WELCOME TO Y6! Autumn Term

A warm welcome to Y6. We have enjoyed welcoming you all back to school this September. We know how exciting and hard-working being in Upper KS2 can be so we want to support you in every way we can. All of you are in the last year of primary school too! You will receive information about whole school issues through school newsletters but we also want to send you our own information about Class 12 through a newsletter – so here is the first one of the year. Feel free to pop into our classes if you feel you need more information or to have a look at your child's work. Thank you so much!

Mrs. Colley, Mrs. Horner and Miss Wardell

English

This term, our English will be closely linked to their class novel 'Wonder'. The children will practise and continue to develop their inferencing skills and learn how to write a diary entry using some year 6 features of writing. Persuasive techniques will also be taught to enable children to write a persuasive and informative brochure of Beecher Prep which is also based on their class novel. In order to celebrate Black History Month, children will study poetry written by Muhammed Ali. They will adopt the same style in order to recreate their own metaphorical poem. Children will be given the opportunity to 'perform' their poem to an audience to practise and improve their oracy and performance skills!

In reading sessions, we will practise and improve comprehension skills such as retrieval, inferencing and deduction to help our understanding of text. Grammar, punctuation, spelling and handwriting will be practised daily in class. Spellings from the Year 5 / Year 6 lists are regularly practised.Opportunities are provided to incorporate these spellings and other ambitious vocabulary in their writing.

Maths

To make sure that we are ready to rise to the challenge of Year 6, we are focusing on the four basic number rules so that we can use and apply them to all maths topics. Times tables and arithmetic is practised daily to improve rapid recall skills. Please support your child in learning all of their times tables off by heart – a secure knowledge will make KS2 maths much easier! The main areas we will cover this term are:

- Place value
- Addition
- Subtraction
- Multiplication
- Division
- Fractions
- Measurement (Converting Units)

Science

We will begin by having a closer look inside the human body. We will explore the structure of the heart & lungs. The double circulation through the lungs and the rest of the body is explained and children learn more about blood! How does exercise affect pulse rate? Why is exercise good for us & what can harm the heart & lungs? The children will be doing lots of experiments and working as scientists to explain about the heart and how important it is to stay healthy and keep a healthy heart.

RE

Children will study the Creation story (Genesis 2–3) They will understand how human choices and disobedience can have an impact on relationships. They will make connections with John's Gospel, the Creed, and the Sacrament of Baptism as signs of new life and restored communion. This will be linked to Stewardship, Catholic Social Teaching. Their learning will reinforce the teachings from Pope Francis's Laudato Si'. Children will reflect on the innate dignity of all human beings and our shared responsibility to care for Creation.

PE

In P.E the children will learn the rules of rugby and continue to develop hand-eye coordination whilst consolidating the rules of rugby. They will develop the advanced movement, tactical awareness, and spatial control needed for fast-paced, non-contact invasion games. They will practise backward passing on the run, handling the ball at high speeds, and receiving catches. The children will build on their teamwork skills. Lessons are brilliantly delivered by Mr Snaith, our expert PE coach. PE is on a Monday and Friday so remember to bring PE Kits in school on those days.

History

WWII. Children will study the causes and consequences of WWII. They will find out why Poland was invaded and the ripple effects that caused the mass conflict of WW2.
They will learn about power struggles throughout the war, e.g. Battle of Britain - control of the skies, etc.
They will also be taught about the significance of Thornaby during WWII.

Computing

In iSafe computing, children learn to navigate the digital world safely and responsibly. They explore:

Data Protection: Creating strong passwords and protecting personal details.

Critical Thinking: Spotting unreliable online content, scams, and false information.

Digital Citizenship: Practising respectful communication, combating cyberbullying, and understanding their digital footprint.

Online Safety: Managing screen time, recognizing online risks, and knowing how to block contacts or report concerns to trusted adults.

Art, Music and D&T

These areas of the curriculum will be linked mainly with our History topics - World War 2.
In D and T, the children will be looking at making their own WW2 structures.
In music, we will also learn about songs from other countries, with a focus on France with the plan to compose and perform our own music.
In art, we will be studying the work of Kwame Akoto- Bamfo and finding out the inspiration behind his art work. The children will create 3d models using clay. This also links to their history topic which we will study later in this academic year 'The Civil rights Movement'.

French

During Autumn Term 1, the children will be studying 'La Seconde Guerre Mondiale'. The children will learn how to group/order unknown vocabulary to help decode text in French whilst improving their listening and reading skills. Naming the countries and languages involved in WW2 will also link with the knowledge they have gained in history.
During Autumn term 2, the children will be studying 'A L'Ecole'. They will learn how to discuss subjects which they like and dislike as well as discussing the time in French.
We will also be celebrating International Languages and Music Day whereby year 6 children will have a role to play at 'St. Patrick's Continental Cafe' in order to practise their speaking and listening skills.

Homework

Children in year 6 are required to do homework every school night. The amount of homework given is carefully thought out and should never take more than one hour to complete.
Each night:
20 minutes reading. One of the 'reading at home' sessions should be to complete a Reading Plus session.
10 minutes on practising times tables
10 minutes on practising spellings
Thank you for your support.

Friday 25th September Class 12 mass
1st October - Black History Month
Thursday 8th October- Celebration of International Music and Languages Day
26th October - Half Term
11th November - Remembrance Day