



Year 6 Spring Term Newsletter January 2023



Welcome back and Happy New Year! We would like to thank you for your Christmas gifts and messages at the end of term which were very generous of you. We hope that you and your families have had an enjoyable, healthy and restful Christmas break. We are really looking forward to another positive and hard-working term with the class, containing lots of learning and fun!

In Maths we will continue to revise the four rules of number, alongside ongoing mental maths, problem solving and specific topics in order to cover the necessary concepts before the SATs tests in May.

In English we will be focusing on a range of fiction and non-fiction texts and the examination of the key features of various types of writing. As well developing ongoing comprehension skills, part of our weekly work will also involve aspects of grammar and punctuation which will help to continue the development of the children's writing. Spelling will continue to be taught, with weekly lists being given every Thursday for a test the following Thursday. Please continue to ensure your child learns their spellings each night and remembers to bring their blue spelling book into school for a test on Thursday. Our Guided Reading focus after half term will be Skellig by David Almond (please see separate letter regarding this).

As part of ongoing homework, your child should be reading regularly, making use of the school library for both fiction and non-fiction books. Do look at the reading list for Year 6 on the school website. Children should also regularly practise their times tables (TT Rockstars is available).

Practice SATs papers in Maths and English will start this half term, to help the children prepare for the timed conditions that they will have to work in. These will be marked and scored by us and the results will be privately shared with the pupils, in order to help them understand where improvements can be made. The levels of the first papers will be communicated to you during consultation appointments in February. However, alongside our SATs preparation, we are very keen to ensure that a well-rounded and rich curriculum continues for the class.

Our Science work will include the topics of Body Pump (all about the heart and circulatory system) and Danger Low Voltage (an electricity unit).

In History we will be studying WW2, in particular The Battle of Britain and The Blitz. Please note the trip to Bletchley is on January 11th. A heavy emphasis will also be placed on the experiences of people in St Albans and the local area during this time, and any artefacts brought in from home which will help to illuminate this aspect of History will be very welcome!

In Design and Technology we will be finishing our recycled bags and undertaking a cooking unit towards Easter.

We will be continuing with our weekly French lessons, developing the five skills of speaking, listening, reading, writing and grammar and are excited to announce some collaborative sessions with a French Teacher from St Albans High School.

In Art we will be undertaking a Street Art unit and undertaking a revamp of the Cabin (end wall) with some sixth formers and the Art department from St Albans High School.

PE will be a combination of basketball, fitness training and gymnastics, both indoors and outdoors, dependent on weather. Please provide appropriate clothing for PE and indoor/outdoor shoes. The daily run will continue, so let's hope the weather enables us all to keep up the good practice. Please ensure that your child has the appropriate footwear.

In RE we will be developing a deeper understanding of Buddhism alongside Christianity and Humanism.

The Year 6 Curriculum Overview can be found on the school website if you require any further information.

Weekly homework, consisting of both online Maths (Mymaths) and English, including spellings, will be set on Fridays, and is to be handed in on the following Tuesday at the latest. As usual, homework will be explained in class, and will also be accessible via Google Classroom. If there are any queries regarding homework, please contact us via email (admin@maple.herts.sch.uk), rather than through Google Classroom.

We are looking forward to a great term ahead and thank you for your full support.
Kind regards,

Ms Noble, Mrs Astley & Miss Nelson