

Upper KS2 Half Termly Curriculum Overview

Year 6 2014/2015 - Spring 1

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We hope you have had a peaceful Christmas and wish you a Happy New Year! May I extend my thanks for your kind cards and gifts at Christmas time. You have been very kind and generous. I am pleased to provide you with information about what the children will be covering in the different subjects during the Spring term. If you wish to know more about the curriculum, visit the DfE website for more information. Mrs Wedge will be covering PPA time in class, working on grammar and punctuation as well as practical maths skills.

Catholic life of the school

Each Friday two classes will join with the parish to celebrate Mass at 9am. Year 6 and Reception will join the parish on Friday 6th February 2015. Please look out for dates on the weekly newsletter.

The Wednesday Word is available for every child to take home every Wednesday. Please look out for this and share it with your child. Additional copies are available at the school office.

Also this term the children will be involved in charity work during Lent. We will be taking part in fundraising activities and raising awareness of local charities through the Good Shepherd Appeal for Nugent Care. We will also be raising funds for 'Mission Together' which supports international charity work.

Look out for further updates on community/parish/school life on our weekly newsletter.

Healthy School Initiative

As part of the healthy school initiative, we will continue to encourage the children to be active at playtimes. Children will be encouraged to drink water throughout the day; therefore it is important that the children have their bottles in everyday! It makes it easier for the children if the bottles have a sports top, as it would prevent any unnecessary spillage.

Healthy snack days will continue to be Monday to Thursday and the children will be given the opportunity to eat their snacks during morning playtimes.

Information and dates to remember

Parents Evening - Tuesday 10th February
3:30pm - 6pm (school closes at 3pm) and
Wednesday 11th February 5:30pm - 8pm.

Next half term... As part of our transition work, year 6 have been invited to attend a High school foundation transition day at our designated High School Cardinal Newman. This is on 26th February for all children even if they are not intending to attend Cardinal Newman.

Homework information

Maths homework will be given out on a Monday to be handed in on the following Friday.

Mrs Wedge's homework is handed out on Tuesday, to be completed by the following Monday.

English homework will be given out on a Wednesday and is to be handed in the following Wednesday.

Spellings will be given out on a Thursday and tested on the following Thursday, in addition to a focus on the children embedding their spellings into their written work and working in their Spelling Logs.

Science Homework will be given out on a Friday and is to be handed in the following Monday.

Reading -Each child should read for a minimum of 15 minutes per night and complete their reading records.

Concerns and messages

If you have any concerns or problems, please do not hesitate to come in and see me at the end of the school day. Any messages in the morning must be left with a Teaching Assistant on the Junior gate and they will be passed directly to me that morning.

Year 6
General Class
Information

Big Maths

The children will continue to complete a weekly 'Big Maths' assessment and will be assessed at the end of the half term on their progress.

Each child will continue to keep their Big Maths files in their book bags so that they can share their assessments with you and work on the types of questions that they find more challenging. The children will continue to split into smaller groups and work with a Big Maths teacher once a week.

Please encourage your child to use their Maths skills at every opportunity.

Remember we are going for green!

Reading

In line with our school policy the children will develop their reading in class throughout the week through shared reading and guided reading sessions and I shall be monitoring their reading progress carefully each week with my own records.

The reading records are for parents to record your child's reading at home. We ask all our Junior children to read for 15 minutes each night. Although I will be keeping my own record of your child's reading progress it would be really helpful if you could make comments in your child's reading record book each time they read, to let me know how they have coped with a book at home. Home reading records are checked and once a week their home reading is acknowledged and a target will be highlighted in the book.

If your child reads any other reading material as well as their reading book from school please also make a note of it in their reading record. The home reading record is also a good way to make contact with me if you wish to send me a message and cannot get into school.

This year as part of our new 3 year Improvement Plan, we are particularly focusing on 'Reading'. As well as our reading activities in class, we ask that in addition to hearing your child read, you share books and read to them and explore the pleasure of reading with your child.

The school continues to run an early doors reading club (£2) 8am - 8:45am each morning and reading clubs at lunch time.

Collective Worship

In class the children will continue to plan and lead Collective Worship Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

They will also take part in a whole school Collective Worship every Monday to start the week and end the week with a Key Stage assembly or link with the parish for a Mass celebration with their partner class.



Science topics**Revision of:**

- Forces of attraction between magnets, and the forces between magnets and magnetic materials.
- Understand that objects are pulled downwards because of gravitational attraction between them and the Earth.
- Find out about friction including air resistance as a force that slows moving objects.
- Understand that when objects are pushed or pulled an opposing push or pull can be felt.
- Understand how to measure forces and identify in which direction they act.
- Use simple equipment appropriately.
- Make systematic observations and measurements.

