



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

**Year 6**

**Spring 2<sup>nd</sup> Half Term: February 2022**

Dear Parents/Carers, we hope you have had a good half term break. I can't quite believe we are half way through the academic year already!

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	During Spring 1, the children engaged brilliantly with our War of the Worlds work and produced some excellent writing. We have decided to continue with this focus text for one more week, further developing aspects of grammar and to create newspaper reports. On completing our reports, we will move on to our new focus text, which is the narrative poem, The Highwayman. Using the narrative poem, the children will consolidate grammar knowledge, including: use of apostrophes, modal verbs and relative clauses. We will be exploring the text, story mapping, writing from character perspectives, producing a diary entry and looking at non-chronological reports. <b>Don't forget...</b> we also have our World Book Day on <b>Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March.</b>
Reading	This half term, we are focusing on our comprehension skills, with regular group and independent reading sessions. We will look at different types of questions and ensure we are clear about how to answer particular questions. Using our focus text, we will be making deductions and infer meaning. We will also be looking for imagery within The Highwayman, identifying metaphors, similes, personification and onomatopoeia. 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 short and long division, adding and subtracting decimals and using fractions in calculations. Later in the half term we will be looking at multi-step problems, line graphs, pie charts and coordinates. We will also continue with our weekly arithmetic sessions to develop our fluency in maths and consolidate core skills.
Science	In Science, the children will build on their knowledge of living things and how they are adapted to particular environments. We will learn about how inherited characteristics are passed on from parents to offspring and that environmental variables also affect how organisms look and behave. The children will explore Charles Darwin's theory of natural selection, including his studies on Finches. We will also learn about the process of fossilisation and how fossils provide us with information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago. <b>Don't forget...</b> we also have our exciting Science Day on <b>Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March.</b>
Computing	In Computing this half term, the children will use Purple Mash resources to create picture-based quizzes for a particular purpose. We will then learn how to use the different question types within 2Quiz. We will explore grammar quizzes and design and create quizzes that require the player to search a database. Year 6 will also take part in an 'Online Safety Session' looking at fake news and critical thinking. Please do attend our <b>PARENTS' ONLINE SAFETY SESSSION</b> if you can - <b>(via Zoom) @ 6pm, also on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.</b>
TOPIC History Geography	We will be finishing off our Zulu Kingdom work at the beginning of this half term, creating fact pages which compare Zulu life, then and now. We will then move on to focus on a Geography topic about mountains. We will focus on key words and definitions to start, then move on to discuss 'the 7 summits'. We will look at key features of mountains, mountain life and climates. We will also be researching and finding out about the UK's highest mountains.
PHSCE	Our Jigsaw PSHCE topic this half term is 'Healthy Me' and we will be thinking about ways in which the children can take responsibility for their own health and well-being. We will discuss issues relating to drugs, exploitation, gangs, emotional health, mental health and stress. As always, the children will have the opportunity to share and discuss thoughts, ideas and questions within a safe and trusted space. We will also discuss where children can find further help, guidance and support if or when they may need it.

ART	On completion of our Inspirational light up boxes, the children will begin a new project about collage. We will look at different styles of collage and a range of collage artists. We will try out different collage techniques and create our own pieces of artwork, using paper we have designed and printed ourselves. To complete our topic (time permitting), we will look at the work of contemporary collage artist, Sarah Eisenlohr and create some digital artwork.
Religious Education	In RE we will be sharing our knowledge and understanding of how the bible is made up and thinking about the different elements of the Understanding Christianity 'Big Story'. We will then look back at the work we began on 'incarnation'. We will consolidate our knowledge and understanding of the transfiguration and further explore the question, "Does the world need a messiah?"
Music	Our music focus for this half term is entitled 'You've got a friend'. The learning in this unit is focused around the song: You've Got a Friend - a song about friendship by Carole King. We will also be looking at a number of other songs which were written or sung by Carole King. The children will be listening and appraising, taking part in musical activities, such as: warm up games, improvisation with instruments and composing. The children will consolidate their knowledge of key vocabulary, including: melody, pulse, rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics, timbre, texture, dimensions, hook, unison and harmony.

### Home Learning

Home learning will continue to be set on Google Classroom. Both Maths and English home-learning will be uploaded on to Google Classroom every Friday unless otherwise specified. Work should be completed and uploaded to GC by the following Wednesday. 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. Children should also be regularly practising reading and spelling of the Y5/6 statutory words (or Year 3/4 statutory words, if consolidation is needed).

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 or cardigan
- Water-proof coat (essential with the changeable weather)
- Additional layers under uniform (if necessary)
- Named water bottle (water fountains are still not in use)
- Children can bring in a small school bag if they need one
- Your child will need a plastic or metal pencil case containing pencils, handwriting pen, small ruler, eraser, sharpener (one that holds sharpenings), colouring pencils and a glue stick – please replenish pencil case resources if 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* 😊