

# UKS2 Newsletter

## Summer 2023



Dear Parents/Guardians,

We hope you have enjoyed the lovely sunshine over Easter and had a restful break. Unbelievably, we are in the final term of the school year. As usual, we are sending out our newsletter, to keep you up to date with key information regarding topics, dates and routines that will be taking place this term.

### Teaching Staff

Year 5 -	Mrs Jones Mrs Bailey (Teaching assistant) Miss Massey (Teaching assistant)
Year 5/6 -	Mrs Potts Mrs Day
Year 6 -	Mrs Chadwick Mrs Mukherjee (Teaching assistant) Mrs Duffy (Teaching assistant)

### Our Curriculum this term.

**English** - This term we will be completing our work around the texts 'Island' and 'Jemmy Button'. Through these texts we will be exploring the story of the Galapagos Islands and all the weird and wonderful creatures that lived there. The children will be writing a hybrid text (discussion/explanation) all about Charles Darwin's discoveries.

Following this, we will also be focusing on the texts 'Manfish' and 'Sky chasers'. As writers, we will discuss and produce a variety of different written styles, including a biography, adventure story and recount.

As a class, we will read, share and examine, the text, Friend or Foe by Michael Morpurgo. Grammar, punctuation and spelling will continue to be an important aspect of all pieces of work.

**Maths** - We will continue to follow the sequence within our maths mastery programme - 'Power Maths'. Power Maths is a whole class mastery programme designed to spark curiosity and excitement and help teachers nurture confidence in maths. At the heart of Power Maths is the belief that all children can achieve. It's built around a child-centred lesson design that models and embeds a growth mind-set approach to maths and develop skills in fluency, reasoning, investigation and problem solving.

**Science** - We will be studying living things & describe the differences in life cycles. We will describe the life processes of reproduction in some plants and animals. Using common observable characteristics, we will describe how living things are classified into broad groups. We will use associated vocabulary to explain our findings. As scientists, we will plan enquiries and use appropriate techniques and apparatus to conduct tests. We will record and present our own findings and give conclusions based on scientific evidence.



**D.T.** - We will continue to construct our moving toys and will investigating how to make structures stronger - using a variety of joining techniques.



**Art** - As artists, we will use colour in a brave and inventive way, trying new colour combinations and exploring the relationship between colour and form. We will be imaginative and creative.

**History** - We will be studying Poynton and our local area. We will look at the history and impact of coal mining and how transport has improved causing significant impact and changes to the way that the community has developed. We will consider the reasons for these developments.



**Geography** - During lessons, we will focus on developing our map skills by locating key landmarks in Poynton. We will show confidence in using our OS map skills, as well as learning how to measure distances. We will carry out fieldwork to enable us to plan a safe circular walk for our family and friends. We will consider access needs, safety for younger members, interests, refreshments, physical challenges and overall walking distances.



**Music** - As Musicians, we will learn to compose and perform melodies to match lyrics. We will perform longer sections from memory and evaluate performances using a widened musical vocabulary. Linked to the choices of sounds we will describe the impact of a piece and express our personal opinions. During our Listening Assemblies, the children will hear high quality music from different traditions and develop an understanding of the history of Music, as well as the great composers and musicians.

**ICT** - We will revise the importance of E-Safety, use AR Interactive Scene and Sound Four Chord Remix. The children will need to select, use and combine a variety of software (including internet services) on a range of digital devices to design and create a range of programs, systems and content that accomplish given goals, including collecting, analysing, evaluating and presenting data and information.

**RE** - The children will learn more about the Islamic faith over the course of this term. They will look at the key question, Does belief in Akhirah (life after death) help Muslims lead good lives? In the second part of our term, the children will look at the prophet Muhammad and they will look at why he is so important to Muslims.



**French** - During our topic on 'Let's Go Shopping', we will listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding. We will explore the patterns and sounds of language through songs and rhyme and link the spelling, sound and meaning of words. We will engage in conversations using sentences, familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures. Through careful reading and oracy, we will show our understanding of words, phrases and simple writing. We will broaden our vocabulary and basic grammar and then write phrases to describe people, places and things.

In **PSHE** we will learn about World Issues and explore how events in one part of the world can have a global impact, taking the examples of the war in Syria, the Ebola crisis and fluctuating oil prices. We will learn that public services are largely funded through the payment of taxes to the government and that taxes are paid on income as well as goods and services. We will explore how councils are responsible for local spending decisions and can raise additional funds for public services through council taxes. We will discuss relationships and law, including looking at healthy relationships and different types of relationships.



We will continue with the mental and emotional wellbeing programme 'My Happy Mind'. Once a week, all children in school will continue to participate in activities linked to five modules - the brain, celebrate, appreciate, relate and engage. Each module introduces a new set of content and habits to help children build resilience, self-esteem and confidence.



### **PE sessions**

A PE/Games kit is required on the following days.

Monday	Indoor PE	All classes
Friday	Outdoor games	All classes



PE kit - house t-shirt, dark jogging bottoms. (This can be left in school in a named bag.)

Games kit - dark jogging bottoms, house T-shirt, trainers and spare socks. A carrier bag is useful to bring this occasionally wet and dirty kit home.

