



Believe ~ Learn ~ Grow

Year 6 Autumn Term 1

'Creation - Origins'



Friday 10th September 2021

Dear Class 6 Parents/Carers,

Firstly, I would like to wish everyone a warm welcome back. I hope you've all had a thoroughly relaxing, fun and enjoyable summer holiday. I am looking forward to a brilliant year full of fun, exciting and fantastic learning.

Being an independent learner is a huge part of the move into Upper Key Stage 2 and especially now that the children are now in Year 6. We will be using our Gem Powers to deepen and extend all of our learning. All the children are actively encouraged to do this in school and it is extremely beneficial that they are prepared and ready for this. This includes being organised with PE kits, homework, water bottles, lunch boxes, for example, as well as being ready for lessons, listening carefully to instructions and being responsible for their own learning. Year 6 will have additional responsibilities in school and we will be sorting these out during the first couple of weeks of term. We have these to give our children more responsibility, prepare them for life as young adults but to also set our high expectations in school and be excellent role models for our younger children. We ask that you encourage and support your child with this as much as possible.

Topic:

Our first topic is called 'Creation - Origins'. We will be using a range of books to study and explore for this term. They will be *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* and *The Lost Words*. We are going to use the themes in this book of creation, nature and new beginnings to delve into the world of green-fingered gardeners, skillful scientists and purposeful habitats which build ecosystems. We will also learn about the history of robotics and how we can learn from our vastly changing technological world.

Home Learning:

Children in Year 6 are encouraged to read at least 3-4 times per week and this needs to be recorded, either by the child or parent in the reading record. Reading records will

be checked every week depending on when best suits after our whole class reading sessions. As you have already seen, the children already have their reading records and have picked a book of their choice. This is a reading for pleasure book. Over the forthcoming weeks, I will listen to the children read and they will come home with a book band levelled book. I will be checking reading records every week. This will usually be on a Wednesday or Thursday so please make sure your child has their reading record in school on these days. There will be comments on your child's reading, potential reading challenges and it will be initialled or stamped if your child has moved a book band level.

The first set of spelling home learning will go home the week commencing 13th September. Spellings will continue to be a big focus in Year 6. We will investigate spelling rules and patterns throughout the week and then these words, along with the curriculum statutory words for Year 6 will be sent home. Children will be given differentiated spellings for the week, depending on the level they are working at in class. Most children will be given 10 spellings but others might have less. Please use the look, say, cover, write and check format to practise the words at home. Spellings will be given to the children on Monday, investigated throughout the week, followed by a test on Friday.

We will continue to focus on improving our knowledge and speed of times tables using TTRockstars as well as specific focus sessions in class. Each term we will have a focus for our times tables learning but the expectation is that children will need to know all of these now, with quick recall and application, whilst we are in Year 6. If you would like support at home with times tables then please let us know.

Pick 'n' Mix home learning will also be starting the week of 13th September. On this grid, there is a range of homework activities based on English, Maths, Science and Topic. There may also be activities for children to complete on Purple Mash. If children have completed a piece of home learning, they need to bring it into school on a Friday.

PE:

PE will be taught on Monday afternoons and Thursday morning. Please make sure your child has their named PE kit in school every day.

Value:

- Giving something we value to someone else
- Encouraging the best in each other
- Never selfish
- Enjoying helping others
- Raising support for a good cause
- Offering what we can
- Sharing our time and talents
- Inviting someone to join in
- Taking care of God's creation for future generations
- You first, me last.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to phone or make an appointment at the school office.

Thank you in advance for your support. Here's to another wonderful year together.

Miss S. Herbert and the Year 6 Team