



Class 6 Autumn 1 Term Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to Class 6! I hope that you've had a lovely summer. It has been so lovely having the children all back together in school and catching up with lots of you. We have certainly had a busy week getting back into routine. The children have quickly settled back into school life and are super enthusiastic towards the new responsibilities which have been introduced now they are the oldest in the school! The children all seem to be super excited for the year ahead which is great to see! Not only this, but they are also showing a real willingness to learn and succeed which is excellent and exactly what I was hoping for. We really do have what will be a brilliant and memorable year ahead of us with lots of new, fascinating topics to explore.

The aim of this newsletter is to give you an insight into what we will be learning about this term in each curriculum area, as well as giving you any further key information, Please let me know if you have any further questions and remember that my door is always open. I am always very happy to help. 😊

On Tuesdays 10.45am – 3.40pm, I will spend time out of the classroom (PPA) and therefore the children will be taught by Mrs Tuxford.

General information

Please ensure that your child brings water in a labelled reusable drinks bottle and that they have a healthy snack for morning break and/or afternoon break. If they bring it in a snack pot, please ensure these are named. No crisps, chocolate, sweets or snacks containing nuts!

Please ensure sure all items of clothing - especially jumpers, cardigans and coats - are named.

SPELLINGS: Each Friday the children will be given a new list of ten spellings which they need to spend the week practicing ahead of their test on the following Friday. These will be differentiated according to the children's learning needs – your child will be told which group they are in. Please spend time practicing these as the children will be tested on them the following Friday. Spelling lists will be uploaded onto Viva Exchange.

READING: It is expected that the children do at least four reads per week with an adult. I understand that by this age your child may be able to read independently but there is a massive benefit from reading with adults, so I encourage this as much as possible. You could ask them questions about the characters' feelings and actions and why they are doing things; you could tell them what words and phrases mean and even ask them to predict what might happen next! These are the kind of skills which the children need for comprehension tasks and assessments. Each time you read with your child at home, please record this in their reading record. I will be checking the four reads on a Friday. Can your child reach 100, 200 or even 300 reads before the end of the year?

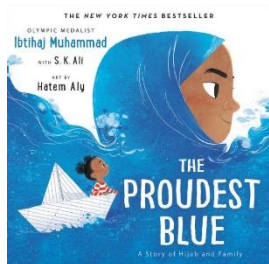
HOMEWORK: As usual, a homework grid will shortly be posted on Viva Exchange which the children are to complete over the course of this half-term. There are lots of different homework activities



which are related to our learning this half-term. The children can choose their homework tasks and complete it over the next few weeks. I will be asking them to bring their completed work into school on Monday 16th October. The children will have the opportunity to showcase their work to the rest of the class. Spellings, reading and times table practice is expected and compulsory each week.

Additional homework specifically related to Maths and English will be provided in due course.

PE: This half term PE sessions will be on a Monday and Thursday. One of these sessions will be delivered by our specialised PE coaches and the other by myself. Please could children with long hair bring bobbles, or preferably, have their hair tied back on these days. With earrings, if the children cannot remove them for themselves, could they kindly not wear them on PE days. If this is not possible, please could you send in tape/plasters for the children to wear over the earrings for the session.



For the first two weeks of the academic year, the whole school is focusing on 'The Proudest Blue: A Story of Hijab and Family' by Ibtihaj Muhammad and S.K. Ali. This book promotes being proud of our identity and what makes us different. In Class 6, we have begun by having lots of class discussions about what we can predict and infer from the illustrations. As we continue to work through the text, there will be various reading and writing opportunities for example, the children writing a diary entry as Asiya describing her first day of hijab. PSHE and art lessons will also be closely linked with this text during these first two weeks.

Our topic for Autumn 1 is 'WWII'.

English (reading): Within our reading lessons this half-term, we will be focusing on the text 'Letters from the Lighthouse' by Emma Carroll. The lessons will provide opportunities for the children to develop their comprehension skills.

English (writing): Within these lessons this half-term, the children will be writing a setting description with a purpose of entertaining. Following that, they will be writing a letter with a purpose of informing. Discreet grammar and punctuations will be taught during the lessons building up to writing these.

Maths: Within our maths lessons, we will be following the White Rose Maths scheme. Key mathematical concepts covered this half-term include place value and addition and subtraction and multiplication and division. Children will also be given plenty of opportunities to develop their mathematical reasoning and problem-solving skills.

Across the year, we will continue practicing our times tables to ensure that children know the multiplication and corresponding division facts up to 12x12 fluently. Times Table Rock Stars is a fantastic website which children can use to practice their times tables through fun games and



challenges! I will ensure your child's password is stuck on the inside the front cover of their reading diary.

History: The lives of children during World War II will be the focus of our topic in history this half-term. With this focus, the children will learn why and when WW2 began – including which countries and world leaders were involved; why children were evacuated during WW2 and what life was like for evacuees; what life was like on the home front; about the Holocaust and the impact it had; and when the war ended and why Germany lost.

Science: In science this half term, we will be investigating light and learning about how our eyes work. This will be tremendously interesting with the opportunity for lots of scientific investigation and enquiries.

Design and Technology: This half-term children will learn about the restrictions that were placed upon people and their diets during the war because of rationing. They will discover how wartime families were creative with the ingredients they could obtain and made many different recipes to use every bit of food they had and not let anything go to waste. The children will try make dishes following their own recipe, evaluating the dishes after making them.

Computing: In computing we will be looking at coding and will be developing upon skills taught in previous year groups. We will be using the Purple Mash app for this.

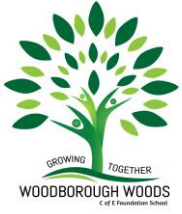
RE: This half-term Class 6's RE topic is Kingdom of God. The big question is 'What kind of King is Jesus?' A key part of RE will be giving children the chance to reflect, pose and answer interesting and thoughtful questions. We will explore some Bible stories and consider how these can be applied to our own lives.

PSHE: This half-term within PSHE we will be focusing on families and relationships. More specifically, we will be learning about respect, stereotypes, conflict and grief.

Music: Our music unit this half-term is called 'Songs of World War 2' and will provide the children opportunities to listen to songs which were popular during WWII. They will be required to use musical and comparative language in discussion; follow the melody line; follow the scores with a good sense of timing; show that they understand which section of pitch they are singing; sing the correct words at the correct time; and to recall the counter-melody line.

PE: The PE unit taught by myself this half-term will involve the children exploring the different components of fitness and then developing an understanding of how they could improve each of these. The PE unit taught by specialist sports coaches from Grade A Sports will be basketball. Time during these sessions will be spent teaching the children the knowledge and skills required to play basketball.

I hope that this letter has been informative and gives you an overview of what we are planning to do during Autumn 1. Keep an eye out for further information on the whole school newsletters but please let me know if you have any further questions and I will be more than happy to help.



Kind regards,
Miss Whittaker