



Year Six Newsletter - Summer 1, April/May 2017

Best of British: Much Ado About Shakespeare

Didst thee knoweth that this half term we will be learning all about the life and works of our most famous writer, William Shakespeare? We will investigate his life and study how he has influenced our language. We will also learn about the time he lived in and how this influenced his work. As part of our topic we will take a closer look at the entertainment in Tudor times as well as researching Queen Elizabeth I. To support our work and to bring him back to life, the children will take part in a Shakespeare theatre workshop, playing the characters and learning some Shakespearean language.

SATs Week begins on 14th May and if you have any question following our information evening, please call us.

It's going to be a very busy and packed last term! Further details of transition activities and our residential will follow closer to the time.



Mathematics

In preparation for SATs week, we will be revising all of our maths areas covered so far this year. At home, children can practise using the CGP revision books and their revision packs, increasing their accuracy and speed for arithmetic and solving reasoning questions.

Important Dates

Thurs 19th April – Robinwood Information Evening
 Mon 23rd April – 5K run for British Heart Foundation
 Mon 23rd April – 'A Shaky Start' – Shakespeare's Birthday
 Mon 14th May – SATs Week
 Fri 18th-Sun 19th May – Robinwood Residential Visit

THINGS WE SAY TODAY, WHICH WE OWE TO, SHAKESPEARE:

"KNOCK, KNOCK! WHO'S THERE?" "HEART OF GOLD"
 "IN A PICKLE" "SET YOUR TEETH ON EDGE" "GOOD RIDDANCE"
 "FAINT HEARTED" "SO-SO" "SEND HIM PACKING"
 "LIE LOW" "FIGHT FIRE WITH FIRE" "BAITED BREATH" "COME WHAT MAY"
 "WEAR YOUR HEART ON YOUR SLEEVE" "THE GAME IS UP"
 "NOT SLEPT ONE WINK" "FULL CIRCLE" "OUT OF THE JAWS OF DEATH"
 "WHAT'S DONE IS DONE" "NAKED TRUTH" "TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING"
 "LAUGHING STOCK" "BREADED HIS LAST" "BREAK THE ICE" "WILD GOOSE CHASE"
 "HEART OF HEARTS" "VANISH INTO THIN AIR" "WILD GOOSE CHASE"
 "SEEN BETTER DAYS" "MAKES YOUR HAIR STAND ON END"
 "DEAD AS A DOORNAIL" "FOR GOODNESS' SAKE" "LOVE IS BLIND"
 "GREEN EYED MONSTER" "FAIR / FOUL PLAY / PLAY" "OFF WITH HIS HEAD"
 "THE WORLD IS MY OYSTER" "BRAVE NEW WORLD" "A SORRY SIGHT"
 "BE ALL / END ALL"

English

Everything is going wrong in Athens. Fathers and daughters are arguing. Even in the supernatural world, the King and Queen of the fairies are at war. On the shortest night of the year, can the fairies put things right - or will they make it worse?

We are very excited to introduce the children to Shakespeare and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. We will explore the structure of the plot, the relationship between characters and understanding how actors work with scripts and cues. We will also write from the perspective of Puck and rehearse and perform the play. This will help to inform our topic work which includes Elizabethan theatre and The Globe. Later, the children will be writing celebrity gossip columns and love letters about the characters in the play.

To support writing, our grammar and punctuation will focus on revising all areas covered so far and studying some language etymology and morphology along with clause and sentence structures. We will also be revising the Year 5 and 6 word list ahead of the end of Key Stage Assessments.





Science

We will be investigating the fascinating life of Mary Anning and children will explore how living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago. We will also learn that living things produce offspring of the same kind, but normally vary and are not identical to their parents.

Children will use their learning to plan, use, measure, record, report and present findings and data as well as make predictions from their findings, using models to describe scientific ideas.

Upcoming SATs...

As you know, the children will take the End of Key Stage Assessments the week beginning 14th May. The children will be fully supported through this at school. To help at home, here are our top five top-tips for what every child needs:

1. Sleep
2. Regular routine
3. Practise – little and often
4. A good breakfast
5. Confidence and reassurance

Revision Packs

Before the holidays, your child brought home a folder with some revision activities which had been started in school along with the key objectives and spelling lists. You'll also find a very handy top-tips booklet for both maths facts and reading.



P.E.



We will take up Zumba again this half term to help us perfect our moves and learn new routines and sequences. Children will then record an instructional video for our Year Six children next year.

For outdoor P.E., the children will build on their tennis and cricket skills, all ready for summer! They will practise their skills to play competitively.

Coding A Midsummer Night's Dream

Children will code an animation for a scene from the play we are studying this half term.

Spelling

This half term we will be focusing on the word list (this has been sent home). In addition, we will revise words ending in: -cious, -tious, -cial, -tial, -ant, -ance, -ancy, -ent, -ency, -able, -ible, -ably, ibly.

In preparation for the upcoming test, the children will take part in extra games and revision activities to secure their spelling of the Year 5 and 6 Curriculum list. Another copy was sent home in a folder before the holidays.

We can't wait for a creative, learning-packed term. Should you have any queries at all, please call in and see us or call for a chat.

Best regards and our sincere thanks for your continued support.

The Year Six Team.

