

# Class 6 Newsletter

AUTUMN 2 2022

Dear parents/carers and children,

We hope you've had a lovely half-term holiday, and are excited to get started on our second half-term in Year 6!

## What would a journey through your body look like?

This half-term is **science**-focused and includes work on exercise and healthy eating, and a detailed look at the digestive and cardiovascular systems. We will be undertaking plenty of practical work such as making a model of the digestive system and creating our own blood.

### Key Questions:

- Why is exercise important and how can it improve my health?
- Where does food come from, and what does a good diet look like?
- How does the digestive system work?
- How does the circulatory system work?

Within this topic, we will also be undertaking some food technology, as we create our healthy snacks, and creating music inspired by the rhythm of our heart.

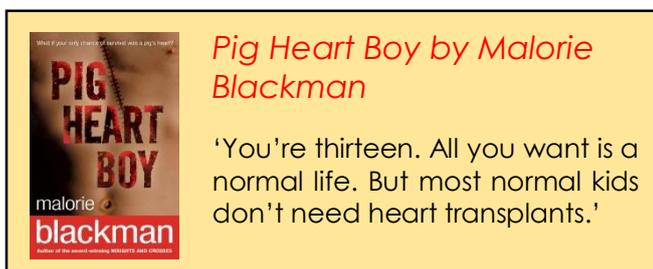
### Key Scientist:

#### Dr. Christiaan Barnard

A South African surgeon who completed the world's first full heart transplant.

### English

This half-term, our English work will be very cross-curricular and will focus around our class text, 'Pig Heart Boy' by Malorie Blackman. This is a really thought-provoking story of a 13-year-old boy who requires a heart transplant. We will discuss the moral issues raised in the book regarding the use of animals in science as well as looking into the scientific side. It's a great time to be reading this story after the world's first pig-to-human heart xenotransplantation occurred in real life this year in January!



Whilst reading Pig Heart Boy, we will be working on the features of newspaper writing, and will create our independent news story based on the book. Later in the half-term, we will focus on information texts, writing about the digestive and cardiovascular systems.

### Key Writing Expectations

- Use passive verbs to affect how information is presented
- Use modal verbs to suggest degrees of possibility
- Use a range of conjunctions
- Use adverbials of time and place
- Use verb tenses consistently and correctly throughout writing

### Punctuation

- Inverted commas, apostrophes, commas to clarify meaning, parenthesis, semi-colons, dashes, colons and hyphens

### Spelling

As last half-term, new spellings will be given out on Fridays for a test the following Friday. These should come home as a paper copy, as well as via the Parent App.

### Reading

We will be reading Pig Heart Boy within our Guided Reading sessions. This will include focused work regarding features of the text and the issues raised, as well as simply enjoying reading and talking about the book for pleasure.

Our particular focus this half-term will be on finding evidence with a text, and using this to back up our opinions, thoughts and points made.

### Key Reading Expectations

- Work out meaning of words from the context
- Consider and evaluate how effectively texts are structured and laid out
- Raise queries about texts
- Read non-fiction texts to support other curriculum areas
- Express and present a personal point of view about a text, giving justified reasons linked to evidence from texts
- Listen to and discuss others' ideas and opinions about a text
- Build on others' ideas and opinions about a text in discussion
- Present a counter-argument in response to others' points of view
- Use scanning to find specific information
- Text mark to make research efficient and fast

Please remind the children that their home Reading Diaries should be returned to school each week on a Monday, so that we are able to return them on a Tuesday.

## Mathematics

In mathematics, we will begin by finishing off our work on division before moving on to work on fractions and, finally, measurement.

### Key Mathematics Expectations

- Divide numbers up to 4-digits by a 2-digit whole number using the formal written method of long 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
- Use common factors to simplify fractions
- Use common multiples to express fractions in the same denomination
- Compare and order fractions, including fractions  $> 1$
- Add fractions with different denominators and mixed numbers, using the concept of equivalent fractions
- Subtract fractions with different denominators and mixed numbers, using the concept of equivalent fractions
- Multiply simple pairs of proper fractions, writing the answer in its simplest form
- Divide proper fractions by whole numbers
- Associate a fraction with division and calculate decimal fraction equivalents
- Recall and use equivalences between simple fractions, decimals and percentages, including in different contexts
- Solve problems involving the calculation of percentages, [for example, of measures, and such as 15% of 360] and the use of percentages for comparison
- Read, write and use standard units of measurement with precision and accuracy
- Convert measurements of length, mass, volume and time from a smaller unit of measure to a larger unit, and vice versa, using decimal notation up to three decimal places where appropriate
- Solve problems involving the calculation of units of measure up to three decimal places

Please remind children that 10 minutes of Times Tables Rock Stars is part of their home learning every week, and there is an expectation that they complete this. If you require a reminder of their login information, please don't hesitate to ask.

## Physical Education

Tuesday afternoon

- Health and fitness

Thursday morning

- Invasion games (City in the Community)

Please make sure the children come to school in correct PE kit on Tuesdays and Fridays, so they are ready to take part in the lessons.

### PE Kit

- plain white round necked T-shirt
- plain, dark shorts or jogging bottoms
- 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:

- 6.2 How do Christians prepare for Christmas?

### The aim of this unit is to:

- Delve deeper into the themes of the season of Advent
- Introduce pupils to the Christian belief that Jesus will return (the Second Coming)

## PSHE

### Puzzle Piece 2: Celebrating Difference

- Includes lessons on identifying talents, families, being special, making friends and standing up for yourself

As always, we'd like to take this opportunity to thank every family for the support you offer the children at home in everything they do. It makes our job so much easier when everyone works positively together, and this is something we always encourage. If you ever do have any concerns or worries about your child, please never hesitate to contact us as we will get back to you at a convenient time.

Best wishes,

**Mr Selby and Miss Maloney**