

This half term Year 6 are learning about:



English

In English, the children will be focusing on 'The Gulf' by Geraldine McCaughrean and writing a Tale of Fear. As part of this unit, children will also be writing a diary entry, composing narratives with a focus on character and setting (including building a suspenseful atmosphere). They will then begin the non-fiction topic of instructions, where they will create a mythical creature and then explain how to capture it (using the key structural and language features). We have grammar, handwriting and spelling sessions within the week where we will be revisiting key rules as well as working on using a legible, joined handwriting style.

In reading, we will be practising the skills of scanning for retrieval, inference, prediction and looking at vocabulary use. We are continuing with our class book 'Phoenix' by SF Said.

Mathematics



In Mathematics, the children have got a busy half term. They will begin by studying 'Area and Perimeter' in which they will find the perimeter and area of rectangles, triangles and parallelograms.

They will then move onto 'Volume' where they will find the volume of cuboids (by counting and by using a formulae) and solve volume problems. Within their unit: 'Position and Movement', the children will describe position, draw polygons on coordinate grids, and describe translations, reflections, and movements. Within the 'Graphs and Averages' topic, Year 6 will learn about averages, calculate the mean, read pie charts, and line graphs and convert miles and kilometres. (This unit will continue after Easter.)

Children will continue to hone their arithmetic skills through Morning Work sessions and regular tests.

Geography: The Grand Canyon

In Geography, children will locate the Grand Canyon and identify the key features and understand how the Grand Canyon was formed. They will learn about the environment at the bottom of the canyon, the different biomes within and the different types of settlement and land use in and around the area.

Science: Forces

In Science, children will be identifying forces acting on an object (gravity, air resistance, water resistance and friction). The children will make careful observations of the effects of these forces and investigate and explain them. Children will learn about different mechanisms (levers, gears and pulleys) and will build one.

DT

In DT, children will be learning about monitoring devices. They will write a program to monitor the temperature inside an animal carrier. They will also explain what 3D CAD (Computer Aided Design) is and how it can be useful in design. They will then use CAD to design their animal carrier as well as. To end the unit, they will evaluate their work against their original design criteria.

PE

In PE, children will be developing their skills in netball and gymnastics.

In netball, children will gain confidence in using ball skills in various ways within game situations. They will practise keeping and winning back possession of the ball, communicating with players and following the rules within games.

In gymnastics, children will perform jumps using equipment, develop cartwheels, handstands, straight jump and split leaps, perform a range of balances and create and evaluate their own sequence of actions.

Key Vocabulary

This half term, some of the words that we will be learning in Year 6 include:

- enthusiasm
- diligence
- endurance
- reasoning
- co-operation/collaboration

Things to do at home:

- ❖ Regular reading with your child, completing an entry in the reading journal.
- ❖ Encouraging children to complete their homework independently.

RE/PSHE



To begin the half term, the children will be continuing with their Eucharist topic: 'Unity'. Children will study the Eucharistic Prayer for Children, show an understanding of the Our Father Prayer and use religious terms to show an understanding of the symbols, actions and words involved within Holy Communion.

The next topic is the Lent/Easter topic of 'Death & New Life'. Children will study the true meaning of 'bread of life', showing how life is fruitful, explore the story of Lazarus and show an understanding of different Easter liturgies.

PSHE

Our Mission Circles/Circle Time themes for Lent 2 are Prayer, Fasting, Almsgiving, Sacrifice and Journey. They children have a mission each week to live out after they have discussed the topics within their groups.



Computing

In Computing, children will be completing their unit of work on Excel spreadsheets and will then move onto learning about blogging. Children will get the opportunity to create their own blog using Purple Mash (this will only be accessible to them and the teacher – not public). Online safety will remain at the forefront of what we do, with children being reminded about how to keep themselves safe online.