



Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to Year 6. We hope you had a an enjoyable summer holiday. We have some exciting things planned for this half term and some information that we would like to share with you. Please do ask us if you would like to know anything more about what we are learning or doing this half term.

Have a great half term of learning,
Paul and Leanne
Class Teachers

English

We have made a good start already in our English and we continue to focus our attention on developing skills in reading, writing and a having a strong understanding of the grammar that holds language together.

We continue to work on becoming fluent readers, meaning that children become increasingly able to read aloud at a good pace and with a 'flow' that sounds as if they are speaking directly to a listener.

Reading with fluency is the key to comprehension and we will continue to consolidate basic comprehension skills as well as develop the more advanced skills. Children will sharpen their ability to pick up on clues in the text, recognise themes and make connections between the text and themselves, the text and other books and then the text and the wider world.

As a class, we are reading Pig Heart Boy by Malorie Blackman which fits perfectly with our topic. Children will also be reading their own book choices.

Theme

Our first theme of the year is called 'Blood Heart'. This is a science based topic during which we learn about the different parts of the circulatory system and how they work together. We learn all about the structure of the heart, the main components of blood, and how we can make sensible choices to keep our hearts strong and healthy.



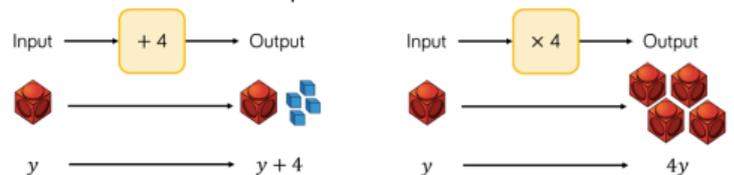
Maths

Year 6 maths builds on learning from previous years with some brand new things too. We will spend a lot of time working on arithmetic and work hard to ensure that all children can add, subtract, multiply and divide with whole numbers up to 10 million, fractions and decimals.

Outside of arithmetic, we work a lot on applying number skills to problem solving and real life calculations. There are great opportunities to practice this when going to the shops or doing some online shopping. Calculating totals, multiples of an item and how much change or more money you would need.

We will also do lots of work in other areas of maths, most "excitingly" algebra. Please do ask Paul or Leanne if you need help with algebra - so that you can assist with your child's homework. We know it may not have been taught well when we were at school.

Mo uses cubes to write expressions for function machines.



Use Mo's method to represent the function machines.

What is the output for each machine when the input is a ?



Science

Science this term is taught through our theme of 'Blood Heart' and is therefore biology led.

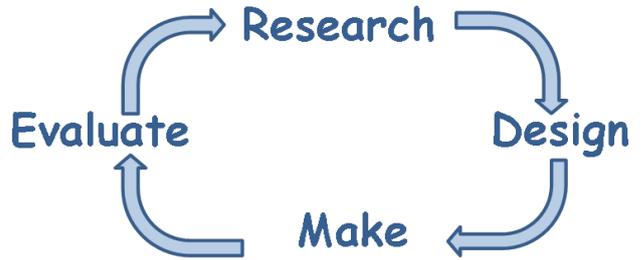
As well as building knowledge about the human body, we will also borrow dissection tools from Oasis Southbank and children will have the opportunity to carry out a heart dissection for themselves. The dissection is a fascinating learning experience and is carried out respectfully, within a controlled environment. The children are given clear, step by step instructions and it is the perfect opportunity to apply all they have learnt to a hands-on experience.

Our science study also links in our PE and PSHE work in which we are continually pointing the children towards reflecting on how to live healthy and happy lives.



Design Technology

This term in design and technology, we have already started learning about pneumatic and hydraulic technology. We will then be working through the whole design process to design, implement and evaluate a hydraulic lifting mechanism.



P.E.

PE this term is split in to two areas. In one session we will be working on basic fitness and game skills and in the other we will be learning basketball skills to work towards playing full games of basketball. We also have the opportunity this term to visit London Nautical to take part in climbing, table tennis and trampolining.

R.E.

Our RE work this term explores questions around the theme of 'Religion and the Individual', at a level appropriate for Y6. We have had some excellent conversations already on the merits of public and private worship, personal values and how a person's faith might guide their decisions.

Computing

Brilliantly, we now have the iPads through Oasis Horizons and we will be able to really dive in to work on computing. We're starting the year with work on using the Microsoft Office packages to create, save and collaborate on their work using the share function and Microsoft OneDrive. We will also be doing some online safety work across the whole year.

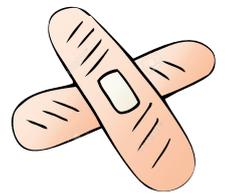
Dates for Autumn 1

Mon 20th Sept	Class Trip to...
Thurs 21st Oct	LAST DAY OF TERM 1 3.15pm Finish
Fri 22nd Oct	INSET DAY School closed to children
Half term Holiday Mon 25th to Fri 29th Oct	
Mon 1st Nov	Children return to school

PSHE/RSE

PSHE this term focuses on 2 different areas. Online safety runs through the whole year and we start by reminding children about how personal information is not to be shared online.

We also look at being safe in the world around us by recognising potential hazards and knowing what to do about them. I would also like for us to learn some basic first aid - if anyone has any expertise in this area or knows anyone who could come and lead a workshop then I would love to hear from you.



Homework

Each MONDAY we will collect in homework. Children will select a task from the 9 options and either complete it in exercise books or share work completed on the iPads.

Every day, children should:

- Read their reading book for at least 10 mins
- Practise spellings
- Keep up with timestable quick-fire recall

In addition, typically, the children do the following:

Maths: MyMaths / Sumdog and Timestable Rockstars