

# ASPIRE



## Year 6 Half Termly Update Spring Term 1

Dear Parents,

We are happy to welcome the year 6 children back for the new year and we hope you have had a restful holiday. At the start of this half term both Year 6 classes will be completing an Into University Focus week which will include a mid-week trip to the Science Museum and a graduation at Cambridge University. We will be continuing to work hard on the year 6 curriculum and expect that children will be attending their reading and maths boosters each week. Throughout the term, the children will continue to receive homework which will be due on Fridays).

### Writing

Our writing will be linked with our reading text 'Street Child'

Children will use the story as the basis for writing a persuasive letter, a diary and a non-chronological report. They will be developing their sentence structure skills, developing their understating of formality and how to use dialogue to move action forward and develop characters. They will be working on more complex punctuation.

### Reading

This half term we will be reading Street Child by Berlie Doherty. The book is set during the Victorian era and will link with our history topic about Victorian children. We will continue to build on the reading strategies we have learnt throughout our reading lessons:

- Retrieve information from a text
- Infer information from a text
- Make predictions about a text
- Summarise what they have read
- Understand and explain the choices that authors have made
- Make connections and links

### Maths

This half term we will be covering measurement. Children will convert between smaller and larger units of measurement as well as learning to convert between imperial and SI units (like miles to km). They will calculate the area of rectangles and triangles on a grid and by using a formula. Children will also be required to solve reasoning problems based on measurement.

Children will work on statistics; interpreting and drawing their own graphs, tables and understanding sets of data. They will learn how to calculate the mean.

### PSHE

In PHSE, Year 6 will be thinking about the effect of drugs and alcohol on the human body and their social impact. They will be learning about the risks and dangers associated with drugs and ways to manage risks and peer pressure.

## **Science**

Children will learn all about the human body this half term. They will understand that the heart is a muscular pump supplying the body with blood and oxygen. Pupils will learn the parts that make the blood and how to measure their pulse rate after varying levels of activity. Most importantly, they will learn about healthy lifestyles and the importance of regular exercise and a balanced diet for the body. They will be learning about the dangers of smoking and the effects on the circulatory system.

## **History**

In Spring 1 we will focus on history and children will learn about the children of the Victorian era. They will use timelines to learn about Queen Victoria's reign and how life and conditions gradually changed during this period. They will learn about the harsh conditions for the poor and what life was very different for rich and poor Victorian children. Your child will learn about the workhouses and the unbearable conditions inmates faced and later this will link with their new novel 'Street Child'

## **P.E.**

P.E. lessons will take place on Thursdays. The children should arrive to school in their PE kits on Thursday's. On Thursday afternoons they will join in with team games and think about all of the physical skills they have learnt over the years. In the morning sessions they will take part in a short dance or gymnastics lesson where they will focus on ways they can move their body.

## **Music**

This half term, the children will have two music lesson a week with specialist teachers. They will work on rhythm and drumming skills on Wednesdays. Then on Fridays they learn composition using new software. They will learn and perform different songs, where they will control sounds through singing and instruments, as well as build technique and hopefully a passion for performing. There is also the chance to join the school choir.

## **Homework**

Homework will be sent home on Fridays. It must be returned to school the following Friday. This half term, homework includes: a maths and reading activity in their CGP books and spellings. It is imperative that your child completes their homework each week. Please remember to check your child's spelling scores each week. Children must also complete activities on DoodleMaths and DoodleTables, due in on Thursdays, to support their maths learning. Homework club is free to attend on Tuesday and Thursdays. Please sign up in the office.