



Jessie Younghusband School

Year 6 – Curriculum Letter – Autumn Term 2018

Welcome to Year 6 and our autumn term curriculum letter. Here you will find useful information relating to this term along with helpful information for you to assist your child in their first term in Year 6. A copy of this term's jigsaw sheet, which gives you an overview of the areas of learning and curriculum content that the children will be studying this term, can be found on our school website: www.jys.org.uk.

I am already very impressed with the children's attitude to their learning so far and I am very much looking forward to being their class teacher again this year.

This term

Finders Keepers - Ancient Egypt

This half term the children will learn about Ancient Egypt. The children will discover why the River Nile was so important to this ancient civilisation in Geography, learn about Moses and the origins of Judaism in RE, develop their deduction skills by thinking like archaeologists in History, and much more as part of our cross-curricular learning.

Darwin's Delight - An exploration on the HMS Beagle.

After half term the children will look at the historical and scientific significance of Charles Darwin. They will learn about his voyage on HMS Beagle to the Galápagos Islands and the amazing species that helped Darwin to develop his theory of evolution by natural selection.

Bowles

Our residential trip to Bowles Outdoor Learning Centre will take place on the 17th – 19th October. If you were unable to make today's meeting, printed materials concerning the trip will be available on the VLE in due course.

Bikeability

We have our 'Bikeability' cycling safety course to look forward on the **19th – 23rd November 2018**. Further information will be coming shortly in separate letters and booklets that will be sent home. Please refer to these booklets and ensure that your child's bike is road worthy to ensure they can enjoy participating in full. The reply slips have – in the past - been tucked away on page 4 of these booklets – please ensure these are signed and returned to the school once they are issued.

Routines and reminders

P.E.

Our P.E. lessons will be on Wednesday afternoons and Thursday mornings each week. I would be grateful if P.E. kits could be in school all week from Monday morning, however, as the children may need them for clubs and ad-hoc sporting activities at different points during the

week, I will encourage everyone to take these home on Friday to be washed. For safety reasons, no watches, fitbits or jewellery should be worn during P.E. lessons.

Home Learning

Home learning is usually set on a Friday and should be completed and returned by the following Wednesday. Home learning tasks will usually be set once a week. The type of tasks set will vary, but will usually include one piece of Literacy and one piece of Maths, designed to reinforce what they have learnt in class the week before. Occasionally, the children will be set a small project linked to their topic focus and when this occurs, more time is given to complete their home learning.

Reading

Regular reading is essential, daily if possible. This could include reading books (fiction and non-fiction), newspapers, magazines and comics, the wider the range of genres that your child reads, the better. Lots of our writing this year will relate to tailoring writing for different audiences, purposes and genres, reading a range of texts will help them really understand how writing differs depending on the context. Many children will now be reading independently, but please do continue to discuss the books or texts your child is reading from time to time – this helps to consolidate their understanding of what they have read. We have a library of books exclusively for Year 6 within the classroom that they are welcome to borrow books from to read at home.

Spellings

The children will receive a spelling list weekly with words linked to a spelling pattern they have been learning in class. Initially, the word lists given in Year 6 consolidate and extend spelling patterns and rules which have been seen in previous years. Following this, we then focus on irregular words which are commonly used by 10-12 year olds in their everyday writing and more complex spelling patterns. Please help your children practise their spellings. The children will learn a variety of different ways this can be done and further support will be added to the VLE in due course.

I look forward to being involved in your child's final year with us and hope to make it enjoyable. If you have any questions as the term progresses, or would like to discuss anything with me, please come and see me at the end of the school day, or contact the school office to make a more formal appointment if preferred.

Ideas for supporting your child's learning:

Useful websites include:

- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education> – The fantastic Bitesize website, with KS2 pages on every subject (including some great videos on Ancient Egypt).
- <http://primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/Egypt.html> – A brilliant starting point for learning on Ancient Egypt.
- <http://nrich.maths.org> – An excellent source of maths challenges.

Kind Regards,

Mr Harman