

Year Six Newsletter Autumn 1, September 2017

Consider
yourself at
home!



Welcome to Year Six!

We're so excited! This half term promises to be full of exciting learning opportunities for our Year 6 children. Our topic is '*The Victorians; Vile or Virtuous?*' We will be exploring the inventions and achievements of great Victorians and life as a Dickensian street urchin. We are looking forward to visiting Thackray Medical Museum. The children will be learning about how the dramatic changes and industrial progress during the Victorian era has shaped our lives today. We will also be studying the lives of Queen Victoria, and Charles Dickens, debating whether the Victorian era could be described as '*Vile or Virtuous?*'

Watch this space! We will be exploring ways to raise money for the children's charity Barnardo's following some research as to the charity's origins.

We look forward to meeting you at our forthcoming events. In the meantime, we hope that the attached timetable, spelling list and website list are useful. Please call and see us with any queries or suggestions and check our page on the school website.

No time to lose, all aboard...



Mathematics

For this half-term we will be mastering place value, using large numbers and decimals, progressing to perfecting the four operations, both mental and written. We will also be working on speed and fluency in arithmetic.

Important Dates

Thu 14th September - Secondary School Information Evening
Tues 19th September – Grand Theatre, Leeds visit
Tue 26th September – European Languages Day
Thu 21st - September Induction Evening
Wed 4th October – Victorian School Day
Tuesday 10th October – Saltaire Experience Tour
Tuesday 14th November – Thackray Medical Museum visit

English

We kick off our literary journey with *Amazing Inventions*, where children research, design, present and debate whilst exploring some of the significant discoveries of the last century.

We will then carry out an in-depth study of *Street Child* by Berlie Doherty, the unforgettable tale of an orphan in Victorian London, based on the boy whose plight inspired Dr Barnardo to found his famous children's homes. When his mother dies, Jim Jarvis is left all alone in London. He is sent to the workhouse but quickly escapes, choosing a hard life on the streets of the city over the confines of the workhouse walls. Children can access some of the texts we will be reading on the 'activelearn' website. Details of this and other useful websites are attached.

We will then explore the power of language with the poetry of Ted Hughes and focus on our understanding of word class and sentence structures to effect the reader.



Homework

Each Friday your child will receive spellings to practise and be set a Mathematics fluency activity. The attached list of websites are also useful and we will be sending out usernames and passwords reminders. Please contact us with any queries.

P.E. Kit and water bottles

Our P.E. days will be on Monday and Fridays. Children must wear school colour P.E. kits on these days.

We have provided each child with a water bottle for use in class. However, if your child would rather bring their own to use, they are more than welcome.



Science

This year we will be studying *Light, Living things and their habitats, Animals and Humans, Evolution and inheritance*, beginning this half term with *Electricity*.

The children will take part in a 'Dragon's den' challenge where they will work in groups to design a working set of festive lights. They will complete a series of electrical challenges, where they will need to demonstrate that they understand how electric circuits work and that they can respond to enquiry questions in an effective and scientific manner.



Art/DT

We will be studying the designs and techniques of William Morris, visiting the Hirst Wood Nature Reserve to make observations of the patterns and texture found in nature to then create our own designs inspired by this famous Victorian. We will use sketching and printing to produce a collaborative wallpaper collage of different techniques and designs.

P.E.



P.E. will be held on Monday and Friday afternoons. Please ensure that the children are wearing their School P.E. uniform. You can find details of this on the school website.

We will be working with the children to develop their control and balance skills in competitive games of rugby and football. For indoor P.E. we will be practising, improving and performing dance routines to the musical *Oliver!*

Time to Talk...

Our shared class discussions will include relationships, anti-bullying and staying safe online. These are all linked with our curriculum subjects.

Computing



The children will be learning how to stay safe online and explore privacy rules. We will begin to use programming to design a game. In addition, we will use digital art to create images of the Victorian architecture of Saltaire.

Our Year Six Team:

Mr Evans (6E) – Later Phase Leader of Learning

Miss Walton (6W) – Class Teacher

Madame Thakker – French Teacher

Support Team – Miss Hodgson, Miss Rodgers, Mrs Wilson, Miss Tariq and Miss Brett.

Should you have any queries or suggestions, please let us know. In the meantime, many thanks for your support and we look forward to a term of exciting learning and great progress!

With our best regards, The Year Six Team.

- OUR LEARNING JOURNEY -



Year 6 Websites to use from home:

Mathletics

<http://www.mathletics.co.uk/>



There are plenty of ways to practise their mathematical skills here...

Spelladrome

Your child's Mathletics username and password also gives them access to this spelling games site.

Active Learn – Books



www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/

Your child will be reminded of their usernames in class. Here, your child can read the books and interactive ebooks we have been investigating at school. Our first ebook is *Amazing Inventions*.

Numeracy Ninjas

http://www.numeracyninjas.org/?page_id=165

A great resource where your child can improve their mathematical fluency.



<https://trockstars.com/login>



Let's get rocking with Times Table Rock Stars!

Children can create their own rock star name and profile then practise to improve their multiplication facts to recall. By Year 6, children should be secure in all times tables to 12x12.

Other useful sites:

Reading www.firstnews.co.uk

Maths www.n.rich.maths.org www.bedtimemaths.com

BBC Bitesize <http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/>

CBBC Newsround <http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround>



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