

# Year 6 newsletter



## SPRING TERM 2024

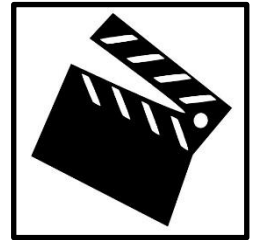
### Happy New Year!

Welcome back to the first Spring Term of Year 6! We hope that you had a restful and enjoyable break with your families and that you enjoyed celebrating the New Year.

We are sure that this new term will be just as wonderful as the last one! ❤️

### Our Spring Term One Topic: Light Fantastic

In **English**, our learning will be based around studying short films. We will be learning about the different elements of film and use this to support a range of writing activities, such as descriptive narratives, a non-chronological report and a voice over. Here's our rough overview for this half term:



Week 1 – Narrative (based on 'El Caminante')

Week 2 – Narrative (based on 'El Caminante')

Week 3 – Non-chronological report (based on 'The Deathly Hallows')

Week 4 – Non-chronological report (based on 'The Deathly Hallows') & assessment week

Week 5 – Narrative (based on 'The Piano')

Week 6 – Narrative (based on 'The Piano')

In **Maths**, we will continue to build upon our knowledge of place value and the written methods for all four operations. We will also begin to look at fractions and calculating with fractions. This will include adding, subtracting and multiplying fractions and the division of fractions by whole numbers. We will also look at how to convert between fractions, decimals and percentages. Here's the scheduled overview for the half term:

Week 1 – Adding and subtracting fractions (simple and mixed number)

Week 2 – Ordering and comparing fractions

Week 3 – Multiplying fractions (simple and mixed number)

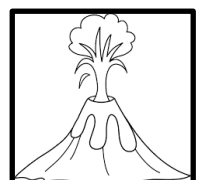
Week 4 – Dividing fractions & assessment week

Week 5 – Percentages

Week 6 – Converting between fractions, decimals and percentages

**Science**, our topic is called 'Light' and we will be looking at how humans can see. We will also cover reflection, refractions, how shadows are formed and why shadows change size.

In **Geography**, we will be learning about Earthquakes and Volcanoes. We will initially learn about the structure of the Earth to develop our understanding of how earthquakes and volcanoes occur and the effects that they have on the planet.



In **Music**, the children will be learning how to play the guitar with Mrs Horwood. Alongside this, the children will also be developing their improvisation and composition skills.

In **Computing**, we are going to continue to use the Purple Mash scheme of work and will be learning about how to input and use spreadsheets.

In **Art**, we are going to be studying the work of Claude Monet by developing our painting skills using water colour. We will begin by mixing colours to create a colour wheel before creating our own piece of work in the style of Monet.



In **R.E.**, we are going to be focusing on The Bible and begin to consider how The Bible originated and the different themes and text-types covered within it.



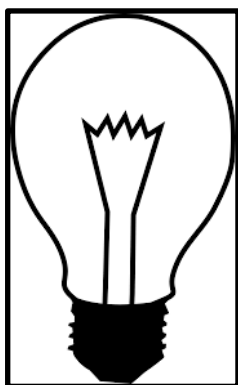
In **P.S.H.E.**, we will be looking at the value of the month for January – 'Self-confidence'. The other value of the month for this half term is 'Loyalty', which will be our value for the month of February. We will also be continuing our 'Jigsaw' scheme of work, with our next unit 'Dreams and Goals'. This unit will give us the opportunity to set some personal goals and recognise the necessary steps that we need to take in order to achieve them.

## Year 6 Website Page

Last half term, we had a refresh of the Year 6 page on the website. To help you support your child with their learning at home, we have added resources and links for Reading, GPS & Maths. Please do take a look!



## Our Science Topic



For our second Science lesson this half term, we need lots of cereal boxes – ideally 15 per class.

If you have any empty cereal boxes at home, please can you send them into school with your child. Please can you ensure that the cereal does not contain nuts, as we are a nut-free school.

Thank you in advance if you are able to support with this!

## Key Stage Two SATs

The statutory assessments for Year 6 children across the country are scheduled to take place from Monday 13<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May.

On these days, the children will be taking part in Reading, Grammar and Punctuation, Spelling and Maths tests. Please ensure that your child is in school for these four days!

