

Curriculum letter—Year 6—Spring



Maths

In maths this term, we will continue to prepare the children for SATS by taking a weekly arithmetic paper. We will spend a session addressing misconceptions.

Miss Gollogly's group: In our maths lessons we will look at fraction, decimal and percentage equivalence, answering complex questions that involve more than one-step and where the starting point is not clear. We will then move onto more challenging concepts like: Algebra, Perimeter and Area, Volume and Ratio. We will look at greater depth SATs questions to prepare them fully for May.

Mr Lewis and Ms Paton's group: In our maths lessons we will continue looking at decimals as well as fraction, decimal and percentage equivalents and then moving on to shape after. In our groups, we are working hard at ensuring that the foundations of these areas are really secure prior to SATs in May. Therefore, the learning we do will be applied to SATs style

Computing - In the first half term, the children will be introduced to spreadsheets. They will learn about using spreadsheets to organise and format data. We will learn how to apply formulas that include a range of cells and how to duplicate formulas across multiple cells. By the end of the unit, children will be able to answer questions, create charts and evaluate their results. In the second half term, we will learn about variables. The children will develop an understanding of what a variable is and when it is used in programming. They will explore how variables are used in an example Scratch project and make small changes to this before planning and programming their own.

Our enquiry question for this term is:

Does everyone have a voice?

Our concepts this term are: **choice, discrimination, protest and free will**. As part of this unit, we will be exploring the life on Nelson Mandela and the law of Apartheid. Excitingly, we have an informative and inspiring visit from Chris Lubbe. Chris is an engaging speaker who was the former body guard of Nelson Mandela. Chris will share his experiences of Apartheid in South Africa and will speak about the importance of standing up for your human rights and sharing your voice.

Children will look at influential people in history: Martin Luther King, Rosa Parks, the Suffragettes, Katherine Johnson, Greta Thunberg. We will look at how their voice made a significant change.

Homework

We will continue to set homework on a Thursday, to be completed by the following Tuesday. Children will be set a SPAG task and a maths task, which is to consolidate the learning that have already been taught. This is very important with the lead up to their SATS. Also, they are expected to practice their reading, times tables and spellings. There is a spelling test every Friday.

English

In English, we will start our learning journey by exploring extracts from Anne Frank and Zlata's diary. We will discuss how an author creates emotion in their writing and begin to construct diaries which convey messages of frustration, anger and disappointment. The children will then write their own diary entries from the point of view of Nelson Mandela when he was in prison.

We will then look at the story 'Hidden Figures' which takes place from 1930s depicting the particular barriers for black women in Science during this time.

After our visit to the Globe theatre in London, we study Shakespeare's play, 'Macbeth.' We look at how Lady Macbeth uses her voice to manipulate and control others. The children will write a narrative, from the view of Macbeth, when he kills a king to take the throne.

This piece will convey a sense of doubt and confusion.

Later, we will study the Suffragettes, looking at women's right to vote.

P.E.

PE days for this term will remain the same: Monday and a Friday afternoon.

Year 6 have been given a great opportunity to have cricket on Friday afternoon with an external coach.



Both lessons will be outdoor this term.

PSHE

PSHE will form a huge part of our enquiry this term, as we explore Rights and Responsibilities, linked to our concepts of **choice** and **free will**. The children will discuss democracy in Britain, learn about elections, and begin to learn how laws are made and passed in the UK. The children will construct their own manifesto on a social topic of interest. They will also explore the benefits of living in a diverse community and discuss valuing differences. **This will all be alongside an exciting trip to the Houses of Parliament.**

Music -

This term, we will be looking at music technology and particularly using GarageBand on iPads to create our own compositions and arrangements. The main musical dimensions we will focus on are **texture, timbre** and **duration**. We will experiment with sampling to create our own electronic sounds and then use GarageBand to record multi-layered tracks. We will use body percussion and then electronic drum samples to play and compose complex rhythm patterns.