

Year Six – Spring Term 2022



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 a great enthusiasm towards learning and we hope that they continue to build on this and enjoy the challenges they are presented with 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 structured on *Usborne's, Politics for Beginners*. This accessible and relevant text covers all aspects of the Key Stage 2 content domain and offers many rich opportunities for them to learn and discuss various political concepts.

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 on Monday and Wednesday.

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 percentages and will move on to ratio and then algebra.

It is expected that your children know their times tables up to 12 in line with the national expectation for the end of Year 4. Please work with your children to support them with learning these if they are not yet confident as accuracy and speed in recalling multiplication and division facts is fundamental to mathematical reasoning and problem solving.

Religious Education

In RE lessons we will start the term by considering whether faith and the Christian faith go together. We will then go on to think about the journey of life and death. This will involve investigating beliefs about life and life after death whilst encouraging them 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. Our learning in this topic will also be supported by a visit to the British Wildlife Centre.

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 - formerly known as BNC

This term our project is, Big Corp Power. Big corporations mean big money – and the more money they make, the more powerful they become. But can corporations like Amazon ever be too big? What happens when their actions start affecting lives and communities? And overall, are big corps good for the world? We will be seeking to understand and answer these big questions through this 6-week project.

PE

Our PE lessons will take place on Thursday and Friday afternoons. Children should wear their PE kits to school on these days and they will stay in them 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 Tuesday afternoon.

Services

Our theme for the year is family. Throughout this term we will be learning about Jesus' family through stories in the gospels. We will think about the family that Jesus chose for himself and the characteristics and qualities that our families have. At the moment you are still unable to join us, we hope that later in the year you will be able to once again join us to worship.

Homework

Daily

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. Your child is also expected to complete retrieval maths daily through the 5 questions set daily. This should take your child approximately 10 minutes. The daily maths workbook and reading records are expected in school each day where we will mark the tasks. Further teaching will be provided if required. Please do support your child in bringing these books to school every day. Continued failure to bring completed work to school will result in working during lunchtimes.

Weekly

Weekly homework will be set on Wednesday and should be handed in by the following Wednesday.

We will continue to set spelling homework on Google Classroom. This should be completed in the homework book that your child has received and uploaded by Wednesday morning. Feedback on homework will be given in class or on an individual basis depending on need.

Children will continue to be set one reading comprehension task from a reading comprehension book and one SPaG task from a SPaG workbook. This should be brought to school by Wednesday morning as we will mark this work together and feedback will be given. Please ensure children only complete the pages they are assigned.

Two maths activities will be set on the Mathletics website which will be a consolidation of the learning that has taken place that week

Please do ensure your child brings to school the relevant workbooks and has uploaded their spelling homework by Wednesday morning. If homework is not handed in, children will have to complete it during lunch time.

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 as lateness is disruptive for everyone and opportunities to learn are missed. It is particularly important in Year 6 that children are supported with these things as it will help prepare them for secondary school.

Many thanks for your continued support.

The Year Six Team