

Year 6 newsletter



Autumn Term 2

Welcome!

Welcome back to the second half term in Year 6! We hope that you had a lovely break with your family.

It was so wonderful to speak to you at Parents' Evening the week before half term and to share your child's progress and achievements so far.

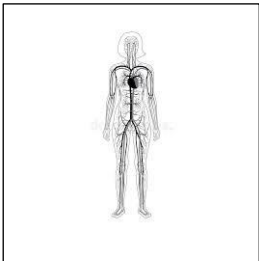
We are sure that this half term will be just as brilliant as the last one! ❤️

Our Autumn Term Two Topic: The Stone Age

In **English**, our learning will be based around the book 'Wolf Brother' by Michelle Paver. This book is always extremely well-loved and many children go on to enjoy the rest of the series. As much as we love how keen the children are to read ahead, we politely request you do not read ahead with your child at home so we can follow our planned unit of learning and keep all of the children in the same place! The children will complete a range of writing tasks linked to the story such as diary entries, letters and newspaper reports.



In **Maths**, we will consolidate the formal written methods for all four operations. We will also begin to look at converting between standard units of metric measure and will begin to interpret pie charts and line graphs. The children will also learn how to calculate the mean as an average and begin to learn when it is appropriate to find the mean of a set of data. We will also be working with ratio too!



In **Science**, our topic is called 'Animals Including Humans'. As part of this, we will learn about the circulatory system, how water and nutrients are transported around the body, the importance of a healthy diet and exercise and the effects of drugs and alcohol on the human body.

In **Music**, the children will be continuing to look at cyclic patterns with Mrs Horwood this half term. Together, the children will be analysing pieces of music that use cyclic patterns and creating some of their own.

In **Computing**, we are going to continue to use the Purple Mash scheme of work. We will complete our unit of work on Coding before moving on to Blogging.

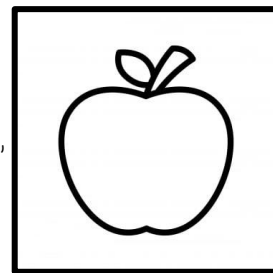
In **PE**, the children will be doing Gymnastics and learning the rules of Basketball in their lessons with Mr Smyth and Mr Elkington.

In **RE**, the children will continue their work on sacred texts, learning how these are used within worship.

In **French**, we will continue to look at regular verbs whilst learning our French phonics.

In **History**, we will be learning about the Stone Age through to the Iron Age. We will learn about what life was like during each of these time periods and compare them. This unit links closely to our learning in English on 'Wolf Brother' which is set in the Stone Age.

In **DT**, we have a new unit this half term! We will be making our own version of the Classic British desert, apple crumble! In the lead up to this, we will learn about seasonality, look at existing products, design our own recipe before putting it altogether to create our final product. Ingredients lists will be shared with you closer to the time.



In **Spelling**, we will cover the following rules:

Week 1 and 2 – -able ending

Week 3 – -ably ending

Week 4 and 5– word families (root words)

Week 6 – diminutives

Please ensure your child is practising these spelling rules at home. We will also aim to post these words on Google Classroom each week.

In **P.S.H.E.**, we will be looking at the value of the month for November – Humility.

The other value of the month for this half term is 'Faith', which will be our value for December. We will also be continuing our 'Jigsaw' scheme of work with our next unit 'Celebrating Differences'. The children will be provided with plenty of opportunities to discuss the key talking points before reflecting on what they have learnt within each lesson.

Thank you!

Before half term, Year 6 had their Mexico Day. The children took part in a range of activities ranging from Papel Picado to a Spanish lesson with our parent volunteers. We would like to say a huge 'thank you' for the Spanish lesson; the children absolutely loved it and really enjoyed learning some simple Spanish words and phrases.



Year 6 Book Recommendations



Mrs Dean recommends – *The Dream Snatcher* by Abi Elphinstone

This novel is packed with adventure, magic and humour. It follows the story of Moll Pecksniff, a gypsy orphan living in the Tanglefern Forest with her wildcat Gryff. Moll is haunted by a recurring nightmare that pulls her from the safety of her caravan and deep into the forest. Lured by the beating of an unseen drum, she awakens one night to find her terrible dream has become reality. She has been summoned by the Shadowmasks: a group of magicians who plan to kill her – as it has been foretold that Moll is the only one who can save the Old Magic and stop the Shadowmasks taking over. With help from Alfie, a mysterious boy from the enemy camp, Moll and Gryff must fight the darkness to fulfil the Bone Murmur prophecy. A cracking read, full of charm and suspense.

Miss Bastiani recommends: *the Girl of Ink and Stars* by Kiran Millwood Hargrave

This is a story of myth, magic and the power of friendship. Forbidden to leave her island, Isabella dreams of the faraway lands her father once mapped. When a girl from her island disappears into the island's Forgotten Territories, Isabella and her best friend, Pablo, go in search of her. What will they uncover on the way?

