



KS2 Half Term Curriculum Plan - Home Learning Letter

Year 6

Autumn 2nd Half Term: November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope the children have had an enjoyable half term break. We are so pleased with how they have settled into Year 6 and are looking forward to the weeks ahead. Later in the half term, the children will take part in a variety of fun and festive Christmas activities.

Please refer to the table below, for a brief overview of the learning experiences that the children will have in each subject, during this half term.

Subjects	Focus of Learning
English	This half term our focus text will be Macbeth and we look forward to welcoming back The Young Shakespeare Company (who most of the children have met before) to further develop pupils' understanding of the plot, characters, themes and language in this classic Shakespeare play. This unit of work will support children's reading including; fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. The children will be producing meaningful writing, for a range of form, purpose and audience. There will also be opportunities for drama and reading aloud, so that the children can gain a true experience of the text as a play for performance. The teaching of grammar and punctuation is embedded within the analysis of the language and structures used to tell the story, with pupils exploring the effect these might have on readers. Pupils will be applying what they have learned to their own writing, making choices to affect their reader's thoughts and feelings.
Reading	Year 6 will be focusing on their Reciprocal Reading 'fab four' strategies this half term: predicting, questioning, clarifying and summarising. Alongside our Macbeth focus text, the children will be involved in small group reading comprehension tasks and will further develop their independent reading skills using the Accelerated Reader scheme.
Maths	In maths this half term, we will begin by consolidating our knowledge of negative numbers. We will then move on to look at finding area, perimeter and volumes of shapes. Later in the half term, we will work on our mental division strategies; find fractions of amounts and work on our short division skills. Towards the end of the half term, we will be adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing fractions.
Science	Our Science topic this half term will be 'Electricity, Danger Low Voltage!' The children will develop their understanding of electrical circuits and how electricity flows through them, by constructing their own. They will learn to use the recognised electrical symbols to record circuits and will investigate how series and parallel circuits work. The children will plan and carry out some practicals, which will investigate how different components can affect the brightness of a light bulb; they will be encouraged to record and explain results using scientific vocabulary. The children will also learn how voltage and resistance affects the flow of electricity around a circuit.



Computing	In computing, we will be having a discussion to further develop the children's knowledge and understanding about their digital footprint. We will then use Purple Mash resources to evaluate and build on children's coding skills. The children will revise and consolidate their knowledge of objects, actions and events; use repeat, if and if/else statements when coding and creating.
Geography	Our Geography unit this half term is 'The UK'. The children will compare and contrast the different countries of the UK and identify major cities and physical characteristics. We will look at how people have affected the United Kingdom's landscape and try to describe and explain the sorts of industries in which people work in the UK. Time permitting, we plan to round off the topic by beginning to understand types of energy sources used in the UK – this will link well with our Eco Focus Day work.
PHSCE	Celebrating differences is our focus for PSHCE this half term. During this unit, the children will consider that there are different perspectives about what 'normal' means. We will begin to think about how being 'different' can affect people's lives and look at how people are sometimes treated badly or excluded because they are seen as 'different'. We will discuss the term 'bullying' and consider reasons why some people might use bullying behaviours. We will also discuss strategies for managing feelings and find out about people with disabilities (who lead amazing lives). We will begin to explain how differences can be a source of conflict and also a source of celebration. We will make links to our British Values.
DT	We will be linking our Autumn DT project with our current science project. The children will use their knowledge of circuits to help them make a 'light up' Christmas box decoration. They will experiment with and create their own nets, to make 3D shapes; design their individualised Christmas boxes; add in their own electrical circuits; make and evaluate their work, ready for Christmas ☺
RE	In RE we are thinking about incarnation. We will be re-enacting the transfiguration and translating artwork into words. We will think about the term 'peace maker' and consider what this means. We will be creating posters advertising child sponsorship; we will conclude by debating the question: "Does the world need a messiah?"
Music	We will continue our music focus sessions from last half term, looking at a 'happy' play list. The children will listen and appraise a range of songs, take an active role in warm up games and try our improvisation tasks. As mentioned previously, this unit takes an integrated approach to music where games, the dimensions of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc.), singing and playing instruments are all linked.



Home Learning

Home learning will continue to be set on Google Classroom. This half term it will consist of a Maths focused task, linked to objectives from our daily lessons and an English task. On some weeks, I will be sending home SPAG mats (spelling, punctuation and grammar mats) which will be used as mini revision guides for children to further develop and consolidate their knowledge in key Y6 grammar learning. Both Maths and English home-learning will be uploaded on to Google Classroom each Friday. The set work should be completed and uploaded to GC by the following Wednesday. A photo can be taken of the learning and then uploaded and submitted to Google Classroom. Weekly spellings will continue to be sent home on a Friday; spelling tests will take place on the following Friday. Please encourage children to practise their spellings regularly, ready for their weekly spelling test.

In addition to these home learning tasks, we recommend that children also engage with RM Easi-Maths and TT Rockstars on a regular basis. Please let a member of the Year 6 team know, if you need any help accessing these platforms or if there are any other home-learning issues.

Reading

One of the most important ways in which you can support your child's learning is to ensure that they engage with 10-15 minutes reading every day. It is really helpful if you can take some time to read with your child and discuss what they have read. Whilst reading, it would be great if you could encourage your child to make **predictions** and **ask questions** about the text. Try to help them identify and **clarify** words or phrases that they are unsure about and encourage them to **summarise** a paragraph or page that they have just read. It is also beneficial to read aloud to your children. At school, the children are using the Accelerated Reading scheme, taking quizzes on books they have read within school time. If your child finishes reading a book at home, they will have the opportunity to complete an Accelerated Reader quiz at school (if one is available). The children will keep a reading record (paper copy) in school, on which they will record the book titles they are reading, and any 'Accelerated Reader' quiz scores that they achieve.

P.E.

We will continue to have a coached PE session on Friday afternoons. The class will also have PE on a Thursday. On these days, children will need to **come in to school wearing their PE kit**. This should consist of their school PE t-shirt, jogging bottoms, jumper or hoodie and trainers (not plimsolls, due to possible wet weather).

What does my child need in school?

- **Named** school jumper/cardigan/coat
- Named water bottle (water fountains are still not in use)
- Children won't need a school bag as they are no longer bringing PE kits/home learning folders to and from school. Children may use a plastic bag if they'd like to bring anything in.
- Children can bring in school book bags if they have them
- **Your child will need a plastic/metal pencil case containing pencils, handwriting pen, small ruler, eraser, sharpener (one that holds sharpenings), colouring pencils and a glue stick**
- Small packet of tissues, and we also ask for any donations of larger tissue boxes for the classroom.
- Children having packed lunch – continue to use a plastic bag rather than a lunch box please.

If you have any questions, please contact the class team via the School Office email.

Many thanks for your continued support,

Mrs Jennifer Harris – Year 6 class teacher