

# Class 6 Newsletter

AUTUMN 1 2020

Dear parents/carers and children,

How fantastic it is to have the children all back in school together! All of the class have made a hugely positive start to the new school year, and it has been a pleasure to share in their excitement at seeing each other all together again.



Whilst we adapt to the new routines and systems in place, we will be focusing on the children's own experiences of the past six months and how they feel about their return to school. If you have any concerns regarding your child in this area, please do not hesitate to share them with us as it will definitely help us to settle the children back into school life.

## Staffing

This half term, Class 6 will be taught by Mr Selby from Monday to Thursday. On a Friday, Mrs Kipling will teach the class. Mrs Barlow will cover PPA time on a Thursday afternoon when the class will have their Religious Education lessons and one of their two weekly PE slots. Miss Smith will support learning on Thursday mornings and on Friday.

## Why was the Islamic civilisation around 900AD known as the 'Golden Age'?

This half-term we will be starting a brand new **history** topic on early Islamic society. We will focus on the fascinating developments during this time period in Baghdad, from the House of Wisdom to the world's first hospitals! The children will be using their previous learning to compare this culturally advanced society with the relatively primitive life lived at the time in Anglo Saxon England.

## English



### *The Golden Horsemen of Baghdad by Saviour Pirotta*

After his father's death, Jabir has to find the money for his family's rent to save them from being made homeless!

Following on from our initial PSHE focused work on **'Here we are'** by Oliver Jeffers as part of our recovery curriculum, we will be turning our attention to the **The Golden Horsemen of Baghdad** and reading some of **The Seven Voyages of Sinbad the Sailor** to coincide with our history topic. We will use these texts to write our own adventure stories, and to work on our basic punctuation and grammar.

### Key Writing Expectations

In narrative:

- Describe settings
- Describe characters
- Create atmosphere

Use a range of devices to build cohesion within and across paragraphs, including:

- A range of conjunctions
- Adverbials of time
- Adverbials of place

### Spelling, punctuation and grammar focus

- Capital letters, full stops, question marks, commas for lists and to clarify meaning, inverted commas

## Spelling

Spelling tests will be completed on Fridays, with new words being given out via Google Classroom each week. The first new spellings will be issued on 18<sup>th</sup> September, with informal tests on previous learning taking place until then.

## Reading

A Year 6 recommended reading list has been posted on Google Classroom. This was a hugely positive feature of last year, with many children discovering new books and authors they would never have previously considered. We would love the children to read books from this list and rate them for other children in the class, but they can – of course – also continue reading books of their own choice outside of this list as well. It is essential that children in Year 6 read regularly, both independently and with an adult at home. Please consider making time for a regular 'bedtime story'

reading session, if this is not already part of your evening routine!

Each week, there will be a short reading activity to complete on Google Classroom. This could relate to the books the children are reading independently, or to a class text that we have looked at in school. The children will be set a task on a Tuesday and there will be an expectation that it is completed by the following Monday. Please do let us know if you are having any problem accessing Google Classroom so that we can assist you with this.

## Mathematics

In, we will begin with some initial assessments of the children as they return back to school followed by work on **place value**:

- Read, write, order and compare numbers up to 10,000,000 and determine the value of each digit
- Round any whole number to a required degree of accuracy
- Solve problems which require answers to be rounded to specified degrees of accuracy
- Identify the value of each digit in numbers given to 3 decimal places
- Use negative numbers in context, and calculate intervals across zero
- Solve number and practical problems which involve all of the above

We will then turn our attention onto **addition, subtraction, multiplication and division**:

- Multiply multi-digit numbers up to 4-digits by a 2-digit whole number using the formal written method of long multiplication
- Multiply 1-digit numbers with up to two decimal places by whole numbers
- Divide numbers up to 4-digits by a 2-digit whole number using the formal written method of long division
- Divide numbers up to 4-digits by a 2-digit number using the formal written method of short division
- Use written division methods in cases where the answer has up to two decimal places
- When dividing, interpret remainders as whole number remainders, fractions, or by rounding, as appropriate for the context
- Multiply and divide numbers by 10, 100 and 1,000, giving answers to 3 decimal places
- Perform mental calculations, including with mixed operations and large numbers
- Identify common factors, common multiples and prime numbers
- Use knowledge of order of operations to carry out calculations involving all four operations

## Science

### Animal including humans (Biology)

Our science work focuses on the human body, and will also link in with our history topic when we discuss the early hospitals of the Golden Age of Islam:

- Identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system
- Know the function of the heart, blood vessels and blood
- Know the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on health
- Know the ways in which nutrients and water are transported in animals, including humans

## Physical Education

Thursday afternoon (Mrs Barlow)

- Hockey

Friday afternoon (Mrs Kipling)

- Rounders and athletics

Due to current restrictions in school, PE will be most likely taking place outside, so please make sure your child has a suitable waterproof coat as we will be outside whatever the weather (within reason!) Until further notice, children should arrive in school in their outdoor PE kit every Thursday and Friday.

### PE Kit

- plain white round necked T-shirt
  - plain, dark jogging bottoms and tracksuit top
  - trainers
- Please note that no jewellery of any kind may be worn in PE. If your child wears earrings, they should be able to remove them independently.  
Only newly pierced ears may be covered with plasters.

## Religious Education

### Units of work:

- 6.1 *Life as a Journey and Pilgrimage*

### The aim of this unit is to:

- give children an opportunity to think about the idea that that life is a journey and what it means to make that journey as a Christian.
- enable pupils to begin to understand the concept of undertaking a religious pilgrimage.

### PSHE

In PSHE our focus will be on supporting each other as we transition back into school. We will use our unit called 'Here We Are' to support this initially. We will also use some Healthy Mind resources to consider how we can look after our mental as well as physical health.

**Thank you to you all for your support and kindness at the start of this new school year. Despite the unusual circumstances we currently find ourselves in, the children have made an excellent start to life in Year 6, and are genuinely a credit to their families. We are immensely proud to teach them!**

**Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further information or support throughout the year.**

**Mr Selby and Mrs Kipling**