



Birchwood Avenue Primary School

Headteacher: Miss E. Hall

www.birchwoodavenue.herts.sch.uk

Birchwood Avenue, Hatfield, Hertfordshire, AL10 0PS

☎01707 262503 ✉admin@birchwoodavenue.herts.sch.uk 📱@birchwoodavesch

Year 6 Autumn Newsletter

A very warm welcome to all our parents and carers of Year Six children. Our Learning Superpower this half term will be 'Resilience', where children will understand and celebrate the importance of not giving up when faced with challenges.

PE

Our PE days this term are **Tuesday** and **Friday**. Children should wear full uniform to school and bring their PE kits with them. PE kits should include a t-shirt that matches house colour, trainers, and shorts or jogging bottoms.

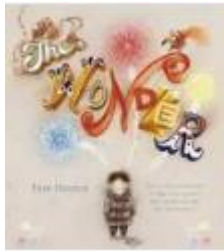
We will start the autumn term by developing skills in tag rugby and hockey. After the term, we will focus on dance and leadership skills.



their

half

English



In English, we will be starting the term looking at our whole-school text 'The Wonder' by Faye Hanson, where children will use the text as a starting point to develop some artwork and creative writing. We will then focus on narrative work based around the short film, 'The Lighthouse'. Later in the term, we will use a variety of texts to produce a range of writing, including non-chronological reports, poetry and persuasive writing. We will be ensuring that we are exploring, understanding and consolidating our understanding of grammar and punctuation throughout the units of work.

Reading

Please continue to support your child, to encourage a love for reading. Your child will bring home a book from the classroom reading corner each day, linked to their reading level. We expect them to read out loud **to an adult for at least 10 minutes each evening**. It is really important that you are asking questions about what the children are reading to ensure that they are comprehending the text. Please support this process by writing a short comment and signing in your child's reading record. A year 6 reader should be able to read aloud with fluency and expression, using punctuation to aid understanding and with the ability to talk with confidence about what they have read.

Maths

This term we will be focusing on consolidating our understanding of place value with numbers up to ten million. We will also be looking at mental calculation methods; the formal written methods for multiplication



Educating Hearts and Minds



and short division; and prime numbers, factors and multiples. All of our learning will focus on both varied fluency and reasoning and problem solving.

Science

This half term, we will be learning about Light and Perception. Children will understand the science behind why we see, before looking at shadows, reflection, refraction and the colours within light. During the second half term, we will focus on Circulation and Lifestyle, where we will look at the function of the heart and the impact of an unhealthy lifestyle. Throughout both units of work, we will be combining theory and practical work and learning through scientific enquiry.



History

During the first part of the autumn term, we will be learning about what a census can tell us about the local area. We will use the census to learn about the Victorian era and why some women refused to fill in the census during the suffrage movement before conducting a local area enquiry using the local census.

Geography



During the second part of the autumn term, we will move on to our topic all about population and how it changes. We will look at birth and death rates; migration; the impact of climate change on migration; and how the population impacts the environment.

PSHE

During our PSHE lessons, the children will have the opportunity to think about and discuss ‘What it is to be me in my world?’ We will share our hopes and fears and think about our rights and responsibilities as we develop our own learning behaviours and class learning culture. In the second half term we looking at “Celebrating Difference” and how we fit in to the world around us.

Art

During the first half term, we will learn about photography and digital art. The children will apply their understanding of abstract art through photography and demonstrate an understanding of design choices using digital photography techniques. By the end of the unit they will design and recreate a famous painting.



This will demonstrate observation and an understanding proportion to create art in a photorealistic style.

Design and Technology

During the second half term, the children will learn to use a combination of textiles skills, such as attaching fastenings, appliqué and decorative stitches to make a waistcoat. The children will design, assemble and decorate the waistcoat for a chosen purpose.



Educating Hearts and Minds



Computing

In Computing, we will be further developing our knowledge on online safety and looking at communication and collaboration in the first half term. The children will explore what is necessary for effective communication and the importance of agreed protocols. They will also consider how people can work together when they are not in the same location. In the second half term, we will focus on web page creation. The children will evaluate what makes an effective webpage, before creating their own webpage whilst considering layout, copyright and hyperlinks.

RE

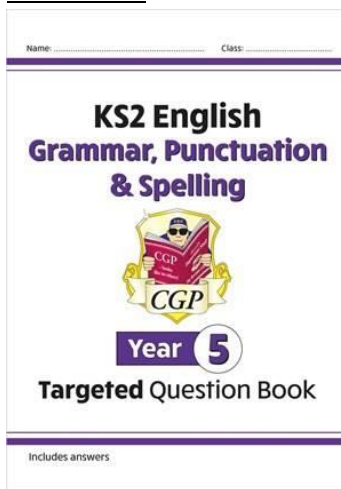
Our RE topic this half term is 'Why does religion look different around the world?' In the first half term, we will build on comparisons about the origins of Abrahamic religions, considering how culture, tradition, migration and interpretation can affect how some religious practices are observed. In the second half term, we will look at Hinduism, Sikhism, Buddhism and Jainism; children will consider the influence of culture, history, geography and tradition have on how religion looks in different places and challenge their perceptions.



Languages

During the term the children will consolidate their learning from Year 5. They will learn a song with actions, to help them to memorise vocabulary for classroom items, such as book and pen. We will focus on key phoneme sounds to help the children to pronounce words correctly. Children will revise words for sports and hobbies and how to form the simple future tense, both orally and in writing. Later in the term the children will complete a speaking assessment and practise their answers in pairs.

Homework



Every week, children will be given both maths and grammar homework. Each child will have a CGP Rising Stars workbook. A page will be chosen to complete each week.

For maths, children will be given a homework sheet linked to their learning during the week.

Multiplication and division underpin many areas of maths, therefore it is essential that every child is fluent in their times tables. The children are expected to practise on TT Rockstars every day for a minimum of three minutes. If you are unsure which times tables your child should be practising, please see me so that I can direct you to your child's personal targets.

<https://play.ttrockstars.com/auth/school/student>.

If you have any questions about your child's learning, please do not hesitate to see us.

Thank you for your support,
Miss Plane, Mrs Bird and the Year 6 Team



Educating Hearts and Minds

