

**Welcome**

Firstly, I would like to say welcome back after the summer holidays and welcome to Year 6! I hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable summer. Your child is now beginning the final part of their learning journey at Harris Primary School and I am sure you cannot believe how quickly the time has flown by! I am excited to be teaching this fabulous group of children and I have no doubt that they will relish being the 'top dogs' of the school. I aim to give them a wonderful final year and fully prepare them for their SATs tests in May and get them high school ready. High school readiness: Now in Year 6, the children will undertake roles and responsibilities throughout the school and they are expected to act as positive role models for the rest of the school, leading by example in their attitude to learning and through their behaviour at playtimes. I know they will rise to this challenge. It will be a very exciting and very busy final year and I know how fortunate the children are to have such supportive families to help them along the way. I look forward to speaking to you all during the term ahead. In addition to my teaching, Year 6 will also be taught by Mr Ridge for PE on Thursday afternoons. Mrs Joel is our Year 6 teaching assistant. Indeed, if you ever have any questions, concerns or queries, please speak to me at the door in morning or afternoon or email school on staff@harris.lancs.sch.uk

English

To begin our year, we will be studying the novel *The Nowhere Emporium* by Ross MacKenzie. We will be exploring the themes, characters and description in this book to write our own fantasy story in the end. We will also be looking at how to write a range of non-fiction texts.

Maths

We will begin this half term looking at the following areas:
Place Value: Compare and order numbers up to 10,000,000;
Compare and order numbers with up to three decimal places
Addition and Subtraction: Add and Subtract whole numbers up to 10,000,000; Add and Subtract numbers with up to three decimal places e.g. $2.65 + 354.682 + 64.7 + 24 / 834.2 - 58.829$; Round numbers to an appropriate power of 10 to estimate a calculation
Multiplication: multiply two-digit and three-digit whole numbers by a two-digit whole number using the formal written method of long multiplication; round numbers to an appropriate power of 10 to estimate a calculation.
Division: divide a three-digit or four-digit number by a two-digit number and interpret remainders as whole number remainders, fractions, or by rounding, as appropriate for the context

Science**Are you travelling light?**

We will learn how light travels and how this enables us to see objects. We will have the opportunity to make a functioning periscope, finding out about mirrors and the angles of reflection and incidence. We will work scientifically and collaboratively to investigate refraction, carrying out some fascinating experiments into the effects of bending light. Furthermore, we will have chance to predict what will happen in an exciting investigation into the visible spectrum. Finally, we will learn about Isaac Newton and his theory of light and colour.

Guided Reading

The children will have Guided Reading for approximately 20 minutes every day. The children will work in groups with an adult, independently on either pre-reading or follow up tasks, on the iPads to practice comprehension and one group will also have the opportunity to sit in the reading area and read a book of their choice for pleasure.

History**World War 2**

We will learn when and why World War II began and find out about the key individuals and countries involved. In addition to this, we will learn all about evacuation to determine what it was like to live with food rationing and we will explore the invaluable contribution made by women to the war effort. Furthermore, we will learn important facts about the Holocaust and investigate events that were key turning points in the war, such as the Battle of Britain and the German invasion of Russia. Studying World War II will help us develop our investigation and evaluation skills, learn to organise information chronologically and understand how past events have helped to shape the world we know today.

Computing**Communication and collaboration**

Children will explore how data is transferred over the internet. We will initially focus on addressing, before we move on to the makeup and structure of data packets. We will then look at how the internet facilitates online communication and collaboration; they complete shared projects online and evaluate different methods of communication. Finally, we will learn how to communicate responsibly by considering what should and should not be shared on the internet.

<u>Art</u> WW2 mixed media We will learn about how war artists have documented and recorded the events and catastrophes of war. We will take inspiration from the works of John Piper and Wilfred Stanley Haines to help us create our own mixed media pieces of artwork.	<u>PE</u> PE will take place on a Thursday afternoon with Mr Ridge. We will be developing the children's creativity through creating games, the skills and games created will then feed through to support play time activities. They will also spend some time on indoor gymnastic activities.	<u>French</u> What's the weather like? We will be learning how to talk about the weather. We will complete verbal and written work using the key vocabulary and grammar needed for this unit.
<u>RE</u> Christianity (Church) How do Christians mark the turning points on the journey of life? Christian rites of passage, denominational differences.	<u>PSHE</u> Relationships and learning about our brain This year we will be continuing to use a programme called My Happy Mind to help us really get to know the science behind how the brain works and different ways to help us control and understand our feelings and emotions	<u>Music</u> Taught by Mr Baines Mr Baines will teach music throughout the year in Year 6.

Reminders

Names – Please remember to write/stick your child's name on all their belongings, including water bottles and P.E. jackets. It really helps when things go missing!

PE – Mr Ridge will be teaching the children PE skills on Thursday afternoons. The children should come to school in their PE kit on Thursdays. Earring should **not** be worn for P.E. If they are unable to be removed due to being newly pierced, please make sure the children have some form of tape to cover them for safety reasons, this should be applied at home before school. The children will need to remove them after the half term break as any new piercings should be healed by then. If the children cannot remove their own earrings, please make sure they are removed before coming to school.

Homework – Homework will be given in the form of a homework menu sent home every 2 weeks. The children can choose from the activities provided in order to complete roughly 3 pieces of work each week. Completed homework should be sent into class for me to look at.

ULLSWATER, LAKE DISTRICT – It's not very long now until we head out on our very exciting residential trip with the Outward Bound Trust. We will be having a pre-trip meeting after school on 16th September at 3.30pm where any details will be finalised, information given and questions will be answered. I look forward to seeing you there! If you cannot attend, I will provide copies of the kit list for children to bring home.

Reading at Home

Please make sure you continue to read on a regular basis. Children have access to change their books when necessary. Reading records will be checked weekly to ensure the children are reading at home – the more times the merrier! Reading stamina is particularly important for later on in the year when the children sit their SATs so please do encourage your child to read independently on a regular basis.