

The creativity topic for Term 1 is focused on Map skills. The children will learn about the UK's physical features; use a compass; study OS maps; and use a variety of research and presentational skills when completing the various tasks associated with this topic.

In their art learning, Year 6 will be learning about the work of Leonardo da Vinci. They will be particularly focusing on his work involving painting and printing; they will explore his techniques and learn to replicate them within their own designs.

Forest schools will also return for Year 6 on Monday afternoons, with their first session starting on 21st September. In these sessions, the children will focus on key tool skills, problem solving, team building and creative thinking.

In maths for Term 1, Year 6 begin with a focus of place value and methods for calculating; these topics focus on the understanding of the value of digits within a number and how to use that knowledge to flexibly calculate traditionally and mentally. These topics provide the foundations for all others that go after them.

The children will learn to say, write, compare and order numbers up to 10,000,000. They will then learn how to use their knowledge of place value to add, subtract, multiply and divide in a variety of ways.

This year it is going to be crucial that the children consolidate their learning of the topics that we cover. We would therefore ask parents to speak with their children regarding their Maths understanding and to encourage their child to speak to Year 6 staff for any further guidance they require with their Maths. Regular practice of their times tables and division fact knowledge will also be key to success in Maths in Year 6.

In science, Year 6 will be studying 'All Living Things'. This will include:

- describing how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable characteristics and based on similarities and differences, including micro-organisms, plants and animals.
- identifying the reasons for classifying plants and animals based on specific characteristics.

Year 6 Term 1

In French, the class will be studying a topic titled 'My Home'. By the end of the unit children should be able to:

- say and write in French whether we live in a house or an apartment.
- say what room we have and do not have at home using the key structure chez moi il y a... and chez moi in n'y a pas de/d'...
- use the conjunction 'et' (and) to link two sentences together.

In PE, Year 6 will be learning about the sport of handball. They will particularly develop their throwing and catching skills. They will also be completing swimming lessons within their PE time. Swimming sessions will take place at Fairfield Pool on a Thursday afternoon throughout Term 1 and Term 2.

The PSHE focus for Term 1 for Year 6 will be similar to the other classes around the school. The children will be reintroduced to the Zones of Regulation and will consider how they can use the zones to regulate their emotions on a daily basis.

Year 6 will also undertake physical activity sessions in which the children take part in a weekly walk.

The RE topic for Term 1 is The Domestic Church: 'Loving'. The children will learn about unconditional love and how they can make sure that it is in their lives. They will analyse Scripture, create their own art interpretation of The Prodigal Son, and write fables based on the teachings of the Beatitudes.

In English this term, Year 6 will be understanding what might be seen in, 'A Garden at Night' using the poem of the same name by James Reeves.

Using reading skills, the children will be looking at imagery, mood and how the author has used language to convey this. They will also analyse and compare this to 'Where the Picnic was' by Thomas Hardy. Furthermore, they will include oracy tasks, such as different things one might experience in a garden at night compared to the day and discussing word classes. Within their writing, the children will be using descriptive tools including similes, metaphors, alliteration and personification. At the end of the unit, the children will be writing their own poem about a presence in a garden at night.

The GPS focus will include: revisiting Year 5 objectives, relative clauses, parenthesis and a variety of spelling rules.

The children will cement their knowledge of the Y3-4 spelling list before focusing on statutory words in the Y5-6 list. They will also learn how to become more independent in the checking and editing of their writing in regards to spelling and vocabulary choices.

It is going to be especially important for the children this year to receive support at home when reading. Please see the children's bookmarks and contact books for assistance with this.

Year 6 will be focusing on how to improve their attitude towards their learning and become a 'Learning Champion'.

To become a Learning Champion, children need to become:

- an effective investigator
- a problem solver
- a creative thinker
- an information processor
- an independent learner
- a reflective learner
- a self-manager
- a pro-active social thinker
- an active communicator

