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Head Teacher: Mrs. N. Maughan

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Dear Parent / Carer,

During the next term Year 6 will be focussing on the following:

English will be book based. Our book will be "Northern Lights". The key grammar and punctuation covered include using passive verbs to affect the presentation of information in a sentence, using expanded noun phrases to convey complicated information concisely, using relative clauses beginning with who, which, where, when, whose, that or with an implied (ie omitted) relative pronoun. Spelling skills involve a revision of all the spelling rules and ensuring they are able to apply them in our writing. We will also look at further prefixes and suffixes and understand the guidance for adding them, spell some words with 'silent' letters [for example, knight, psalm, solemn] and use a dictionary efficiently.

In addition, we will be reading and discussing a range of books during our guided reading sessions throughout the year. Depending on your child's group they will be reading one of the following: The Secret Garden, The Indian in the Cupboard, An Elephant in the Garden, Carrie's War, The Boy in the Dress, Whale Boy.

Maths will cover a variety of mathematical concepts but the main emphasis will be on introducing pupils to the types of questions which occur on the current style SATS papers. This will ensure that they are comfortable using and applying their maths knowledge and skills in a multitude of situations.

Science: "Classification" and "Adaptation to Environment" (how plants and animals survive and adapt to their habitats.)

History: Your children will be studying Baghdad in the year 900AD to provide contrast with British history.

Geography: "Understanding the Water Cycle" This will involve investigating water safety and water conservation.

RE: the importance of ritual in worship and we will be studying and comparing Christian and Muslim practices.

Music, Art and DT: with the demands of the SATS, I am sure you will understand that the emphasis in Yr 6 must be placed on Maths, English and related written subjects this year, but this term will still see us undertaking an Art project on the theme of "Animal Movement". Music this term will involve the study and appreciation of a selection of music which conveys a mood or atmosphere and the children will be studying how this is achieved.

Computing: will be closely linked to all subjects as we learn how to use search engines efficiently, present multi media presentations and, most importantly, learn about internet safety and the dangers of cyber-bullying. We will also be designing, writing and debugging programs that accomplish specific goals, including controlling or simulating physical systems.

PSCHE Becoming responsible, mature and independent is the key focus in Year 6 with emphasis on our Head Boy and Head Girl elections. This is to prepare them for their move to Secondary School next year. There will also be promotion of British Values through discussion around anti racism, anti radicalisation and LGBT.

PE focus will be Athletics and Group Dynamic Gymnastics. PE will be delivered on a Friday. is in school for this day.

Please ensure PE kit is in school at all times!

Finally, your children will be receiving a considerable amount of homework this year in comparison to previous years and I would appreciate your encouragement and support in this.

Every homework task is aimed at consolidating the concepts they have learned in lessons and gives the children an opportunity to practise new skills. It also helps establish good work habits which will be invaluable when they join Key Stage 3. Pupils will be given homework on a Thursday, with a lunchtime homework club on Friday to discuss any issues. Homework is then due on a Monday morning. Pupils will also have a "5 a week" Maths sheet and English sheet with a short but relevant challenge to complete at home ready for each morning registration. Please also encourage your child to read each night, commenting in their reading record.

I must also stress the importance of a high attendance at school. If your child is absent, especially in Year 6, they can miss vital lessons and this leaves them at a disadvantage when they come to sit the Sats tests and then move on to their next school. A mature approach to life and work in Year 6 is to be encouraged at all times and I would be grateful if you could help your child become aware of the importance of self-control and hard work.

Yours faithfully,

G. Johnston-McKe

