

ASPIRE



Year 6 Half Termly Update

Autumn Term 1

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to school! We hope you had a wonderful summer and enjoyed the sunshine. We have a very busy year ahead of us in Year 6 but we are excited for what is to come. Each half term, we will update you on what is being taught so you are able to support your child's learning at home as best you can. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about anything at all, we are more than happy to arrange a meeting to discuss your queries. Meet the Teacher will take place on Wednesday 17th September where we will give you an overview of the year. We hope to see many of you there.

Many thanks,
Year 6 Team

Writing

To start the year, we will be looking at different grammatical techniques that the children should be using in their writing going forward, including: complex and compound sentences, consistent tense and colons. Later in the half term, the children will be introduced to an animation called Monkey Symphony where they will then write from a character's perspective. There will be a big push on the children's handwriting as the children are expected to join their writing by Year 6.

Reading

In reading lessons, we will be focusing on non-fiction texts. We will start by looking at 'Inspirational Female South Asian Figures' before moving on to look at World War I and World War II. After studying these topics, we will look at poetry. The children will have a chance to analyse a variety of different poems and look at certain features of poetry such as, similes and repetition. This will help the children as they will have the opportunity to draft their own poems.

Maths

This half term, the children will spend some time revising their understanding of place value and then focussing on the four operations. In Year 6, the children are expected to be able to read and write numbers up to 10,000,000. They should then be able to solve calculations using numbers of this size, including addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. They will then be introduced to problems in contexts that may require more than one step in solving. Towards the end of the half term, we will be looking at fractions, we will learn how to use common factors to simplify fractions and how to use common multiples to express fractions in the same denominator. It is important that children make the link between fractions and division in order to calculate decimal fraction equivalents for a simple fraction.

Science

This half term, we will be looking at electricity. The children will build on their current knowledge of electricity and use recognised symbols when representing a simple circuit in a diagram. There will be opportunities to build their own circuits and learn to associate the brightness of a lamp or the volume of a buzzer with the number and voltage of cells used. Building on this, they will explore different types of circuits by identifying the effect of changing one component at a time, as well as designing and making a useful circuit. Most importantly, the children will discuss how to work safely with electricity.

PSHCE

In PSHCE this half term, we will be looking at the importance of mental health and emotional wellbeing. We will also be learning about The Zones of Regulation. This programme aims to teach children strategies to help them to identify their emotions and cope with these feelings so they can get back to feeling calm and ready to learn.

Geography

This half term, we will be learning all about rivers. At the start of each Geography unit, the children will recap their knowledge surrounding the United Kingdom, building on this, the children will locate major rivers and explore which towns and settlements have developed on the banks of rivers. They will look at the way's humans use rivers and look at how humans can change rivers by building dams.

P.E.

P.E. lessons will take place on Thursday afternoons. The children should arrive to school in their PE kits on these days. They will join in with team games and think about all of the physical skills they have learnt over the years in order to solve challenges. Additionally, on Thursday morning, they will take part in a short dance or gymnastics lesson where they will develop key skills including how we move our bodies and balance.

Homework

Children need to bring in their reading diaries every day. These should be signed at home with the date and a comment about what they have read. This could be about a part of the book they liked or a new word they have learnt with the definition. Spelling homework will be sent home every Friday. The children are given one week to learn their spellings and **need to bring in their homework book by the following Thursday** – please check your child's result in the back of their homework books.

A Doodle Maths task will be set every **Wednesday**. The children are required to be in the green zone every Wednesday – this should only take 15 minutes.