



# Jessie Younghusband School

## **Year 6 – Curriculum Letter – Spring Term**

Welcome back! I hope you all had a good Christmas and that you enjoyed the holiday time with your families. May I take this opportunity, on behalf of Mrs Marchant and myself, to say thank you for all of the wonderful Christmas cards and gifts that we received at the end of last term. This is always really appreciated. May I also wish you all a very happy new year as we look ahead to the spring term, which promises to be just as exciting and busy as the last! The purpose of this curriculum letter is to give you useful information relating to your child's learning this term, as well as a summary of the highlights of the autumn term.

### **P.E.**

P.E. lessons will primarily be on Wednesday afternoons and Friday mornings for the first half of the spring term. Our Friday morning session will be with Rachael Boarer, taking part in her ever-popular dance workshops. I would be grateful if P.E. kits could be in school all week from Monday morning, as the children may need them for clubs and ad-hoc sporting activities at different points during the week. Please ensure kits are taken home over the weekend to be washed. If your child wears earrings and it is not possible for them to be removed for P.E., please let me know.

### **Home learning**

Home learning tasks continue to be set once a week, typically in Literacy and Maths but occasionally in other subjects as well. This will be set each Tuesday and due in again the following Monday. Additional copies of the tasks, if required, are left in folders in the classroom, or can be found online if children log in to the school's website. Occasionally you may wish to add a comment on to your child's home learning if there is anything you feel I should know about how they got on. If home learning isn't in on Monday for any reason, children have an additional chance to bring it in on the Tuesday, before being asked to stay in at lunch to finish it if they haven't already.

### **Reading**

Regular reading is essential, daily if possible. This could include reading books (fiction and non-fiction), newspapers, joke books and magazines/comics. In fact, the wider the range of genres that your child reads the better. Lots of our writing this term will relate to tailoring writing for different audiences, purposes and genres, so reading a range of texts will help them really understand how writing differs depending on the context. Many children will be reading independently, but please do continue to discuss the books or texts your child is reading from time to time – this helps to gauge their understanding of the what they are reading.

### **Spellings**

Spellings will be given out and tested every Tuesday morning. I have been extremely impressed with spelling test scores so far this year, thank you for your continued support in helping your children to learn them.

### **Highlights from last term:**

The autumn term was an extremely busy one for us in Year 6, learning about Ancient Egypt and going on our residential trip to Bowles. There were many highlights, including:

- The 'Bikeability' cycle training week.
- Our fabulous time away at Bowles Outdoor Centre.
- Performing our class assembly on the highlights from Bowles.
- A brilliant 'Egyptian day' where we made hummus, learned about (and tried!) mummification, and wore some fantastic outfits.
- Organising and running our own stalls at the Christmas fair, which contributed over £200 towards the total raised.
- Performing at the KS2 Christmas concert in December.

### **This term:**

This week, we have begun our 'World War Two' topic, a significant event in British and world history. The children have already been shown lots of enthusiasm and curiosity and are clearly fascinated – many have already started to continue their research at home. Our World War Two Day will be held in school later this term as part of this exciting unit of work.



Alongside our exciting topic work this term, we will also be continuing to prepare and revise for the forthcoming National Curriculum tests. The children will be sitting practise tests again this term in order to help give them a sense of what test week will be like in May. They will sit papers in Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling, Reading and Maths. Please feel free to speak to me at any time if you have any questions about the tests as the term goes on – I know these can be a source of anxiety for parents as well as children. A more formal information meeting will follow closer to the tests in May.

### **Diary dates:**

Monday January 22<sup>nd</sup> – Cross country running event at Bishop Luffa  
Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January – KS2 Maths Open Afternoon (2pm)  
Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February – E-safety information meeting for parents at Bishop Luffa (6pm)  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February – Author visit  
Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February – INSET day  
Monday 12<sup>th</sup> – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Half term  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March – Parents' evening

### **Useful websites to support your child's learning about World War Two include:**

<http://primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/Britain.html>  
[http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primaryhistory/world\\_war2/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primaryhistory/world_war2/)  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/ww2peopleswar/>

As ever, if you have any questions as the term progresses, or would like to discuss anything with me, please come in and see me at the end of the school day, or telephone the office to make an appointment if it is more convenient.

Thank you for your continued support. Best wishes for a very happy 2018.

Mr. Vass