Mrs Pry recommends – *The Wolf Wilder* by Katherine Rundell

Feodora and her mother live in the snowbound woods of Russia, in a house full of food and fireplaces. Ten minutes away, in a ruined chapel, lives a pack of wolves. Feodora's mother is a wolf wilder, and Feo is a wolf wilder in training. A wolf wilder is the opposite of an animal tamer: it is a person who teaches tamed animals to fend for themselves, and to fight and to run, and to be wary of humans. When the murderous hostility of the Russian Army threatens her very existence, Feo is left with no option but to go on the run. What follows is a story of revolution and adventure, about standing up for the things you love and fighting back. And, of course, wolves.

Mrs Dobson recommends – *Wolf Road* by Alice Roberts

This wonderful story is so well written. An absorbing, intelligent, imaginative adventure informed by the author's knowledge of the area as a professor in her field. Her descriptions enable the reader to experience the journey and life of Tuuli. On her journey, Tuuli exhibits courage, asks questions, explores her surroundings, and wonders about the wider world, as she carries out her tasks throughout the trek to a more comfortable site. Alice Roberts', the author of this wonderful book, has excellent knowledge of the period of time, her research, her wide understanding of discovered artefacts, archaeological sites all inform the story to bring it to life in a manner that makes the tale utterly believable. This book is recommended for young people aged 10-16 and links in particularly well to the current unit of work for Year 6 as a comparison to *Wolf Brother*.

Mr Revers recommends – *Boy In The Tower* by Polly Ho-Yen

Meet Ade, who becomes isolated in his high-rise apartment after an unusual epidemic of deadly, plant-like creatures begins to infest the city. With his only comfort being his escape and bond with his single mother, he learns to navigate both the enigmatic world outside and the challenges of adolescence. As Ade's determination to uncover the truth grows, he faces harrowing decisions that will test his courage. Just as he discovers a clue that might lead to safety, he hears a chilling sound echoing through the darkness — could it be the creatures returning?

Homework

We have been so impressed with the level of commitment that the children have shown towards completing their homework over the past half term! Homework will continue in the same format this half term.

Please ensure that your child knows their log-in details for both Google Classrooms, Purple Mash and MyMaths. A paper copy of the homework will always be available for your child to complete, should they need it.

In preparation for secondary school, should the children not hand in their Home/School link book each week, they will be asked to complete this task on a Thursday at playtime.

2024 SATs Week

The 2024 SATs week will be held the week commencing Monday 12th May 2025. The scheduled assessment dates are as followed:

Monday 12th May – English grammar, punctuation and spelling papers 1 and 2

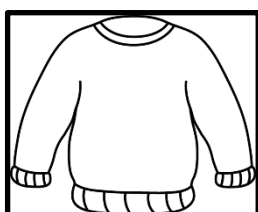
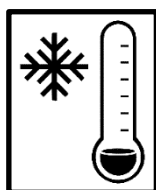
Tuesday 13th May – English reading

Wednesday 14th May – Mathematics papers 1 and 2

Thursday 15th May – Mathematics paper 3

Uniform

As the winter sets in and the weather turns colder, please ensure that your child is bringing a coat to wrap up warm in for break and lunch times.



Please also ensure that all of your child's uniform items, such as jumpers, coats, water bottles and P.E. kits are labelled – this makes finding any lost items much easier!

Just a quick reminder...

In addition to weekly homework being completed to a high standard, there are many other ways to support your child at home:

- ensuring that children read regularly;
- ensuring times tables are practised frequently;
- learning words from the Year 5/6 Spelling list (available on our school website);
- regular use of Times Tables Rockstars;
- learning words that follow the KS2 spelling rules;
- learning the different spellings and meaning of common homophones;
- logging on to MyMaths to revisit previous content.

Dates for your Diary

November:

5th – Individual and sibling photos

7th – Firework event after school

11th – Anti-Bullying Week. Odd Socks day

12th – Parent pop-in at 8:40am

13th – Open Evening

15th – Children in Need – wear something spotty!

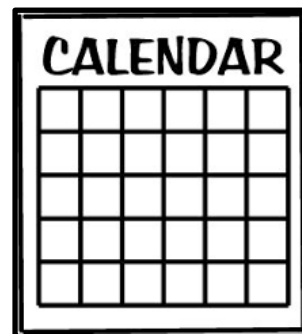
26th and 27th – KS2 production of Matilda

December:

19th – Christmas party day (Christmas jumpers)

20th – End of term!

Wow! What a busy half term we have! Please keep an eye on the whole-school newsletter from Ms Seagar for any additional dates or changes.



Communication

If you have a message for your child's class teacher, please record this in your child's Home/School link book. Alternatively, you can email the Year 6 teaching team on the following email address:

Year6@pr5d.com

All the Year 6 teachers are able to access this email address and will respond outside of teaching hours as soon as possible.

Thank-you for your support,

The Year 6 Team

