

Over the next half term, Year 6 will be studying a range of topics which will be taught through focus weeks.

History: In history lessons, we'll be finding out the **Mayans**. We will focus on:

- Seeking out and analysing a wide range of evidence to justify claims about the past.
- Describing characteristic features of the past.
- Comparing some of the times studied with those of other areas of interest around the world.
- Identifying periods of rapid change in history and contrast them with times of relatively little change.
- Using dates and terms accurately in describing events.

DT: We will be finding out about **structures** in DT and will focus on:

- Showing an understanding of the qualities of materials.
- Choosing appropriate tools to cut and shape.
- Developing a range of practical skills to create products (such as cutting, drilling, screwing, nailing, drilling, gluing, filing and sanding).

Science: The topic covered in science this half term will be: **Light**. Our children will be encouraged to investigate and follow lines of enquiry in order to acquire and build upon their knowledge of scientific phenomena.

Class 6

Blowers Green Primary School



Autumn

2017



Numeracy: This term children will be learning a range of skills around number, the four operations, shape, space and measure and statistics. There will be a particular focus on mental maths (arithmetic) and formal written calculations.

Literacy: We will be learning to read and write different genres including: recount, persuasion, argument, letter, diary, newspaper and narrative. This learning will be linked to current topics, as well as our shared class texts *Kaspar* by **Michael Morpurgo** and *Trash* by **Gita Wolf**.

RE: This term, children will be learning about religious buildings, worship and community in the **Christian religion**.

Music: Throughout our music lessons, children will be learning to read musical notation, sing, play the clarinet and perform as part of a group with our DPA music teacher.

PE: Children will have PE lessons on Thursday and Friday and this half term we will be focusing on **Invasion Games**. **Please ensure full kit is in school every day as PE forms part of the statutory curriculum.** Long hair should be tied back. Remember bangles, bracelets and rings should not be worn in school. They can be a distraction to learning, get lost or stolen and are dangerous when the children are out on the playground. **ALL jewellery must be removed for PE lessons for health and safety reasons.**

PSHE: Our focus this term is on **new beginnings**. We will also be learning about **British Values and Rights and Responsibilities (linked to the Children's articles)** in our lessons, class assemblies and whole school assemblies.

Computing: Children will be learning how to code using 'Scratch' and practising safe internet searches this term. Children will be reminded of safe internet use. Please ensure that this is reinforced at home if children have access to computers.

Homework

Numeracy: Every Friday children will be given a mental maths test to complete at home. This needs to be handed in by the following **Wednesday**. If the children struggle with any questions, they can ask for help in school. Please try to encourage your child to hand in homework as early as possible in order for homework to be marked and returned so that children can correct any errors and misconceptions can be addressed. In addition to this, children need to be secure in their times tables and corresponding division facts from x2 to x12. Children need to be secure in rapid mental recall of all times tables as it forms the basis of all maths.

Literacy: Every 2nd Friday children will be issued with 10 Super Sentences. It is their responsibility to learn the key spellings and punctuation of these sentences. They will be tested for two consecutive Fridays and they must better their score the second time. Children will have the sentences read aloud to them and will be expected to get the grammar, punctuation and spelling of each one accurate.

This is in preparation for the SATs test Y6 will sit in May. Dictation also enhances the pace at which they write —important skills for the timed SATs. These sentences will also support the genre they are reading and writing in school. They may also be issued with additional homework pitched at their individual learning needs. The Reading Challenge, Poetry Recitation Challenge and Spelling Challenge also forms part of the children's homework.

Occasionally, science tasks will be sent home to complete. These will usually be past SATs questions linked to our current topic and your child's learning targets. Any homework set or key facts and extra spellings to learn is also recorded in the Home School Record (reading diary).

Reading at Home: We would like reading books and diaries in school every Friday and would expect that your child read at home daily. Please aim to sign their diaries at least 3 times each week. Remember they don't have to only read books. Newspapers, comics, the internet, television guides and games rules are all texts too! It is your child's responsibility to request a reading book change. Reading is an important skill which also enhance children's writing and imagination.

Poetry recital: Each half term children will be given 2 poems to learn at home. They must be able to recite the poem without any mistakes and answer questions to demonstrate their understanding of the poem's content, techniques and vocabulary. This helps improve children's skills of speaking clearly and slowly as well as enhancing their imagination and vocabulary range—which improves their writing! Poetry often comes up in Year SATs so it is important that they are familiar with a range of different types of poetry, techniques and structures. The poems for this half term are Silver and Sea Fever.

Thank you for your support
Miss Swingler and Mrs Shergill

