

Year 6 newsletter



Spring Term 2

Welcome back!

It was lovely to see so many of you, in person, at Parents' Evening last term.

Wow – we are half way through Year Six already! We hope that you had a wonderful break with your families. ❤️

Our Spring Term Two Topic: World War Two

In **English**, we are going to be basing our learning around the wonderful book 'When The Sky Falls', written by Phil Earl and our History topic of WW2. Here's an overview of the next 5 weeks of English:

Week 1 – Descriptive narrative linked to When the Sky Falls

Week 2 – Assessment Week

Weeks 3 and 4 – Balanced Arguments based on evacuation

Week 5 – Editing our writing & sharing When the Sky Falls

In **Maths**, we are going to be looking at geometry and statistics. Here's a preview of what the next 5 weeks will look like:

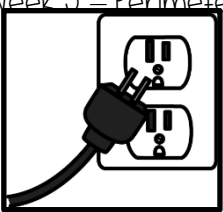
Week 1 – Angles

Week 2 – Assessments

Week 3 – Angles

Week 4 – Pie charts

Week 5 – Perimeter and Area of shapes



In **Science**, our topic is called 'Electricity'. We will be making circuits, using the correct symbols to draw circuits and investigating how to make bulbs and motors stronger or weaker.

In **History**, we will be learning about World War Two (this will also be our topic next half term as it is such an exciting topic to learn about). This half term, we will link our History lessons to our English lessons as part of our cross-curricular approach. Topics covered this half term include: why the war started, how British people reacted to the war (linked to propaganda posters), rationing, evacuation, the Women's Army & bomb shelters. Next half term, we will be having an exciting WW2 day in school! If any families have any special family photographs or artefacts they would like to share linked to the war, we would love to see them!

In **Music**, the children will be continuing to learn to play the guitar, as a whole class, with Mrs Horwood. They will be improving their improvisation and composition skills, as well as continuing to improve their singing voices and reading musical notation and our sing-off competition!

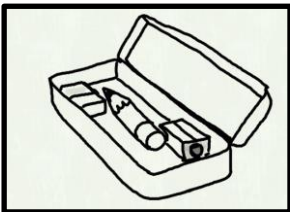
In **Computing**, we are going to become Text Adventurers, following our Purple Mash scheme of work. We will explore what text adventure stories are before making our own. Once we have completed this, we will move on to room-based adventures.

In **D.T.**, we will be learning about bridges! For the unit, we will practically explore how pillars, beams and trusses help to strengthen bridges. Once we have gained an understanding of how to build strong bridges, we will use the software 'Tinkercad' to design our own bridges, using computer-aided design.

In **P.S.H.E.**, we will be looking at the value of the month for March – 'Tolerance'. This is a great link to our WW2 topic and is a lovely one to explore through stories and current affairs at home too! We will also be continuing our 'Jigsaw' scheme of work, with our next unit 'Healthy Me'. This unit will give us the opportunity to recognise what we need to do in order to stay healthy, both physically and mentally and will revisit our knowledge on legal and illegal drugs, as explored in our Science lessons earlier in the year.

Revision Guides

During the first week back at school, the children will be issued with their revision guides for Maths and GPS. The children will also be provided with a booklet for them to practise their Reading Comprehension.



Each class teacher will explain to the children how to use their revision guide and the expectations of revising three times a week. This revision will replace our usual homework until after the SATs – we would like the children to revise for 30 minutes three times a week, making notes in a notebook or on paper. The children will bring their revision in to mark on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Please note that in addition to the revision homework, the children will still need to be reading three times a week and recording their summaries into their Home-School Link books, as well as regularly practising the spellings from the Year 5 and 6 Statutory Spelling List (please note, there is no expectation for the children to bring these in).

Year Six Residential Visit

The summer term is fast-approaching which means that our residential visit to the Peak District will be soon upon us! Please ensure that the final payment is paid by the 31st of March.

