

year 6 newsletter

SPRING TERM 2023



Happy New Year!

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

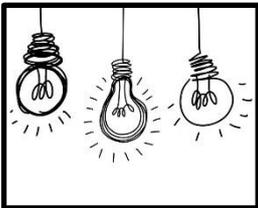
We are sure that this new term will be just as wonderful as the last one! ❤️

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.

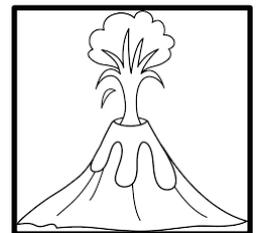


In **Maths**, we will continue to build upon our knowledge of place value and the written methods for all four operations. We will also begin to look at fractions and calculating with fractions. This will include adding, subtracting and multiplying fractions and the division of fractions by whole numbers.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



In **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 – 'Resilience'. The other value of the month for this half term is 'Care', 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.

Reading at Home

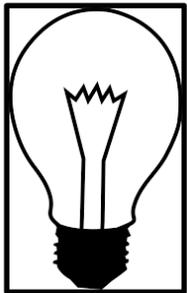
We will be continuing to collect the children's Home-School Link books each Wednesday. The children need to be writing their own entry each time that they read, summarising what has happened in the section of text that they have read and which parts of the book they did and didn't enjoy reading. An example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



Although 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'. Additionally, we have our teacher recommendations further down in this newsletter – we love reading!

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!

Key Stage Two SATs

The statutory assessments for Year 6 children across the country are scheduled to take place from Tuesday 9th May to Friday 12th May 2023.

On Monday 8th May 2023, we have a national Bank Holiday to honour our new King's coronation.

From the Tuesday until the Friday, 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 10th January, where we will be sharing information as to how to support your child.

We Love Reading!



Reading is such a big part of our daily lives in Year 6 and it is always such a joy to see the children reading and recommending books to each other – and to us teachers too!

This half term, we would like to repay the favour and recommend some of our favourite books to the children.

Mrs Paterson recommends...

'The Book of Stolen Dreams' by David Farr

I read this book over the Christmas holidays and it is absolutely brilliant! It follows the story of a brother and sister, Rachel and Robert, who are passed a stolen book by their librarian father. This leads them to have to go on the run to protect it at all costs. With their father captured and everyone hunting for the Book, they must uncover its secrets and track down the final, missing page. However, the cruel and calculating Charles Malstain is on their trail. When the children discover the astonishing, magical truth about the Book, they resolve to do everything in their power to stop it falling into his hands. For if it does, he could rule forever...

Miss Kent recommends...

'Pages & Co: Tilly and the Bookwanderers' by Anna James

This book is an amazing story that is set in a bookshop (one of my favourite places to go!) and combines adventure, mystery and magic, whilst introducing us to some familiar characters along the way. As I was reading, I couldn't wait to find out which character would appear next, or which world Tilly would be exploring. When she was younger, Tilly's Mother went missing and it is a mystery that Tilly has never been able to solve. After discovering a power that allows her to wander through the books that she loves so much, she sets out to try to solve the mystery with her friends – both from the real world, and the worlds of her books. This book is perfect for snuggling up on the sofa and losing yourself in a world of imagination. It is the first in a series of five books, and I cannot wait to read the next one!

Mrs Jank recommends...

'The Invention of Hugo Cabret' by Brian Selznick

My book recommendation for this half term is The Invention of Hugo Cabret by Brian Selznick. This is one of my favourite books. As well as being a deeply intriguing story, it is packed full of absolutely stunning pictures. The ending was not what I expected either!

Mrs Goode recommends...

'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' by C.S Lewis

During World War 2, Lucy and her siblings are evacuated to a large country house to escape the bombings in London. One day, Lucy discovers a magical world within a wardrobe called Narnia where it is always Winter but never Christmas. Soon her brothers and sister also join her and together they must fight the evil White Witch to not only save Narnia but also themselves.

Dates for your Diary

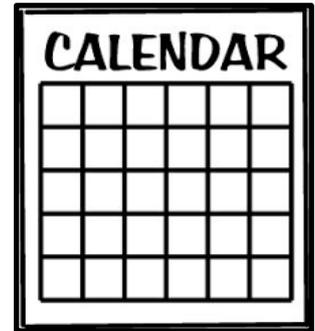
Wednesday 4th January – we welcome the children back to school

Tuesday 10th January – SATs Information Evening

Monday 23rd January – Chinese New Year celebration day

Tuesday 31st January – Nurse's screening for Year 6 children

Friday 10th February – we break for Half 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@prioryrise.milton-keynes.sch.uk

All of the Year 6 teachers are able to access this email address and will respond outside of teaching hours, but before 6pm each day.

Additional reminders...

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);
- a regular use of Times Tables Rockstars – there is a weekly competition between the classes, in which last half term, Paver Class came out as the overall champions! Well done Paver Class! Keep going, Elphinstone Class and Rundell Class!

As Winter continues to progress, please ensure that your child is coming in school with the appropriate winter attire and a coat. If the temperature is deemed to be too cold and your child does not have their coat, they will be invited to stay inside.

thank-you for your support

THE YEAR 6 TEAM