



Year 6 Curriculum Newsletter – Autumn Term 2

Welcome to the 2nd Autumn term in Year 6

Last term was great! All the children and staff became more familiar with each other and by the end of the term I believe we were all settled in and fully in a Year 6 mindset. The children are all hard working and have already made some progress in all areas.

General Class Information

- We celebrate 'Reading for Pleasure' in Year 6. Children are exposed to a diverse range of high – interest books to develop a culture that will enable them to become avid and independent readers. In addition to texts covered in the curriculum, every child chooses a book (or two) to read at home and we encourage our children to share their experiences with one another.
- The children have two P.E. lessons a week; ours are on **Mondays (which is currently a swimming session) and Thursdays**. Please ensure that your child comes to school wearing the correct PE uniform (school jumper, white t-shirt, black shorts/joggers/leggings and trainers or pumps). We would like our children to look smart at all times.



LEARNING MEANS THE WORLD – Time Team - Local History and beginning the unit **I Have a Dream** which will be finished part way through the 1st Spring term

Time Team:

This unit focuses on History and Geography. It involves the pupils identifying and choosing a famous person from the past who lived in their area. They will then focus on five key landmarks in their local village, town or city, undertaking research to find out important information about each one. Once the research has been completed, the pupils will be asked to put together their very own walking tour of their village, town or city which they will host for the chosen famous person from the past (an adult in role).

History - Throughout this unit children will devise historically valid questions about change, cause, similarity and difference and investigate to find possible answers. Children will begin to recognise that the past is represented and interpreted in different ways and give reasons for this. Children will select and combine information from different sources and recall, select, organise and communicate historical information in a variety of ways; such as creating biographies, fact files about their local area and presentations.

Geography - Children will use a range of sources such as: atlases, globes, maps and digital /computer mapping at a range of scales to collect and record evidence of change within their local community. Children will draw plans and maps at a variety of scales including using both four and six-figure grid references and using symbols and keys.

PSHE - This half term the children will look at keeping themselves safe, especially online, 'Think before you click!'. We will learn to accept that responsible and respectful behaviour is necessary when interacting with others online as well as face-to-face. We will explore and begin to understand and describe the ease with which something posted online can spread. As a class we will look at what is and isn't appropriate to share both online and with others. We will learn and know that it is illegal to create and share sexual images of children under 18 years old; and explore the risks of sharing photos and films of themselves with other people directly or online. We will look at how and in turn know how to keep our information private and its importance.

Computing - The children will be revisiting how to stay safe on the internet and when using a range of social media apps that they are exposed to. Children will use the internet as a source to research their local area and to look at digital mapping.

I Have a Dream:

"I Have a Dream..." is a thematic unit, based on issues of discrimination, particularly apartheid and anti-semitism, with a key subject focus on history. Pupils will learn about the factors that contribute towards discrimination and why different groups have been stereotyped and, as a result, persecuted.

Subjects included in this thematic unit are art, geography, ICT / computing, literacy, maths, music, dance, science and PSHE. Global Dimensions help pupils develop a wider perspective and understand the links between their own lives and those of people around the world.

Dance – The children will watch examples and discuss the dance craze of flash mobs.

Science – The children will learn the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird. They will learn to recognise that living things produce off-spring of the same kind, but normally off-spring vary and are not identical to their parents. Children will be able to describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals. Children will be able to classify plants and animals based on specific characteristics and give reasons

Music – The children will explore the history of the slave trade songs. We will look at some English folk music and some of the origins of spiritual folk / slave songs.

Computing – the children will continue to look at the program scratch and how to using building blocks to develop coding for games.

History – Children will understand the definition of apartheid. Children will look at the Jim Crow Laws and how they affected black people in America. Children will learn about Martin Luther King and the impact he had on society. Children will become familiar with Nelson Mandela's role in the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa.

Art – The children will design and make paperclip sculptures.

English – Writing

We use the 'Write Stuff' approach to teach writing at St George's. Writing is taught in a sequence so that the children have a clear understanding and model of how to compose a piece of writing; the punctuation they should be using and a broad range of vocabulary to enrich and enhance their writing.

This half term, our focus texts and films are:

The poem 'The Thinker's Rap'; the rap 'Hopeful' by Bars & Melody; the poem 'The Highway Man' and parts of the novel 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens.

The children will be using these texts to create:

- Narrative (descriptive writing, diary entry)
- Formal letter writing
- Writing poetry

Maths

We use White Rose Maths to plan and deliver the teaching of Maths. For each topic, we work through the following sequence: concrete, pictorial, abstract.

This half term, the children will be learning and revisiting: calculations and fractions.

Children will use their understanding of multiplication and addition to support their development in being able to add, subtract, multiply and divide fractions.

It is imperative that children use Times Tables Rockstars regularly at home – this will be a catalyst in their success when calculating fractions.

RE

Our topic for this half term: Is it better to express your religion in arts and architecture or in charity and generosity?

This unit enables pupils to learn in depth from two different religions about why their holy buildings and works of art matter to them as expressions of devotion to God and worship; and about how they practice generosity and charity.

Through this topic Year 6 pupils will explore the following questions:

- Why do some believers see generosity and charity as more important than buildings and art?
- Why are sacred buildings important?
- Why some people may be critical of religious art / architecture?

Children will describe and make connections between examples of religious creativity, beginning to understand the value of sacred buildings and art to religious believers. Children will discuss their own ideas and values, learning to appreciate and be respectful of others' views.

As a class we will begin to notice, list and explain similarities and differences between different sacred buildings; describing and make connections between examples of religious creativity in the different buildings.

Children will consider, discuss and suggest reasons, quoting religious sources, why Muslims and Christians consider charity and generosity important.

This half term as a class we will apply our ideas about generosity through supporting a local charity.

Our whole school Christian Value this half term is TRUST.

'My God is my strength in whom I trust' Psalm 18.2

During our Collective Worship assemblies, the children will be reflecting on the themes of knowing our friends will support us, knowing Jesus is with us in stormy times, standing on God's promise, being trustworthy, not gossiping and trusting God.

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