English**Reading**

The children will be reading for pleasure within their special reading time in class. In addition a variety of texts will be read within guided and shared reading where the children will be taught the following skills:

- Refer to the text to support opinions and predictions.
- Give their point of view about vocabulary and text structure.
- Distinguish between fact and opinion.
- Appreciate how an author has arranged sentences to create maximum effect and create a particular effect.
- How to skim and scan texts.
- To recognise:-
 - Complex sentences with more than one subordinate clause
 - Phrases which add detail to sentences.

Writing

The children will be continuing to build their writing skills of story writing for pleasure and biographies. In addition they will be learning the new skills of the contrasts between formal and informal writing styles.

Spelling

Prefixes and suffixes.

RE - Spring 1 topics

The Children will be learning how to find, access and identify stories from the bible within the topic of 'Sources', which are being studied within the theme of the Community and Local Church.

We shall also begin to learn about 'Unity' and how friendship can nourish unity; with a focus upon the invitation of Jesus, to live in communion with him and one another. This topic will continue in Spring 2.

Mathematics**Revision of the following topics within mental and applied maths****Number**

- Use negative numbers in context and calculate intervals across zero.
- Read, write and order numbers and numerals to 3 decimal places (dp).
- Compare and order numbers to 10,000,000 and to 3 dp.
- Identify common factors, common multiples and prime numbers.
- Round any whole number to a required degree of accuracy.
- Identify the value of each digit to 3 decimal places.
- Explain value of digits in the range of 10,000,000 and to 3 dp.

Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and division

- Use knowledge of operations to carry out calculations involving four operations.

Fractions

- Add & subtract fractions with different denominations & mixed numbers.
- Multiply simple pairs of proper fractions and writing the answer in its simplest form.
- Divide proper fractions by whole numbers.

Measurement

- Using standard units of measurement for length, capacity and mass to read scales and calculate perimeter, area and volume.

Geometry

- Identifying and understanding the properties of 2d and 3d shapes.
- Measuring and drawing angles using a protractor.
- Construction of 2d shapes.

Statistics

- Handling data - using tables and graphs to calculate mean average, mode and median.

Year 6 Spring 1 Topic Map

Geography

The children will:

- Identify and name the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn as well as the Arctic and Antarctic circles.
- Give extended descriptions of the physical features of different places around the world
- Use descriptions of the physical features of different places around the world to understand its climate.
- Plan a journey to another part of the world (like an explorer) which takes account of time zones and different climate.
- Study the climate, water and land use then describe how places are similar/different in relation to their human features.
- Explain time Zones.
- Challenge themselves to identify the main lines of latitude and longitude.

PSHCE

The children will:

- Recognise their worth as individuals, by identifying positive things about themselves and their achievements, seeing their mistakes, making amends and setting personal goals.
- Face new challenges positively by collecting information, looking for help, making responsible choices and taking action.
- Recognise actions affect themselves and others, to care about other people's feelings and to try to see things from their points of view.
- Develop language by considering examples of conflict and resolution, exploring the language used.

Music

Supported by Charanga Music School Programme
the children will learn the song - "Don't stop believing."

Focusing upon:

Pulse (duration) - steady beat

Rhythm (duration) - long and short sounds over a steady beat

Pitch - high and low sounds

Tempo - fast and slow

Dynamics - loud and quiet

Timbre - the character of a sound

Texture - layers of sound, how thick or thin music is

Structure - how the sections of a song or piece of music are ordered.

Topic Title:

"To be or
not to be?"

Computing Presentation

The children will:

- Learn to create a multimedia presentation using text, images, and sounds.
- Be taught to create links between pages.
- Show sensitivity to the needs of their audience.

Communicating:

The children will:

- Apply what they have learned in this unit when communicating and presenting information in music, art, geography, science and literacy.

Art

The children will:

- Investigate ideas for materials to create an artwork for displays.
- Record and develop our ideas in sketch books.
- Sketch ideas.
- Learn more about the visual and tactile elements such as colour, line and shape etc and how to use them.
- Look at art, craft and design work from different times and cultures and use this to help in developing our own work.

PE

Real PE unit 1 - supported by Unstoppable Sports

Physical Focuses on:

- Coordination with ball skills.
- Agility using reactions/responses.
- Multi-ability focus on cognitive skills.

Rugby skills with Warrington Wolves