

Music

This term has a focus on pulse and rhythm. We will be studying these with the aim to composing our own rhythmic elements to perform in class.

RE

In RE this term we will be focusing on Hinduism and more specifically the teachings and belief of karma as well as understanding Hindu festivals.

PSHE

We will be starting with our topic on Me and My Relationships, where we will think about how to negotiate, compromise and be supportive of others. We will learn about appropriate and inappropriate behaviour and what to do if you are concerned about something. Next half term

we will be considering how we are all different and how we can value and respect our differences.

PE

Please bring PE kit on Monday so it is ready for PE lessons on Tuesday and Wednesday. The children will come home wearing their kit on Wednesday unless you need them to get changed. As the weather gets colder, please include black jogging bottoms/leggings etc.

Homework

Reading

All children should continue to read regularly, ideally at least five times a week. I will be encouraging the children to become more independent and record their own reading by writing the date and page numbers themselves. Please could parents/carers then sign each entry. Reading records will be checked on a Monday.

Spellings

Every Friday, children will bring home their new spelling folder with a sheet with their spellings for the following week. The children should complete the Look→Say→Cover→Write→Check activity. Sometimes the sheet will include lines for the children to write sentences.

Folders should be completed and in school on a Friday.

Children can also still access Spelling Frame at home and practise their words each week. They can also practise words from the Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 lists.

Maths

This year, we will be continuing to use the Maths Homework Booklets that we started using in the Summer Term. All children have a book which is at their maths level and should spend no more than thirty minutes working through one test each week. Booklets will come home on a Friday and should be handed in on a Thursday. Due to the residential, Year 6 will be starting one week earlier than the rest of the school, so they have brought their book home today and should complete Test 7 by Thursday 15th. Please remember to check through your child's work with them, support them with any misconceptions and make a note of any areas they may need further support with. All children should also be accessing Times Table RockStars regularly in order to improve their recall of times tables.

Later in the year, further homework may be added. Please do encourage your child to come and ask for extra support if they struggle with any homework or need guidance to find reading books.

We are looking forward to a positive and successful year!

Mrs Hewitson