

## Year Six – Spring Term 2025



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. 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.

This term we will cover all aspects of the Key Stage 2 content domain through reading Real-Life Mysteries by Susan Martineau and Vicky Barker in our reading lessons. This exciting text offers many rich opportunities for children to develop their vocabulary as well as their debating skills. We will begin by asking the question: how do we know if something is true or not?

Through this text children will have the opportunity to examine and weigh up various strategies to determine if a statement they have come across can be verified as fact.

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

We will start the term by using The Invention of Hugo Cabret for our writing lessons. Hugo is an orphan clock keeper and thief who lives in the walls of a busy Paris train station, where his survival depends on secrets and anonymity. But when his world suddenly interlocks with an eccentric girl and her grandfather, Hugo's undercover life, and his most precious secret, are put in jeopardy. Through this text we will use many of the key grammar requirements of Y6 and have opportunity to apply them by writing a missing flashback chapter exploring Hugo's experience of living Uncle Claude, as well as researching the famous film director George Méliès and writing a biography about his life.

### 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. During this half-term, we'll be looking at measure then moving onto percentages, ratio

and algebra. If your child isn't confident in multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1,000 please keep practising with them.

### Religious Education

In RE lessons we will start the term by seeking to answer the question, How Do Muslims Show Commitment to Allah? We will start the topic by considering what is commitment? The children will have opportunities to develop three ways of thinking through opportunities to explore and question whilst developing their understanding of the Muslim religion,. We will end the topic with the children having the opportunity to choose another religion to compare to Islam in terms of commitment to faith.

### 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

At Boutcher School, we teach Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) and relationships as a whole-school approach to underpin children's development as people and because we believe that this also supports their learning capacity. We use the Jigsaw Programme which offers us a comprehensive, carefully thought-through Scheme of Work which brings consistency and progression to our children's learning in this vital curriculum area. This term the topic being covered across the school is Dreams and Goals. In this unit, children will think about their aspirations, how to achieve goals and develop their understanding of the emotions that go with this.

### 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 continue to 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. This term, we will also be participating in the Topical Talk Festival. During the Festival period, children will have access to the online hub and will be provided with their own username and password. We will encourage them to spend time engaging with and continuing the discussion online. Please be assured that all comments will be monitored by members of the Topical Talk team before being added to the hub. If anything written concerns the team, they will contact us to make us aware.

### PE

At Boutcher, we follow the 'Real PE' approach. Real PE is a unique, child-centred approach that engages and challenges children in their PE lessons. It focuses on the development of agility, balance and coordination, healthy competition and cooperative learning. Real PE focuses on six key cogs, these are: Creative, Cognitive, Health and Fitness, Personal, Physical and Social.

In the spring term, we will be working through the 'cognitive' cog in our weekly PE lessons.

Our PE day is Friday and you should wear your PE kit to school.

### Theme

This term our topic will be Globalisation. We will learn what globalisation is, how it has changed the way we communicate and affects trade. We will learn about the impact of globalisation on fashion, food and how it impacts our own lives.

### Music

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

### Services

This year our theme is our school values; Faith, Family and Fascination. Throughout the spring term we will be looking at these values through events and people of faith in the New Testament, particularly through the life of Jesus and those that met him. We will look into Faith, Family and Fascination more deeply whilst seeking to encourage these values in our own lives. 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 14<sup>th</sup> February 2025
- Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025

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.

The Year Six Team