Thank-you so much to those families who have already paid for the residential.

We will be organising an information evening where you will all be invited to hear more information regarding the itinerary for our visit as well as a kit list. More information will follow soon!

We Love Reading!



Here are our top book recommendations for this Half Term. Many of these are in the book corner can be borrowed!

Mrs Willison recommends... 'Darwin's Dragons' by Lindsay Galvin

The year is 1835. Charles Darwin, a young British naturalist, is exploring the remote Galapagos Islands during his voyage of discovery around the world. With him is Syms Covington who joined HMS Beagle as a cabin boy but is now Mr Darwin's trusted assistant. When a fierce storm breaks, Syms finds himself thrown overboard and washed up on an unexplored, volcanic island. Thinking he just needs to survive long enough to be rescued, Syms is unprepared for the monstrous, screeching beast that swoops from the sky to attack him. Is he hallucinating or might this be a previously undocumented species? On an island with no fresh water and little food, he is likely to die before he can share any discovery with the rest of the world. Until he comes across a most unlikely ally.

Miss Kent recommends... 'Murder Most Unladylike' by Robin Stevens

I love this series of books! It is set in a boarding school in the 1930s and focuses on two main heroines: Daisy Wells and Hazel Wong. When Hazel stumbles upon a body in the school gym, she sets out to solve the case with her best friend: Daisy Wells. The dynamic duo make it their mission to identify the culprit of the crime and make Deepdean School for Girls safe again. This murder mystery is filled with twists and turns – just as you think that you have worked out who did it, the author gives another clue and confuses you all over again! The book contains notes from the girls' own casebook that they use to solve the murder, which I really enjoyed reading as it made me feel like I was solving it too!

Mrs Jank recommends... 'My Brother is a Superhero' by David Solomons

I absolutely love this book! It's so funny and full of action. Luke is a comic book-loving boy who, while hanging out in the treehouse with his brother, needs a wee. While he's gone, an alien gives his undeserving, never-read-a-comic-in-his-life brother superpowers and then tells him to save not just one universe, but two! Luke is massively annoyed about this, but when Zack is kidnapped by his arch-nemesis, Luke and his friends have only five days to find him and save the world.

Mrs Goode recommends... 'Boy at the Back of the Class' by Onjali Q. Raúf

Ahmet, a nine-year-old boy from Syria, is new to Mrs Khan's class and does not seem to smile or talk a lot. After learning that Ahmet is a refugee and has fled a horrific war in his home country, a group of children work together to try and reunite Ahmet with his family. This story is full of love, friendship and shows us all the importance of kindness and acceptance.

Mrs Dobson recommends... 'Greenwild' by Pari Thomson

This is an absolute must-read book! I started reading just before half term and was so captivated by the story and the rich vocabulary – some of which I have had to look up. I also had to immediately message Miss Kent! It is recommended for 9-11 year olds. The story revolves around a girl called Daisy who finds out that life is not everything she first believed it to be. With the disappearance of her mother, Daisy learns about herself and an entirely new world.

Dates for your Diary

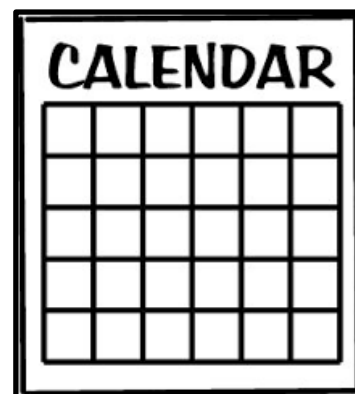
Thursday 7th March – World Book Day

Friday 8th March – Mothers' Day breakfast

Monday 11th March – Science Week

Friday 15th March – Comic Relief

Thursday 28th March – 'Sing off' & end of term



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@priorityrise.milton-keynes.sch.uk

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

**Thank-you for your
support**

The Year 6 Team