



Welcome to the Year 6 Class newsletter—full of key information for the term ahead. This term, our context for learning is: **NATURAL DISASTERS**

Quake, rattle and roll—could it happen here?

Year 6 Team: Class teachers—*Ms Quinn and Ms Bridgman*

Class TA—*Ms Spiller*

English

In English, we will continue to explore a range of texts and use them to inspire our writing. Soon, we will begin exploring different styles of biography before the children write their own. They could start reading some biographies of people they are interested in at home to help them become familiar with this text type or, if you have a good example at home, encourage your child to bring it into school to share. We will continue to practise the skills of editing and improving our writing, including redrafting pieces. We will also have a strong focus on spelling, grammar and sentence construction. We will continue to read and explore the novel *Holes* by Louis Sachar, and begin a new novel by Beverly Naidoo called *The Other Side of Truth*.

Maths

We will continue to develop our mental maths skills and practise solving multi-step problems using our knowledge of the number system, geometry and measure. We will be further extending children to work on more complex problems as well as reviewing and consolidating their learning from this year to ensure they are fully prepared for the transfer to secondary school. In addition, we will work on some open-ended maths investigations later in the term and explore maths in nature and art.

Geography

We will be answering the question *Quake Rattle and Roll—could it happen here?* in our Geography lessons this term. We will learn what natural disasters are, why and where they happen and the impact they have on the people and locations involved. We will look closely at specific examples of disasters, particularly earthquakes and volcanoes. The CBBC Newsround website has information about natural disasters that have happened recently and in the past. Your child could use this site to do some independent research.

Science

In Summer 1, we will be learning about Living Things and their Habitats. The children will learn how living things are classified into broad groups according to common observable similarities and differences. Children will be able to explain how and why plants and animals have been classified according to these characteristics. After half term, our unit will be Animals including Humans and the children will learn to identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system, describing the main functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood. We will explore the effect of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way the body functions. Lastly, we will learn how nutrients are transported within animals, including humans.

PE

In indoor PE, the children will learn dances linked to our geography topic of Disasters. They will also be choreographing their own dances to music linked to the end of year production. Our outdoor PE will be led by the sports coach. We will be developing skills linked to cricket in Summer 1 and athletics after half term.



Music

This term, Y6 will continue to learn new songs in Mr Prescott's singing assembly and our main focus will be learning the songs for our end of year production.

Art

In a change to our usual focus on the Take One Picture project, this year, we will instead be doing Take One Book—a child-led project where the whole school will be exploring a beautiful book called, A River by Marc Martin. The book is about a journey on a river from city to sea. Inspired by this stimulus, the children will be generating their own ideas for artwork, which could include a range of art skills including drawing, painting and sculpture.

Computing

In Summer 1, the children will be completing a programming unit. They will follow the 'Use-Modify-Create' model by experimenting with variables in an existing Scratch project, then they will modify them and design and create their own project. They will use their knowledge of variables and design to improve their game in Scratch. This unit will be followed by a second programming unit where the children will be consolidating a range of programming skills they have learnt.

Religious Education (RE)

In RE, we are learning about Buddhism throughout the summer term. Children will learn about the practices and ways of life in the Buddhist community looking at Buddhist stories to understand where these practices stem from. Later in the term, they will learn about the importance of pilgrimages and festivals.

Personal, social and Health Education (PSHE)

Our PSHE topic for the first half term is Healthy Minds. We will be learning about ways to take care of our mental health. In Summer 2, we will be exploring how to keep safe when out and about. This includes managing risks and dealing with peer pressure.

Reminders

Jewellery: The only jewellery we allow are watches and stud earrings. If possible your child should not wear earrings on PE days.

Uniform: Please ensure all uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name and encourage them to look after their belongings. If you are unsure about school uniform, please look on the school website.

We endeavour to be a nut free school. Please be aware of this when you prepare your child's lunch box. This includes peanut butter, Nutella, pesto, hummus and products with sesame seeds.

Birthdays: If you would like to make a gift of a book for the class to celebrate your child's birthday, that would be much appreciated.

Water bottles: Please ensure your child brings in a named water bottle, filled with water, each day.

PE : Outdoor PE for both classes is on **Fridays**. Your child will need a white t-shirt, navy tracksuit trousers or shorts and trainers or plimsolls. Indoor PE is on **Wednesdays**. Children must have navy shorts (above the knee) and a round-neck, short-sleeved t-shirt for indoor PE.

Your child should come in wearing their PE kit on their PE days.

Home Learning

Mathletics: Maths homework will continue to be set. Please encourage your child to complete it and let us know if they have any problems accessing it.

Big Cat books online and books from the class library: We expect children to read 4-5 times a week and record an activity in their journal—we have lots of new reading material in our Class library so please encourage your child to borrow and take home books.

The children have some additional challenges provided in the 'Take away tasks'. If your child completes one, please encourage them to bring these in so we can celebrate your child's work—thank you to those who did this last term!

Important dates



SATS Breakfast
3rd—12th May, from 8:15am

SATS Week:
9th May—12th May
Year 6 Assembly
Thursday 25th May

Inset Day
Friday 26th May
Half term
30th May—2nd June

Inset Day
Monday 5th June
KS2 Sports Day
TBC
Open morning
Tuesday 4th July
Parents Evening
Thursday 6th July
Last day of term:
Thursday 20th July