

Dear Parents,

It is already our final term of the school year, and for some of our children, their final half term in school. Year Six have already had a visit from the High School as part of their transition programme and a letter has been sent home regarding a beach day where they will work with children who will be joining them at the High School in September. It is going to be a very busy term so please look out for letters and forms in bags and ParentMails. As the weather gets warmer, please make sure your child has a water bottle with them each day and brings a hat to school. Please think about the application of suncream, particularly on days where your child will be spending long periods outside.

Curriculum

English

Our novel this half term is the story of Kensuke's Kingdom, by Michael Morpurgo. This book is always very popular with the children and offers lots of cross curricular opportunities as well as writing letters, post cards, balanced arguments and writing from the perspective of different characters, both animal and human. Please encourage your child not to read ahead at home as this can make it more difficult to complete tasks in lessons.

Maths-

Year 6 will continue to look on reasoning and problem solving - using this as a way to revise and review all the work they have done this year. We will also be doing work based around position and direction focussing on reflection, translation and coordinates.

Year 5 will move onto area and perimeter of different types of 2D shapes and then properties of shapes and angles.

Science

The unit of work for this half term will be to look at electricity and circuits. The children will learn to recognise the different symbols associated with circuits and building circuits based on different criteria. They will also look at scientists and inventors who were influential in the development of the large-scale use of electricity.

Topic - This is a combined history and geography unit based around castles in our local area. We will use maps to locate different castles and think about where they are sited and why. We will look at how castles are built and how this may have changed over time, including changes in the area around the castles. Local castles will be looked at in detail and we will think about how their use has changed over time and why many of them are still important today.

French - In French the children will be looking at family members, including animals and also where people live. There will be the opportunity to learn songs and rhymes and think about adjectives and pronouns which show possession. They will also continue to build up sentences and give their opinions about different ideas.

Art - The focus is wildlife and in particular, birds. We will be drawing and looking at different techniques to add definition and detail. We will also look at printing and pattern making, using the natural world as an influence.

RE - The title of the unit of work is 'What matters most to Christians and Humanists'. We will be looking at why some people believe in God and some don't and examining how people make choices and decide what rules they should follow to lead a good life.

PSHE- It is St. Andrew's class's turn to work with Commando Joes this half term. The children will work in teams to solve problems, improve their communication skills and build resilience. It has been successful and popular in other year groups, so it is an exciting opportunity for the children.

PE - Once again we will be working with Newcastle United on a Monday. We hope to be outdoors whenever possible, so please ensure the children are dressed suitably. On Wednesday the children will be completing athletics activities and practising for sports day.

Homework- The children are working hard to complete their homework and it is making a difference to their work in class. Your support is appreciated and arrangements for setting and handing in homework remain the same.

If you have any further questions please ask.

Regards,

Rebecca Hedley.