

Year 6 Autumn News 2020

Hasn't time flown since the children arrived at St Mary's in Reception Class? They are now in their final year and preparing to move on to secondary school! Much of this year will be concerned with readying them, in terms of educational and personal development, so they are able to cope smoothly with the transition to secondary school. The children will be encouraged to become increasingly independent and responsible for their own learning and organisation during school time. It would be helpful if they could be encouraged in the same way at home, e.g. by preparing their own bags and kits and doing their homework on time.

COULD YOU SURVIVE IN A RAINFOREST?

&

WHAT DO THEY HAVE IN COMMON?



Much of our work this term will be concerned with the rainforests with a particular focus on South America. Children should be encouraged to look at maps and atlases, read information books and look out for newspaper and magazine articles related to this topic.

Literacy

A range of text types including different narrative genres, autobiography and biography, diaries and fictional writing will be covered.

We will investigate connectives and complex sentences and explore the use of more sophisticated punctuation.

In spelling we will use rules, prefixes and suffixes to support our work. We will also learn a number of 'tricky' words. Please help your child to learn spellings and to find words with similar patterns. Don't forget, you'll need to learn all of the terms words for 'The Grand Spell'. *It's worth remembering that to be assessed as 'at expected' or above for writing at the end of Year 6 (and therefore going forwards into secondary school), spelling has to be consistently good and the weekly tests need to show a high score. This is of course amongst other assessment criteria...*

Reading and reading incentives

It is expected that the children will read regularly at home.

- There is an expectation of x3 recorded 'reads' from Sunday to Sunday
- Parents will only now be asked to sign 'green reading records' if there is a cause for concern.
- Children need to record what has been read and should **collect NEW or INTERESTING VOCABULARY** in their comments boxes – there is no need for a lengthy comment.
- Reading time in school lunch hours will be provided if your child does not maintain the minimum reading requirements. Please ensure that your child's reading record is in school daily.
- Encourage your child to go for the Y6 '**Battle of the Books**' challenge and be in with a chance of appearing on our 'green screen' review Tweets and the privilege of being awarded a coveted reading champion badge. Information is on the 'Latest News' tab under 'Battle of the Books' on the school website.

Did you know...?

*...Being a great speller means that you have a better chance of passing your SPAG test next May? **Learn the spelling rules** rather than just the words on the lists!*

*If you know how to spell a word backwards, then you must **REALLY** know it!*

- A recent assessment has taken place in order to negotiate a 'post lockdown' starting point for home readers – to allow for catch-up and a sensible starting point for home reading. Our scheme follows our recently launched 'metro map' system.

Mathematics

A huge range of maths topics will be covered including recapping efficient, formal written methods to add, subtract, multiply and divide whole numbers and decimals. Also, strong emphasis will be placed on the learning and quick recall of mental facts including addition and subtraction to and from 20, and times tables. The children will be asked to recall these facts as quickly as they can recall their own name.

If either you or your child are worried about maths, come and see me. I'll try to help.

REMEMBER: MYMATHS (www.mymaths.co.uk) username: stmaryspsh password: line14 This website is available to use at any time – **DO NOT WAIT FOR HOMEWORK TO BE SET IF YOU ARE STRUGGLING WITH MATHS OR WANT TO GET AHEAD.** All the online lessons are available, as are optional online homeworks, games and booster packs. If your child is worried about maths, working through the online lessons together or looking back at earlier years will definitely help.

IXL.COM is another resource that St Mary's invest in just for Year 6 pupils. More information to follow, along with your child's login details and so on.

Science

Our science work revolves around Living Things and Habitats. We will be finding out about plants and animals, how they are classified, how they survive and how they are suited to where they live.

P.E

An indoor and outdoor kit (in a small, string kit bag), including trainers and a warm top should be in school **at all times and we ask that it is washed after PE lessons. We will tell your child when the sessions are and when they should take kits home.**



PLEASE NOTE: KIT REQUIREMENTS – PLAIN WHITE T-SHIRT/POLO SHIRT , DARK BLUE OR BLACK SHORTS / DARK BLUE SKIRT / BLACK PUMPS & TRAINERS / WARM OUTDOOR (hoodless) TOP

PE is a part of the national curriculum and it is essential that children have the right kit for these lessons in order to participate.

ART – will be linked to Rousseau – he loved to paint pictures of the jungle and Y6 will look at collage too.

Design Technology – this will be based on 'control' – linked to ICT, algorithms and programming. It is hoped that our ICT technician Mr Taylor will be involved with delivering these sessions in an ICT club.

RE – 'life is a journey'. This topic based on the 'ups and downs' of life and how God in all His wisdom is with us along the way. We will use a variety of learning opportunities to consider these concepts.

Y6 Events

Orange for Orangutan Day – Tuesday 10th November – sponsored run in aid of the Orangutan Foundation



Buddies assembly – this year, due to constraints, we will aim to do some socially-distanced activities together and we will celebrate with our friends in some form or another. Please watch this space for more information on this.

Remember to...

- * read a little every day and learn to enjoy what you read!
- * learn spelling rules and think of similar words
- * revise your times tables and mental maths
- * learn science vocabulary
- * check the calendar of events and homework diary regularly
- * complete maths and literacy homework tasks (given on Friday) each week to a high standard. **Normally, homework is to be complete for Monday.**

AND REMEMBER: Here at St Mary's it's not all about 'SATS' (it just feels a bit like that some times!)

PARENTS PLEASE NOTE: PLEASE CHECK THE SCHOOL WEBSITE AND TWEETS REGULARLY: www.stmaryscecrompton.oldham.sch.uk/ look for the learning pages / class pages / year 6 for updates on homework, messages for the children and other reminders!