We will be holding our SATs Information Evening on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January. During the meeting, we will be sharing information as to how to support your child in the run-up and during the SATs.

## We Love Reading!



**Mrs Willison recommends...**

**'The London Eye Mystery' by Siobhan Dowd**

Ted likes the weather, he also likes statistics and routine but his life is thrown into disarray when his Aunt Gloria and cousin Salim arrive, like a hurricane, to stay in London en-route to a new life in New York. Ted and his older sister Kat arrange to take Salim on the London Eye but although they watch him go up in a pod, he never comes down again. Salim is missing. Ted's analytical mind becomes an asset as he and Kat piece together the information surrounding their cousin's disappearance and begin to unravel the mystery. This is a beautifully written and engaging book.

**Miss Kent recommends...**

**'The Treekeepers' by Kieran Larwood**

An epic tale of trees of power and a world under threat, from the author of the bestselling Five Realms series. Here come the roots of the Shadow Tree. Whatever they touch will never get free. Liska lives in Arborven, a city surrounding an extraordinary tree that gives all those living there special powers. As a shapeshifter, Liska is training as a warrior. When she discovers that the Tree is under threat, it is her duty to act – but she can't convince anyone to listen to her. So with Lug, whose power over earthworms is dismissed as useless, and a ghost-girl, Elowen, she goes on an epic journey to defeat the worst threat their world has ever known.

**Mrs Jank recommends...**

**'Onyeka and the Academy of the Sun' by Tola Okogwu**

Onyeka has a lot of hair – the kind that makes strangers stop in the street. She's always felt insecure about her vibrant curls, until she makes an important discovery: she can control her hair with her mind! Her mother quickly whisks her off to the Academy of the Sun, a school in Nigeria where Solari – children with superpowers – are trained. But Onyeka and her new friends at the Academy soon have to put their powers to the test as they find themselves embroiled in a momentous battle between truth and lies...

**Mrs Goode recommends...**

**'Sky Chasers' by Emma Carol**

An encounter with a boy dangling from the sky changes pickpocket Magpie's life forever. Like her, the boy dreams of flying over the rooftops of Paris. His family, the Montgolfiers, are desperate to be first to discover the secret of flight. Together with Pierre, Magpie is soon caught up in a world of inflatable bloomers, spies and a trio of unruly animals in a race to be the first to fly a hot air balloon – in front of the King and Queen of France.

**Mrs Dobson recommends...**

**'The Windrush Child' by Benjamin Zephaniah**

This story is all the more incredible as it is true. It revolves around a boy, Leonard, who travels to England from Jamaica. His head is full of questions: Why are we leaving? What will life be like in England? Will I make friends? The life he has been promised isn't the life he finds when he arrives in Southampton. This is a story of grit, resilience and self-confidence.

## Dates for your Diary

17<sup>th</sup> January – STEM workshop in school

23<sup>rd</sup> January – SATs information evening

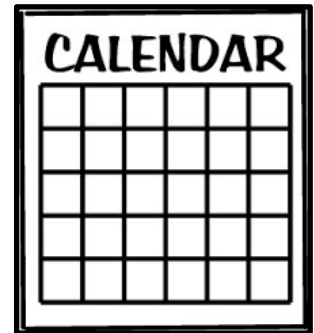
5<sup>th</sup> February – Wear something yellow for mental health

9<sup>th</sup> February – Chinese New Year – wear something red or traditional dress

12<sup>th</sup> February – Parents' evening

15<sup>th</sup> February – Parents' evening

16<sup>th</sup> February – Dress down day (to support the Friends of Priory Rise)



## Reading at Home

We will be continuing to collect the children's Home-School Link books each Wednesday. The children need to be writing their own entry each time that they read, summarising what has happened in the section of text that they have read and which parts of the book they did and didn't enjoy reading. An example of this can be found on the Priory Rise School website, on the Year 6 page.



While we are expecting the children to read at least three times per week, we would strongly encourage daily reading, where possible. The children can read their library books, reading books, newspapers, magazines or online articles.

If you would like some recommendations of brilliant books for Year 6 children to read, then please have a look on our website, where you will be a list of '100 Books to Try to Read Before You Leave Year 6'.

## 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@prioryrise.milton-keynes.sch.uk](mailto:year6@prioryrise.milton-keynes.sch.uk)

# Thank you for reading!