

Supporting Your Child in Year 6



Spring 2023

English

In English this term we will be working on 'writing to persuade' and 'writing to entertain'.

When writing to persuade we will be looking at what it means to persuade, different grammatical techniques and how to write a persuasive speech. We will be looking at how speeches are written to have a positive impact on the world, including the speeches of Martin Luther King and Greta Thunberg.

After the half term, we will build on our work last term, this time working on flashback stories as well as looking at the use of poetry in Shakespeare's Macbeth.

Maths

In maths we will be covering ratio, algebra, decimals, fractions, decimals and percentages; area, perimeter and volume and statistics. Alongside this we will be ensuring that we have regular arithmetic and reasoning opportunities, applying their understanding in a range of different contexts and word problems to really deepen the understanding.

History

In history this term we will be learning about the Mayan civilisation. We will learn about why we study it and how we know about a civilisation which was so long ago. They were an incredibly strong society and we will learn about how this was the case. We will compare the Mayan society with Britain at the time and learn about why the empire came to such an abrupt end.

Science

We will be learning about evolution and inheritance this term. We will learn about inherited and environmental characteristics of animals, humans and plants, how living things survive and adapt to different environments as well as reasons for extinction.

Art

Our art this term focuses on different artists and the techniques they use. We study the work of David Hockney, John Singer Sargent and then the abstract artist Fiona Rae. We will then go on to research different artists to then create our own piece of art work, inspired by our chosen artist.

Music

In music we will be learning 'how music improves our world' which celebrates a wide range of musical styles. Children will develop their composing and performing skills. They will then go on to 'what it can teach us about our community' where we will also explore notation in more depth

DT

We will be creating our own 'steady hand game' as part of our DT. This will include looking at existing games then designing and making our own, using our knowledge from our science last term in order to make an electrical system.

RE

Our big questions for RE this term 'Why do Hindus want to be good?' And 'Creation and Science: conflicting or complimentary?'

<p><u>PSHE</u> As part of our PSHE, we will be developing our understanding of citizenship, starting by looking at children's rights to education. We will then learn about how our choices can affect both the environment and people and how prejudice and discrimination can be challenged! This will be followed with understanding of economic wellbeing.</p>	<p><u>Personal Growth</u> This term we will be looking at 'colours of the rainbow' focusing on diversity, understanding how everyone's life may be different. We will work to understand about growing up in different background and countries and the importance of having a strong cultural belief. Then after half term we will be learning about 'food glorious food' and the concept of sustainability.</p>
<p><u>Personal Development</u> <u>British Values</u> As part of our British Values, we will be looking more closely at Rule of Law and Individual Liberty.</p> <p><u>Everyone's Welcome</u> Our Everyone's Welcome books this term are 'Introducing Teddy' which tells the story of a bear who is a boy but wants to be a girl and feels worried about what will happen if he tells people and 'Leaf' which is a story about overcoming fears about difference.</p> <p><u>Values</u> This term our values are creativity, enthusiasm, patience and determination! We will continue to reward these and praise these in school!</p>	<p><u>Computing</u> Our computing this term focuses on programming, learning about different variables, how to improve and debug games which will then teach us how to design our own game using Scratch. We will then go on to look at how to use spreadsheets.</p>

PE

Year 6 will have swimming on a Tuesday. Thursday will continue to be basketball and tennis as will running on a Friday. The class will also need their kits on a Monday and a Tuesday. Children will need to ensure they have football boots and shin pads for outdoor PE. Reminder that the PE kit is either the Glenmere t-shirt/hoody or completely plain, non-labelled, clothing

Homework and interventions

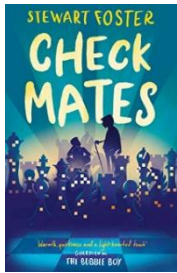
We will begin setting homework again from next week. It will be set on Tuesday and due in the following Monday. Thank you to all those who are attending interventions. If you are able to, I would really encourage children to attend at least one of them. This term is such a crucial term and every little bit of extra work will help.

Home Reading

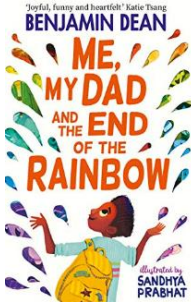
Well done to Year 6 who won the home reading challenge last term! They will be rewarded with a pizza and film afternoon! All classes who log more than 60 reads (and that equates to each person reading only twice a week) will be rewarded with 10 minutes extra break on a Friday. Reading in Year 6 is so incredibly important and needs to be continued even for the most confident of readers!

Recommending Reading Books

Reading new and different books is important for multiple reasons. Sometimes we find a new style of book we like or we find a new author we like. It is also important to try and find books which have important messages and meanings. Below are 2 books I have recently discovered.



