

Year 6 newsletter



Autumn Term 2

Welcome!

Welcome back to the second half term in Year 6! We hope that you had a lovely break with your family.

It was so wonderful to speak to you at Parents' Evening the week before half term and to share your child's progress and achievements so far.

We are sure that this half term will be just as brilliant as the last one! ❤️

Our Autumn Term Two Topic: The Stone Age



In **English**, our learning will be based around the book 'Wolf Brother' by Michelle Paver. This book is always extremely well-loved and many children go on to enjoy the rest of the series. As much as we love how keen the children are to read ahead, we politely request

that you do not read ahead with your child at home so we can follow our planned unit of learning and keep all of the children in the same place! Here is the rough overview for the unit:

Week 2 – Diary entry

Week 3 – Letter

Week 4 – Assessments

Week 5, 6 and 7 – Newspaper report

Week 8 – Finishing the book and Christmas activities!

In **Maths**, we will consolidate the formal written methods for all four operations. We will also begin to look at converting between standard units of metric measure and will begin to interpret pie charts and line graphs. The children will also learn how to calculate the mean as an average and begin to learn when it is appropriate to find the mean of a set of data.

Week 1 – Estimation and measure

Week 2 – Units of measure – conversions

Week 3 – Bar models for word problems

Week 4 – Interpreting graphs & assessments

Week 5 – Mean average & ratio

Week 6 – Ratio & scaling

Week 7 – Four quadrants, translation and reflection

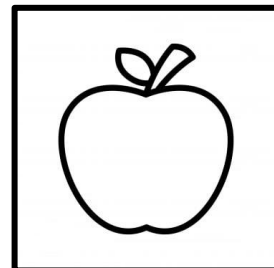
Week 8 – Revision

In **French**, we are going to be learning our first set of phonetic sounds before we progress to look at regular verbs.

In Science this half term, we will be learning about the circulatory system. We will understand the functions of the part of the circulatory system, understand what is needed to live a healthy lifestyle, investigate how exercise affects heart rate & finally learn about the impact drugs and alcohol have on the body.

In History, we will be learning about the Stone Age through to the Iron Age. We will learn about what life was like during each of these time periods and compare them. This unit links closely to our learning in English on 'Wolf Brother' which is set in the Stone Age.

In DT, we have a new unit this half term! We will be making our own version of the classic British dessert, apple crumble! In the lead up to this, we will learn about seasonality, look at existing products, design our own recipe before putting it altogether to create our final product. Ingredients lists will be shared with you closer to the time.



In Computing this half term, we will be learning about blogging and networks. In our blogging lessons, we will learn about what blogs are and why they are used, plan themes and content for our own blogs before writing and sharing our blogs within the class. The blogs will be posted on Purple Mash and only the children in the class will have access to them. In our network lessons, we will develop a further understanding of the internet before introducing LAN and WAN. Finally, we will research how the internet has changed over time and consider what it might be like in the future.

In Spelling, we will cover the following rules:

Week 1 and 2 – -able ending

Week 3 – -ably ending

Week 4 and 5 – word families (root words)

Week 6 – diminutives

Please ensure your child is practising these spelling rules at home.

In **P.S.H.E.**, we will be looking at the value of the month for November – forgiveness. The other value of the month for this half term is 'peace', which will be our value for the month of December. We will also be continuing our 'Jigsaw' scheme of work, With our next unit 'Celebrating Differences'. The children will be provided with plenty of opportunities to discuss the key talking points before reflecting on what they have learnt within each lesson.



Year 6 Book Recommendations



Mrs Willison recommends – *Nervermoor* by Jessica Townsend

Enter the world of Morrigan Crow and Nevermoor – the start of a fantastical children's series. Morrigan Crow is cursed. Having been born on Eventide, the unluckiest day for any child to be born, she's blamed for all local misfortunes, from hailstorms to heart attacks – and, worst of all, the curse means that Morrigan is doomed to die at midnight on her eleventh birthday. But as Morrigan awaits her fate, a strange and remarkable man named Jupiter North appears. Chased by black-smoke hounds and shadowy hunters on horseback, he whisks her away into the safety of a secret, magical city called Nevermoor. It's then that Morrigan discovers Jupiter has chosen her to contend for a place in the city's most prestigious organisation: the Wondrous Society. To join, she must compete in four difficult and dangerous trials against hundreds of other children. To stay in Nevermoor for good, Morrigan will need to find a way to pass the tests – or she'll have to leave the city and confront her deadly fate. Perfect for fans of the Harry Potter series.

Mrs Dobson recommends – *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* by Brian Selznick

ORPHAN, CLOCK KEEPER, AND THIEF. Twelve-year-old Hugo lives in the walls of a busy Paris train station, where his survival depends on secrets and anonymity. But when his world suddenly interlocks with an eccentric girl and her grandfather, Hugo's undercover life, and his most precious secret, are put in jeopardy. A cryptic drawing, a treasured notebook, a stolen key, a mechanical man, and a hidden message from Hugo's dead father form the backbone of this intricate, tender, and spellbinding mystery. With clockwork machines, mechanical toys and wind-up automatons gracing this book's pages in both words and pictures, this award-winning story is a wonder for both the eyes and ears.