For safety reasons, please ensure children have long hair tied back and any earrings that cannot be removed will be covered with tape.

#### Exciting upcoming events to look out for.

- Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May - SATs week for **Year 6**.
- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May SATs party for **Year 6**.
- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May - Year group photos
- Monday 22<sup>th</sup> May - Crucial Crew - **Year 6**
- Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May - Sports Day
- Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> June - **Year 6** - Junior Conway (Menai) Residential.
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June - all Y6 visit High School for taster day. (More details to follow soon.)
- 21<sup>st</sup> June - **Year 5** - Sports Day event at PHS
- 23<sup>rd</sup> June **or** 30<sup>th</sup> June - Nature Day
- Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July - Induction Day for **Year 6**
- Monday 17<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July - Bikeability for **Year 6**.
- Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July - Prom - **Year 6**
- Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> July - 10.00am - Leavers assembly



#### Lost Property

Please add names to all your children's clothing and equipment so that if lost they can be returned to them.

#### Homework

Maths and English/topic homework will usually be issued on Fridays. We would like this to be completed and submitted by the following Wednesday.

Maths homework will be issued online using the Mathletics website. In English/topic, children will receive homework to support tasks completed in class. They will also receive a spelling book with lists that should be learnt weekly. Children should spend an additional 20 minutes per week on these spelling tasks.

Teachers expect children to take around twenty minutes for each English/topic and maths homework to be completed. If your child is struggling to complete the allocated piece within this time, please let us know. We do understand that many children take part in activities outside school, and this is the reason we have tried to provide a fair and reasonable system so that children can continue to enjoy these clubs without too much homework pressure.

In addition, we would expect children to read on a regular basis. We still believe it is a positive and beneficial exercise for children to read aloud to parents/ grandparents/older brothers and sisters at home. Even at this stage, it is extremely helpful if you encourage discussion about the plot, characters and what may happen in the story.



#### Accelerated Reading

As part of our continued commitment to raising standards and progress in reading, all pupils have a reading book, which is part of the Accelerated Reading Scheme. Accelerated Reading is a scheme which levels all reading books within school. Once your child has read their book, they will be able to take an online quiz which will consolidate their understanding of the text. All children will be issued with their own login so that they can complete the quiz related to their book and also monitor their progress and targets. Within lessons, children will be given targets and rewards to maintain their focus and continue to engage their love of reading. Look out for your child's login and if there are any problems please do let us know.



### Bikeability

We are pleased to have booked the **Year 6** children on the Bikeability Course on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2023. The course is delivered by Nationally Qualified Cycling Instructors on local roads and has been revised in line with current Education and Government advice (most Risk Assessments approved by your school). Adhering to social distancing, Bikeability has always been an active, outside activity where pupils are very well distanced on their own bikes. This is a valuable opportunity to learn about local road safety on foot and bike. Participants must be able to ride, all who take part receive a certificate / badge. Children will need to wear a cycle helmet and have the use of a roadworthy bike. A letter of consent will be required. Further details will follow nearer the time.

### Year 6/7 Transition

We understand that this is a very important part of year 6. Over the next few weeks, Secondary school staff will be having meetings with us to discuss each child individually, regarding social, academic and pastoral aspects. Meanwhile, Mrs Kennedy and Mr Hunter from Poynton High School, will be continuing to visit Lower Park to work alongside and meet Year 6 children. The High School are also creating opportunities for classes to spend time there participating in different subjects. We will send more information regarding this as soon as we have it.

### Tuesday 9th May to Friday 12th May is SATs week for the Year 6 children.

We are incredibly proud of the hard work that the children have put into their work throughout the year as well as during the revision period. They should be commended for their diligent and delightful attitude.



To celebrate the end of our tests and all their hard work, we will be holding a party for our Year 6 children on Friday 11th May at 2.15pm. We would be grateful if you could provide something for your child to share with others eg cake, biscuits, crisps etc. (No nuts please). Please note, we are unable to cook/warm up food. Drinks would also be much appreciated.



### Crucial Crew - Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

In the afternoon of Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May, the **Year 6** children will be taking part in an interactive exhibition that delivers practical health and safety education. Many different professionals from the Emergency Services and local agencies will be presenting to the children on matters that will teach community values and safety. **(On this day the children will require a packed lunch.)**

### Our School Rule

We should smile, be friendly and care for one another  
Be well mannered and polite  
Speak the truth  
Be fair  
Treat each other with respect and how you would like to be treated  
Be the best you can be

### School Values



Naturally, we expect a high standard of behaviour and attitude as it is important to achieve a happy and purposeful classroom.

### Communication:

As always you are welcome to contact the school, via email, dojo, phone call, if you have any questions or queries.



If you feel that you could offer help in school in any way, for example by hearing children read, enriching a topic or displays please do get in touch.

This term, like always, is a busy one. We do appreciate your continued help and support and if you feel that you could help out in other ways, for example by hearing children read, display, please get in touch.

Jo Jones, Kath Bailey, Julie Duffy, Eloise Massey, Heather Mukherjee, Barbara Chadwick, Lucy Potts, Helen Day, Amelia Lomas.

(UKS2 team)