



**KS2 Half Term Curriculum Plan - Home Learning Letter**

**Year 6**

**Spring 1<sup>st</sup> Half Term: January 2022**

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you have had a fun and festive Christmas break. Happy New Year! May 2020 bring health, happiness and prosperity to you and your families. I know I have already sent out a message, but I wanted to say another big "THANK YOU" for your amazing kindness. I received so many lovely cards and gifts at the end of term, which were all very much appreciated. I shall very much enjoy some retail therapy with the generous voucher you gave me too 😊

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.

<b>Subjects</b>	<b>Focus of Learning</b>
English	We start the new year looking at a War of the Worlds excerpt. We will use this to discuss and identify the features of science fiction texts and identify and explore unfamiliar vocabulary. We will create summary story maps then plan and write a continuation to the text. We will then move on to look at the features of newspapers; planning and writing our own articles. Towards the end of the half term we will be moving on to look at a new text entitled 'Westlandia'. We will explore and discuss the emotive language in the text and use this to help us to write a discussion text / debate / written argument. Although we will be looking at a variety of grammar, further consolidating our KS2 knowledge; we will have a particular focus on adverbials, subordinating conjunctions, active/passive voice and subordinate clauses this half term.
Reading	We will continue to develop our reading fluency and comprehension skills this half term, with regular group and independent reading sessions. Children will continue to use the Accelerated Reader resources, as well as further developing their understanding of predicting, questioning, clarifying and summarising with reciprocal reading sessions.
Maths	In maths this half term, we will begin by consolidating our knowledge of place value with a focus on larger numbers and subtraction. We will then look at multiplication of decimals and fractions. Later in the half term we will be exploring 2D shapes and calculating angles. We will also be focusing on accuracy of calculations, ensuring that column addition, column subtraction, column multiplication and short division are being used effectively.
Science	We will start the new term by completing our topic on Electricity. We will then move on to our new Science topic, 'Light Up Your World', in which we will be learning about what light is and how it travels. We will explore how we see objects and will investigate the size and shape of shadows. The children will be given opportunities to plan their own scientific enquiries to answer questions, including recognising and controlling variables where necessary. We will learn about refraction through practical activities and will explore how we see different coloured objects



Computing	This half term, the main aim of our Computing sessions, are to provide opportunities to find out more about how networks work, understand computer networks including the Internet, learn how they can provide multiple services, such as the World Wide Web, and explore the opportunities they offer for communication and collaboration. We will look at key questions such as: What is the difference between the Internet and the World Wide Web? What is the difference between a LAN and a WAN? Who is Tim BernersLee?
History	In History this half term, Year 6 will be focusing on a topic entitled 'The Zulu Kingdom'. The children will begin to explore where the Zulu Kingdom is in history and research what the Zulus were known for. We will look critically at sources and make connections between the Zulu Kingdom and British history. We will investigate traditional v modern Zulu culture and think about the impact of significant individuals and events in history.
PHSCE	Our Jigsaw PSHCE topic this half term is 'Dreams and Goals' – we will think about personal learning goals and steps to success, thinking about how we can be motivated to work on these. We will discuss our dreams for the world, identifying problems that concern us and think about how we can make the world a better place. Finally, we will discuss and identify our achievements, share ideas about what people like and admire about each of us as individuals.
DT	With so many festive activities last half term, we didn't get round to linking our DT work to our Science work, so we have carried this over and will complete our project over the coming weeks. The children will use their knowledge of circuits to help them to make a 'light up' new year box. The children will experiment with and create their own nets, to make 3D shapes; design their individualised new year boxes, add in their own electrical circuits and finally make and evaluate their work.
Religious Education	In RE we are thinking about the over-arching question, 'What does it mean if God is holy and loving?' By the end of the unit, the children will be able to name different types of biblical text, identify and use some technical and theological terms correctly. We will begin to explain connections between biblical texts and Christian ideas of God. We will then think about how Christians put beliefs into practice and weigh up how biblical ideas about love, holiness or forgiveness relate to our own lives and the world today.
Music	Our music focus this half term is based around a song from Benjamin Britten's Friday Afternoons: A New Year Carol. We will begin by listening and appraising A New Year Carol and some more of Britten's Friday Afternoons songs. The children will be taking an active role in a range of musical activities (including games, singing and performing) - learning about the interrelated dimensions of music.



## Home Learning

Home learning will continue to be set on Google Classroom. This half term it will consist of a Maths arithmetic paper each week and English tasks. 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. Please remind children to click the button 'done' or 'hand in' to show that work has been completed. 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. It is also essential that children know what each word means – please encourage children to look up any unfamiliar words.

In addition to these home learning tasks, we recommend that children also engage with TT Rockstars on a regular basis to support times tables fluency (it's important that children are confident with division questions as well as multiplication questions). 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 of 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 are welcome 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 Tuesday 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 – additional layers under uniform (if necessary)
- 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 bring a small school bag however**, if they'd like to bring anything in. Please avoid bringing large bags as they can cause trip hazards in cloakroom areas which are busy with coats at this time of year.
- 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 – please replenish resources as and when needed.**
- Small packet of tissues, and we also ask for any donations of larger tissue boxes for the classroom.
- Children having packed lunch – continue to bring this in a plastic bag so it can be easily hung on individual pegs during the day.

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* 😊