



Half Term Curriculum Plan / Home Learning Letter

Year 6

Spring 1st Half Term: January 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to a New Year and a brand new school term. I hope that you have all had a chance to relax over the Christmas break.

The Science focus for this half term will be **Light** where the children will look at what light is and what it does. In addition the children will be thinking about the following questions: Can light go around corners? How can the distance of the source of light affect the size of a shadow? Can light change direction without a mirror? How do we see different coloured objects?

In Geography the children will find out about the UK's global trade links, investigating where everyday products come from and the journeys they take to our homes. They will also map the journeys taken by items, and research the pros and cons of buying local or imported goods.

In Maths we will be continuing our work on fractions, learning how to multiply and divide them as well as converting them to decimal fractions and vice-versa. In addition, we will be consolidating finding percentages of amounts and money and using this knowledge to solve problems. The written methods for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division continue to be an important focus as well as looking at efficient mental strategies. We will also be classifying and identifying the properties of quadrilaterals, as well as finding missing angles. Continuing with 2D shapes, we will be learning about the properties of triangles and circles.

As you can appreciate, multiplication tables form the basis for most of the maths we do, so could you continue to support your children in learning their times tables and their corresponding division facts. It is also extremely important that they are confident with all the vocabulary relating to maths as well as knowing the essential key facts which will help them in their daily maths lessons. The study guides are excellent for supporting this.

In English we begin by looking at an extract of *The War of the Worlds* by H G Wells. The children will have the opportunity to explore the key features of a Science Fiction text and write a continuation and a newspaper report based on events in the story. This will be followed by a short story entitled *Weslandia* by Paul Fleischman where the children will write their own mystery story.

Spelling, punctuation and grammar is an integral part of the children's writing, so we will spend more time focusing on these areas, much of this will form the children's English home learning activities. It is important that the children have a secure knowledge of the vocabulary linked to grammar, spelling and punctuation and their definitions, so please encourage them to spend time reading through the study guides recently purchased. Handwriting is also an important skill that the children need to be practising on a regular basis. It is absolutely essential that their writing is legible so that their work can be fully appreciated and marked correctly.

In addition, we will continue with our weekly reading comprehension lessons and reading sessions. The children can also complete reading tests linked to the books they have read, using the accelerated reader programme. I am more than happy for them to do this in the classroom before school, or during their break times.

Year 6, as always, have the privilege of performing at the Barnet Schools Dance Festival at the Arts Depot. Rehearsals will begin this half-term and will form part of our PE curriculum. More details about dates and tickets etc. will follow nearer the time.

Home learning for this term is as follows:

Daily reading for around 15 - 20 minutes each day

Monday: Topic Task (as needed).

Tuesday: Maths (an activity/worksheet task/RM Easimaths) usually completed by Thursday.

Wednesday: English (grammar, punctuation, spelling/comprehension/writing task) usually completed by Friday plus a spelling list for a test on the following Wednesday.

Would you please initial all completed home learning tasks to show that you have seen the work before it is handed in. If you have had to spend more time than usual supporting your child with their home learning, could you please annotate it so that we can follow it up in class. Thank you.

SATs revision: Maths, English (grammar, punctuation, spelling) and Science. Please use the study guides to support the home learning and revision.

Class teacher: Mrs. Susan Kelly

Date: January 2018