Felix is struggling at school. His ADHD makes it hard for him to concentrate and his grades are slipping. Everyone keeps telling him to try harder, but no one seems to understand just how hard he finds it. When Mum suggests Felix spends time with his grandfather, Felix can't think of anything worse. Granddad hasn't been the same since Grandma died. Plus he's always trying to teach Felix boring chess. But sometimes the best lessons come in the most unexpected of places, and Granddad soon shows Felix that there's everything to play for.



My name's Archie Albright, and I know two things for certain:

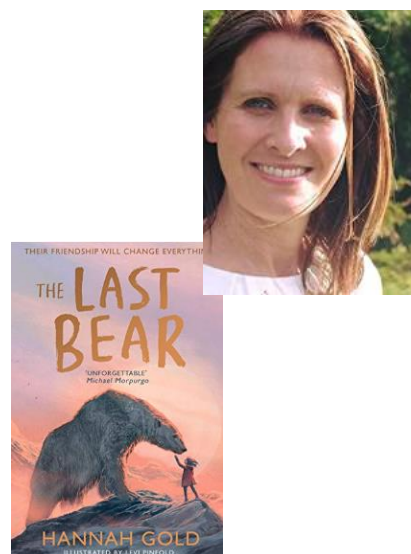
1. My mum and dad kind of hate each other, and they're not doing a great job of pretending that they don't anymore.
2. They're both keeping a secret from me, but I can't figure out what.

Things aren't going great for Archie Albright. His dad's acting weird, his mum too, and all he wants is for everything to go back to normal, to three months before when his parents were happy and still lived together. When Archie sees a colourful, crumpled flyer fall out of Dad's pocket, he thinks he may have found the answer. Only problem? The answer might just lie at the end of the rainbow, an adventure away.

Together with his best friends, Bell and Seb, Archie sets off on a heart-warming and unforgettable journey to try and fix his family, even if he has to break a few rules to do it...

Suggested Authors:

Each month we will have a different 'Authors of the Month', including Benjamin Zephaniah, Katya Balen and Hannah Gold. They have written books called 'Windrush Child', 'October, October' (which was a 2022 award winning book) and 'The Last Bear' which is also the winner of multiple different Book Awards



We ask that you support us by listening to your child read whenever possible as this will help support the comprehension work in class. This includes questioning the children as they read to you. There are a variety of different question types you can ask: -

- Open ended questions – encourage children to give a range of responses and shows their deeper level of understanding.
- Literal questions – encourage children to recall facts or make simple comprehension where the answer is clearly stated in the text.
- Higher order questions – are excellent to challenge and move able readers on. They encourage children to think beyond what is written in the text.

Useful resources to get your children writing

Write parts of sentences onto different cards then discuss the different word types e.g. verbs, adjectives etc. Rainbow sentences are great. Write each sentence in a different colour. This allows children to see where and when punctuation is needed. Cross words and hangman are a good way to practice spelling the year 3 and 4 spelling words, or the 5 and 6 spelling words. In literacy lessons it is important for the children to explore a wide range of sentence structures in class this is supported by the staff in the classroom. We use a variety of word mats, sentence scaffolding and pictorial stimuli to encourage the children to be creative with their writing. Please encourage the children to write simple sentences, which link together with each other

For the confident writers

-Work on proof reading and editing skills, improve simple sentences by adding a range of clauses in different positions: manipulate these to find the most cohesive way of writing, begin using the full range of punctuation taught in KS2 for their different purposes and write explanations of how these should be used accurately, write in a range of genres considering the vocabulary selected for formal and informal text types.

-It is important for these more confident writers to ensure that they are able to write longer passages of writing using all of the grammatical features expected of Year 6 children. To enable them to do so please visit: <http://www.pobble365.com/> this website will provide picture stimulus for the children to write creatively. It also has questions and activities to support children with writing in a variety of genres

Supporting your child with maths

Support children with their homework – this will reinforce their learning in class. Practice little and often quick maths such as multiplication facts or mental calculations. Encourage children to use different strategies in their head or through the use of jottings as opposed to counting on their hands.

For the confident mathematicians

Those children who are extremely confident with maths, I would advise them to start to use these skills on a mastery level, solving a range of puzzles and problems. The nrich, NACE and nctm websites provide a range of different activities. Encourage your child to create problems which involve working systematically. Get them to create problems for you to solve

I will be sending out information regarding a meeting regarding SATs later in the term where I will go through what is expected and ways you can help your children. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to come and speak with me at the start or end of the school day or via class dojo

Many thanks,
Mrs Carton