

Year Six – Spring Term 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope that you and your family had a wonderful break and are feeling refreshed and ready for the coming year. Your children made a great start to their final year at Boutcher last term, working exceptionally hard and demonstrating great enthusiasm towards learning. We hope that they continue to build on this and enjoy the challenges they will face this term.

This handout provides an overview of what we will be covering this term, as well as expectations with regards to homework. We hope that you find it useful but please feel free to catch one of us in the playground or contact the office to arrange an appointment if you have any concerns or questions.

Reading

Your child will continue to be read with in guided reading sessions. During these lessons they read aloud, answer questions relating to the text and discuss the text as a group. They will also continue to complete follow up activities in their read and respond journals.

We will use some of our reading sessions to delve deeper into *Boy in the Tower* (the focus of our writing lessons) whilst other lessons will be focused on the Key Stage 2 content domain using a variety of different fiction and non-fiction texts including *Real-Life Mysteries* by Susan Martineau and Vicky Barker.

Your child should continue to use their reading record to document the books they are reading and complete reading comprehension questions in it. Whilst we will ensure some time is provided for independent reading in school, it is vital that children read for at least 15 minutes at home every day. Reading records should be brought to school every day and will be checked daily.

We will continue with our weekly visit to the school library on Friday afternoons. Please ensure any library books to be returned are brought to school on this day.

Writing

This term we will be reading, *Boy in the Tower* by Polly Ho-Yen. This text is based in south-London and is told from the perspective of Ade who lives on the 17th floor of a tower block. Through this intriguing story, we will apply our growing SPaG skills producing journalistic writing, formal letters, non-chronological reports and narrative writing. In all lessons children will be learning or consolidating skills in spelling, grammar, punctuation and handwriting.

Maths

The expectations for Year 6 in relation to maths can be found in the maths handbook, which is on the school website. We will have maths lessons every day following the Maths No Problem syllabus. We will start the term studying measure and will move on to percentages and then ratio.

Religious Education

In RE lessons we will start the term by considering whether fame and the Christian faith go together. We will then go on to think about the journey of life and death. This will involve investigating different beliefs about life and life after death whilst encouraging the children to reflect on and express their hopes for the future. We will apply and build on our understanding of Christianity and Islam within this topic.

Science

This term, we will be learning about living things and their habitats. We will build on prior learning by sorting animals into groups based on their similarities and differences, and we will find out about the standard system of classification. Children will have the opportunity to design their own 'curious creature' and classify it based on its characteristics. We will learn about micro-organisms, and investigate the growth of mould on bread.

PSHE

This term we will be thinking about dreams and goals. We will think about our personal learning goals and the steps to success, our dreams for the world and how we can make a difference. We will finish the topic by recognising our own achievements.

Computing

We will continue to study computer programming through code.org. We will continue to work through course F, looking at how users make choices in the apps they use, moving on to use more advanced concepts, including variables and loops. We will also cover esafety.

Topical Talk

We will continue to have Topical Talk lessons using their one-hour materials. Through these lessons the children will participate in informed and open-minded discussions about the biggest issues of our time, whilst developing essential critical-thinking and communication skills. We will also be participating in the Topical Talk Festival.

PE

Our PE lessons will take place on Friday afternoons. Children should wear their PE kits to school and will stay in it all day. This term we will be developing our PE skills through gymnastics.

Theme

This term our topic will be Globalisation. We will learn what globalisation is, how it has changed the way we communicate and how it affects trade. We will learn about the impact of globalisation on fashion, food and how it impacts our own lives. This exciting topic will provide us with many cross-curricular opportunities including art and design and technology.

Music

Children will continue to have violin lessons each week on a Monday afternoon.

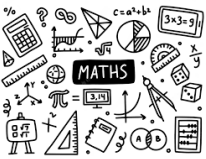


Services

We will continue exploring this year's theme - communication. We will spend time learning about the way Jesus communicated the Fruits of the Spirit during his time on the earth. We will reflect on the importance of good communication and the way we communicate with others. We would love for you to join us on Friday mornings at 10am in the school hall. The dates when we will be leading service are:


- Friday 26th January 2024
- Friday 23rd February 2024
- Friday 15th March 2024

Homework

Homework will look a little different in Year 6, with daily homework being set. We feel that this change in moving from weekly to daily homework is important as it not only provides children with the opportunity to consolidate their learning at home but it also helps to prepare them for their transition to secondary school.

<p>Reading</p>	<p>As previously mentioned, your child is expected to read for a minimum of 15 minutes every night and to complete a reading comprehension question response in their reading record. We would ask that your child be given the opportunity to read aloud to you once a week with you commenting and signing their reading record. Reading records should be brought to school every day.</p>
<p>Daily Maths</p> 	<p>Each day your child be given 5 maths questions to answer in their maths homework book. This will give them the chance to consolidate prior learning.</p> <p>This book must be returned to school every day.</p>
<p>SPaG</p> 	<p>Each day your child be given a SPaG task to complete in their pink homework book. This will give them the chance to revisit and build on prior learning.</p> <p>This book must be returned to school every day.</p> <p>They will go back to having one spelling test each week. Children will be set the spellings to practise on a Wednesday and tested the following Wednesday.</p>
<p>Times Tables</p> 	<p>A minimum of 25 minutes each week must be completed. We recommend that this is completed by practising for a minimum of 5 minutes each day.</p> <p>The time spent is calculated from that spent answering questions and not the time spent on the website.</p>

We will go through the maths and SPaG homework with the children every day and further teaching will be provided if required. We would ask that you support your child in bringing these books to school **every day** as continued failure to bring completed work to school will result in working during lunchtimes and missing playtime.

	<p>Each week an article will be posted onto Google Classroom. We expect all children to read the article, engage in a discussion at home about what they have written and post a comment on the class Google Classroom page. This will support children with developing their literacy and oracy skills.</p>
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Whilst your children are growing in independence, please do support them in ensuring they have their belongings needed for each school day. It is also vital that they attend school on time at 8:45 as lateness is disruptive for everyone and opportunities to learn are missed.

Many thanks for your continued support and we look forward to a successful year.

The Year Six Team