



Year 6 Newsletter – Spring Term

Dear Parents,

Firstly, on behalf of all the Year 6 staff, I would like to wish you all very Happy New Year. We have lots of wonderful activities planned for your child over the coming weeks: our book on World War Two is about to be published; in preparation for 'Safer Internet Week' we will explore what fun you can have without modern technology (believe me, it is possible) and we will be visiting our local Sikh temple. This term also sees Year 6 begin their preparation for SATs tests: do not panic! Our aim is not to put the children under any extra unnecessary stress but to teach them how the tests can be prepared for and anticipated. This is a fantastic opportunity to share techniques, discuss strategies and allay fears about the BIG tests. We will ensure that every child reaches their full potential, and a wide range of support will be put in place to make sure that every child approaches these tests confidently. Details of how you can help your child are mentioned below. You can also visit the Christ the King homepage where you will find a link to a list of online games/ tools which will help your child to revise. If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to come and talk to us. The Year 6 team.



RE

This term we will be studying the three themes of Local Church (Community), Eucharist (Relating) and Lent/Easter (Giving). We will begin with our Local Church topic by examining religious sources, our focus will be on the Bible- the churches special book. If you would like to help support your child at home through this topic there are a few suggested activities you may wish to try at home such as: explore the Diocesan website, looking at the number of churches, and finding out about our bishop or read Bible stories together or encourage older children to read a child's Bible independently.

English

Spellings will be sent home each Wednesday. Please help your child to learn their words each week. During the SATs tests, your child will be tested on their knowledge and understanding of the spelling rules we are currently revising.

Reading is very important in Year 6. Please can you listen to your child read regularly and ensure they bring their reading book and record to school every day.

During school time your child will be taught how to answer comprehension questions quickly and concisely using evidence from the text to reinforce their point. Whilst we do not ask that you go to such lengths with your child, you can simply ask a child questions about what they have been reading to gauge their level of knowledge and understanding.

Writing in Year 6 is a vital skill. Over the course of this term your child will examine and reproduce a variety of different text types. We have just completed persuasive leaflets based on our visit to the York Dungeon and we are about to move onto stories which include a 'flashback'. In addition to teaching your child about to different genres of writing, your child will also learn about the rules of punctuation and grammar

Homework is given on a Wednesday and is to be returned the following Tuesday. Additional homework may be given in preparation for SATs.



Maths

We are working at full pace in Maths this term, following on from the excellent progress the children made in the Autumn Term. We will be focusing on arithmetic with daily arithmetic quizzes based on questions we will be doing in the SATs in May. We will also be focusing on areas we still need to develop such as fractions, decimals, percentages and times-tables. Problem solving will also be worked on as well as stamina to complete an entire Maths SATs paper.

Computing

'Safer Internet Week' begins on Monday 4th February where we will teach the children about how to behave responsibly online. Sadly, it appears that our children now believe that computers and online gaming really are the 'be all and end all'. With that in mind, on Friday 2nd February we will be inviting in grandparents and parents to teach our children how to have fun without the aid of technology. So get out your playing cards and dominoes... its time to have some fun!!

PE

In P.E. the children will be developing their co-ordination and basic movement skills. They will participate in a variety of sports and (wherever possible) participate in competitions with other schools. P.E. lessons are every Thursday- please ensure that your child has both indoor and outdoor P.E. kit

Preparation for Catholic Cup has already begun, and we ask that any Year 6s who wish to be in this years' team to come to training after school (Wednesday after school for girls, Friday after school for boys). The competition will take place in Middlesbrough later this year!

Geography

In our topic work, we will be learning about explorers. We will be travelling around the world whilst teaching the children a variety of geographical skills such as map-reading and comparing and contrasting different cities/ areas of the world.

Science

During the first half term the children will be exploring the topic 'Animals Including Humans'. By the end of the topic children should be able to:

- ◊ Identify the main parts of the circulatory system.
- ◊ Explain the main functions of the heart, lungs and blood vessels in the circulatory system.
- ◊ State how the digestive system breaks down nutrients.
- ◊ Explain what constitutes a healthy lifestyle.
- ◊ Describe how drugs and alcohol can impact negatively on the body.
- ◊ Take accurate measures of the pulse rate.
- ◊ Record results and write a report which includes a conclusion.

Art/DT/Music

Our Art and DT work will be linked to our topics. In Music, we will use our Charanga music scheme.

Attendance: It is vital that your child attend school whenever possible. As we pick up the pace in preparation for SATs, even missing one day might mean that your child misses out on a lot of valuable learning.

