

St John's CE Primary School
Year 6 Autumn Term Forecast 2020

Welcome back to school and to Year6 after such an extended absence. We hope you all had a safe, enjoyable and relaxing summer following on from the period of lockdown. Our primary focus, particularly in the first half of term, is to settle the children back into a 'new normal' of school life, ensuring they feel comfortable and secure so that they can build a solid foundation for a successful final year with us. Outlined below is some of the information regarding skills and topics which the children will be covering during the Autumn term.

English

In English, we will cover a range of fiction and non-fiction texts in order to support learning in non-fiction writing (information leaflets and balanced arguments), narrative writing (stories from different character's perspectives), formal writing (based around our science topic) and poetry. I have arranged a poetry workshop on November 6th in school.

Spelling: The focus for spelling will centre around the Year 5 and 6 key words but will also include revision of Years 3 and 4 key words. Spelling is an important element of writing which will be assessed separately as part of the SPaG test during SATs but it also forms part of the writing assessment in SATs. Children cannot obtain the standard in writing if they have weak spelling. It is therefore vital that the children spend time learning and practising key spellings and rules throughout the year. The autumn term will focus on: revising strategies used for learning spellings; revision of key year 3 / 4 words; ambitious synonyms (adjectives); homophones and near homophones; suffixes -ant, -ance, -ancy; suffixes -ent, -ence, -ency; words with hyphens. The children will also be expected to learn words related to science work and topic work.

In addition to this, there will be an expectation for children to develop their independence, by identifying for themselves words they are consistently spelling incorrectly, and use various strategies to support them in learning these trickier words. In class the children will be taught a range of strategies, choosing the ones that suit and support them best, according to what type of a learner they are.

Reading will continue on an individual and class basis. The children should continue to make every effort to broaden their choice of reading genres (both fiction and non-fiction) so that they are able to understand the features of different texts. There will be a focus during the Autumn term on guided reading.

Maths

In Maths this term we are going to focus our efforts with year 6 on their confidence and discussion of methods and strategies, considering carefully that they have been learning remotely since March. Children will be given many opportunities to reinforce and extend their ability to answer mathematical questions efficiently and mentally and also quick recall of their times tables. We will be covering: place value within 10,000,000; four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division); fractions; geometry (position and direction).

Science

This term the children will be studying Electricity, including how to construct and investigate circuits. Then we will move onto Animals including humans; through this topic we will be learning about the different systems of the human body, focusing particularly in the circulatory system. We will also look at how to keep our bodies and minds healthy.

Art

Ms Geldart will be leading the Art sessions this term. The work will link in with our creative curriculum theme 'A child's war'. The children will be thinking about 'make do and mend' and making bunting and flags using found materials. They will also produce individual propaganda posters based on original WW2 posters.

PSHE

This term the class will be working on developing their individual growth mindset; the idea that we all have the ability to learn, achieve our goals, make mistakes and improve. We aim to encourage children to love challenges, be intrigued by mistakes, enjoy effort, and keep on learning.

Our focus this term is settling back into school and looking at anxiety, what it means, recognising it is real and developing ways to reduce our own anxieties through moulding our strong personal internal voice.

RE

This term the children will be studying the Jewish faith including what it means to be a Jew and learning more about Passover celebrations. After half term they will move on to Remembrance and then Christianity and the first Christmas.

Music

Music will link in with our Creative Curriculum theme of A child's war, including listening to music from the period of WW2.

PE

Games this year will take place on Wednesday afternoons with Mr Gunn, Mr Newman. Mr Jeffrey may also help out on occasions.

Swimming will take place on Thursday afternoons. Swimming will run each week throughout the year.

Please ensure that your child arrives in the correct PE kit every Wednesday to ensure no changing in school.

Computing

We will be looking at how to stay safe on the Internet. The children will have regular access to the school's class set of Chromebooks for use across the curriculum over the week. Miss Fitzpatrick will also be supporting the class for some computing sessions this year.

Wider Curriculum

Our topic for the first term will be A Child's War. This is a history led topic which examines the cause and effect of the Second World War. Children will learn about the significant events and people involved in the war and they will also develop their empathy for what it was like to be a child at the time. They will be able to explain why the Second World War began, when and why children were evacuated and describe what it might have felt like to be evacuated. Children will explore the life of Anne Frank and they will have an opportunity to write their own diary entries using their knowledge and imagination of what it was like to live through the Second World War.

Homework

Homework will consist of work related to English and Maths that has been covered in class including Mathletics; at times they may receive some literacy work related to grammar objectives or other subjects. The children will be given tasks to complete related to our Wider Curriculum topic of 'A child's war', this will include practical activities such as art/craft.

The children will be given a 'Chance to Write' book; this is a lovely book, which at the end of year 6 they will take home with them as a memento of their last year at primary school. They will be given various topics to write about; topics that will interest them and that they will also be involved in choosing. They will be given a new topic to write about every fortnight.

Children have been given a copy of the year 3 / 4 lists (also on the website) and can find the year 5 / 6 spelling lists on the website. During the term the children will be expected to practise, learn and begin to use them in their writing, where

appropriate. In addition to this, they will be expected to practise any personal spellings they have identified themselves.

The children will be expected to read regularly ensuring that they cover a range of genres. They should aim to recognise the different features of each genre, both in terms of language used and layout, so that they can use this knowledge to improve their own writing.

Homework will usually be handed out on a Wednesday and due back the following Monday. For some tasks the children will be allowed a longer time to complete them but this will be stated on the weekly home learning sheet that will be handed out.

Ways to help your children

Read, read, read! Let your child read silently to themselves, read to you, to other family members and also please let them see you read whenever possible; this is so valuable as a model for them. Encourage your child to read regularly from a wide variety of books of different genres and authors. This will help develop their comprehension and fluency when reading. Ask the children to focus on how the author writes, their choice of words and language; in doing so this will help improve their writing.

It would also be helpful if you could support your child in identifying spelling errors they consistently make so that they can practise learning them using methods from their toolkits they will learn with us in school.

Practise mental maths wherever possible, when shopping, when cooking/baking, walking to school etc! If your child still doesn't know all their times tables, please encourage them to practise them as often as possible so that it doesn't inhibit their mental maths skills.

Useful websites for this term are:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zv48q6f>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z826n39>

<https://www.theschoolrun.com/homework-help/world-war-2>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zj44jxs>

<https://www.theschoolrun.com/what-is-electricity>

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/religion/jewish.htm>

Thank you all in advance for your support. We are excited about the term ahead and hope you are too. Please do not hesitate to contact us for anything, however small.

Kind Regards

Mrs Horne, Miss De Vitto & Mrs Johnson