Miss Kent recommends – *The Ship of Shadows* by Maria Kuzniar

The sweeping, sparkling first book in a brand new series that will delight fans of *The Wild Way Home* and *Frostheart*. Aleja is a dreamer who longs for a life of magic and adventure. So when a mysterious ship arrives in her Spanish harbour city, crewed by a band of ruthless women, Aleja knows it's sailed right out of a legend. And it wants her. But life aboard the *Ship of Shadows* is more than even she bargained for. It will take all of Aleja's strength and skill to gain the trust of her fellow pirates – and discover what they are risking everything to find...

Mrs Goode recommends – *The Final Year* by Matt Goodfellow

The Year 6 teachers have all asked to borrow this from Mrs Goode, we are desperate too read it! Life can be tough in your last year of primary school. Tests to take, preparing for the change to high school. Nate is ready for it all, knowing his best friend PS is at his side – they've been inseparable since Nursery. But when they are put in two different classes and PS finds a new friend in Turner, the school bully, Nate's world turns upside-down. As he struggles to make sense of this and forge new friendships, he's dealt another blow when his youngest brother, Dylan is rushed into hospital. His new teacher, Mr Joshua, sees a spark inside of Nate that's lit by his love of reading and writing and shows him how to use this to process what's going on. But with so much working against him, and anger rising inside him, will this be enough? *Please note: you may wish to read this alongside your child as it is quite emotional.*

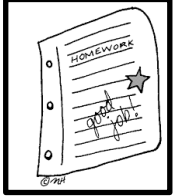
Mrs Jank recommends – *A Place Called Perfect* by Helena Duggan

They've got their eyes on you: a quirky, creepy and unforgettable adventure, perfect for fans of Roald Dahl, Neil Gaiman and Tim Burton. Violet hates living in Perfect. Why does everyone have to wear special glasses to stop them going blind? What are the strange noises in the night and why is Mum acting so weird? Then Dad disappears and Violet is determined to uncover the truth with the help of the mysterious boy. But returning normality to Perfect is a battle they never imagined...

Homework

We have been so impressed with the level of commitment that the children have shown towards completing their homework over the past half term! Homework will continue in the same format this half term.

Please ensure that your child knows their log-in details for both Google Classrooms and MyMaths, although we do always understand any technical difficulties that may arise! A paper copy of the homework will always be available for your child to complete, should they need it.



In preparation for secondary school, should the children not complete their homework, then they will be invited to attend a Homework Catch-Up Club on a Wednesday breaktime – a day's grace will be given during this half term.

2024 SATs Week

The 2024 SATs week will be held the week commencing Monday 13th May 2024. The scheduled assessment dates are as followed:

Monday 13th May – English grammar, punctuation and spelling papers 1 and 2

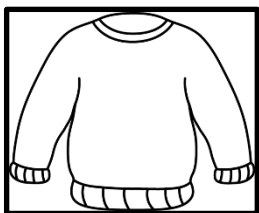
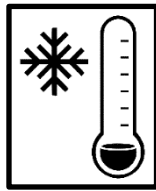
Tuesday 14th May – English reading

Wednesday 15th May – Mathematics papers 1 and 2

Thursday 16th May – Mathematics paper 3

Uniform

As the winter sets in and the weather turns colder, please ensure that your child is bringing a coat to wrap up warm in for break and lunch times. If your child does not have a coat and the weather is deemed to be too cold, then they will be invited to stay inside the classroom to read a book.



Please also ensure that all of your child's uniform items, such as jumpers, coats, water bottles and P.E. kits are labelled – this makes finding any lost items much easier!

Just a quick reminder...

In addition to weekly homework being completed to a high standard, there are many other ways to support your child at home:

- ensuring that children read regularly;
- ensuring times tables are practised frequently;
- learning words from the Year 5/6 spelling list (available on our school website);
- regular use of Times Tables Rockstars;
- learning words that follow the KS2 spelling rules;
- learning the different spellings and meanings of common homophones;
- logging on to MyMaths to revisit previous content.

Dates for your Diary

November:

7th – Individual and sibling photos

10th – Diwali day

13th – Remembrance Day & odd socks for Anti-bullying Week

17th – Children in Need (theme TBC)

20th and 21st – Production rehearsals

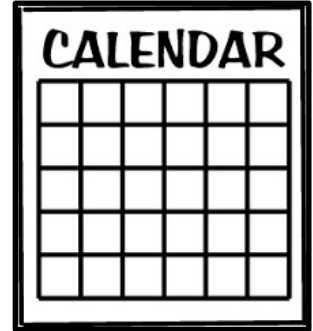
22nd and 23rd – KS2 production

27th – Year 6 first aid training from the Red Cross

December:

21st – Christmas party day (Christmas jumpers)

22nd – End of term!



Wow! What a busy half term we have! Please keep an eye on the whole-school newsletter from Ms Seagar for any additional dates or changes.

Communication

If you have a message for your child's class teacher, please record this in your child's Home/School link book. Alternatively, you can email the Year 6 teaching team on the following email address:

year6@piorise.milton-keynes.sch.uk

All the Year 6 teachers are able to access this email address and will respond outside of teaching hours as soon as possible.

Thank-you for your support,

The Year 6 Team

