

Autumn Term: Curriculum Newsletter: Year 6

<u>Autumn Term 1 Topic:</u>	Space
<u>Autumn Term 2 Topic:</u>	Africa

Dear Parents / Carers

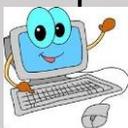
We hope that you have had a really lovely summer break and that your children are feeling refreshed, revitalised and ready for the academic year ahead!

This term your children will be learning about Space (Term 1) and Africa (Term 2). Alongside this Curriculum Newsletter, your children will bring home this term's Knowledge Organiser, which contains key knowledge, dates, figures and vocabulary that the children should learn, as part of homework, by the end of the term when they will take their 'end of topic quizzes'.

Focus on Curriculum

Below outlines some of the exciting things your child will learn about and experience this term, through the different curriculum areas.

Science 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Physics: day and night; seasons; lunar cycle• Characteristics of living organisms: Carl Linnaeus
History 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Space Race (USA vs USSR)• The Moon Landing• Apartheid and the Life of Nelson Mandela
Geography 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Six figure grid references• Biomes within Africa
Art and Design 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Artist study (mixed media): Peter Thorpe• Sketching one-point perspective• Light and shade• Artist study: Gakonga- developing watercolour, pastel and brusho skills• Creating texture through collage
Design and Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Design and make a lunar rover (product design including electrical circuitry)• Design and make an African bag (textiles)

	
<p>Music</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The sections of the orchestra and the inter-related dimensions of music • Musician study: Gustav Holst and 'The Planets' • Using staff notation: Glockenspiels • Choral singing: African rhymes and songs • Djembe studies
<p>Languages</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom instructions
<p>Religious Education</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christianity
<p>PSHE (SCARF)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Me and My Relationships: Collaboration, negotiation and assertiveness • Valuing difference: friendship, tolerance, respect and challenging stereotypes
<p>Physical Education</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy Heroes (Developing self-confidence run by Up and Under Sports) • Hockey and Basketball <p>PE days this term are: Tuesday am; Thursday pm</p>
<p>Computing</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital literacy: understanding the concept of cyber-bullying

Signposts to Learning

We know that you will be keen to support your children with their learning. Below are some suggested books and websites, which can help.

Websites

<https://www.nasa.gov/kidsclub/index.html>

<https://www.esa.int/kids/en/home>

<https://www.planetary.org/kids>

<https://www.kids-world-travel-guide.com/africa-facts.html>
<https://www.dkfindout.com/uk/earth/continents/africa/>
<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/discover/history/general-history/nelson-mandela/>

Books

- DK Space: a children's encyclopedia
- Everything Space: National Geographic Kids
- Usborne: Look Inside Space
- **African Tales: A Barefoot Collection**
- **Long Walk to Freedom: Illustrated Children's Edition**
- **Africa is not a country: Mark Melnicove and Margy Burns Knight**

Visits/ Enrichment Experiences

- Pencelli- outdoor pursuits

Homework

In year 6, it is vital that we support our children to gain greater independence in the completion of their homework, in order to help them become 'Secondary Ready' by the end of the year.

It is expected that your child will continue to read independently at home and complete the task in their reading record, learn their spellings and study the information on their topic knowledge organisers each week, which will make up part of the weekly homework.

In addition to these expectations, we will be using the Seesaw app to set a Maths task every week. These will be focused upon basic skills, and will be in a familiar format, and based upon class learning from the week, so the children should be able to complete the tasks reasonably unsupported.

Once a topic, we will set a 'Family Learning Project', which will take place of the Maths tasks, and will last a fortnight. The idea of 'Family Learning Projects' is to help immerse your children in their current topic learning, and it is intended that parents can get involved alongside their children. The projects can then be shared through the Seesaw app.

If ever you do have any questions or concerns regarding homework, please feel free to use the Seesaw family messaging service to let us know.

Important Dates for Your Diaries

- 15th September: Welcome to Year 6 Presentation uploaded through parent communication on Seesaw
- 8th October: Mental Health Awareness day 'Mellow Yellow'
- 20th October: Last day of term 1
- 21st- 31st October: Half term
- 5th November: Autumn Statements go out
- 10th November: Parents Evening (4-7pm)
- 11th November: Parents Evening (3:30 - 5:30pm)
- 12th November: Children in Need
- 16th December: KS2 Christmas Lunch
- 17th December: KS2 party packed lunch (bring own from home)
- 17th December: Last day of term 2

As you can see, this term will bring many exciting learning opportunities! If you do have any questions, please feel free to contact us through the family messaging service on the Seesaw app.

Thanks for your continued support.

Mrs Legg and Mrs Burch