



Y6 Newsletter

Autumn Term

Back To
School!!

A very warm welcome to Year 6 – I hope you and your families are well and are ready to enjoy your child's last year with us here at St.Bede's.

I am very much looking forward to getting to know you and your children better throughout the year. It is important that we work together well to ensure that your child can achieve their best this year. Year 6 can be challenging at times, but there are also many exciting opportunities and experiences to look forward to. We work hard to make sure that the children have a rewarding and memorable last year at St.Bede's.

You will be kept well informed of your child's progress throughout the year, but if you have any queries, concerns or suggestions then please do not hesitate to make an appointment at the office to speak to me.

Inevitably, in light of the current Covid19 situation, we have had to make some changes around school, but we have tried to keep classrooms, lessons and routines as familiar as possible to ensure the children settle back into school well and make a good start to making up for any lost learning time. We are aware that some children may feel apprehensive about being back in school, but please be assured that we will ensure that all of the children are well supported. Please let us know if your child has any particular concerns, so that we can deal with them promptly.

Mrs Devine & Mrs Welsh



Autumn Term 1

Topic Theme - Darwin's Delights

Classification and Evolution

English – Autumn Term 1

Reading

We will be reading a range of fiction and non-fiction texts linked to the theme of classification and evolution.

Our main class novel for this half term will be *Wonder* by R.J.Palacio.

Other texts we aim to read extracts from include –

- *Sherlock Holmes* – Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
- *The Giant's Necklace* – Michael Morpurgo
- *Just So Stories* - Rudyard Kipling
- *Varmints*— Helen Ward

Poetry

- Poetry—exploring imagery and the use of figurative language

Writing

Where possible, the writing we do will be linked to either the class novel or the cross-curricular topic.

Fiction

- Just So style story
- Mystery story

Non-Fiction

- Biographical writing—famous scientists

Punctuation

- Colons
- Semicolons
- Bullet points

Grammar

- Subordinate clauses
- Relative clauses
- Active and passive voice
- Synonyms / antonyms
- Formal / informal vocabulary

Maths – Autumn Term 1

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During this term pupils will be taught to:

Number - number and place value

- read, write, order and compare numbers up to 10,000,000 and determine the value of each digit
- round any whole number to a required degree of accuracy
- use negative numbers in context, and calculate intervals across 0
- solve number and practical problems that involve all of the above

Number - addition, subtraction, multiplication and division

- multiply multi-digit numbers up to 4 digits by a two-digit whole number using the formal written method of long multiplication
- divide numbers up to 4 digits by a two-digit number using the formal written method of short division where appropriate, interpreting remainders according to the context
- perform mental calculations, including with mixed operations and large numbers
- identify common factors, common multiples and prime numbers
- use their knowledge of the order of operations to carry out calculations involving the 4 operations
- solve addition and subtraction multi-step problems in contexts, deciding which operations and methods to use and why
- solve problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division
- use estimation to check answers to calculations and determine, in the context of a problem, an appropriate degree of accuracy
- use Bidmas and understand the correct order of operations using brackets.
- use all the multiplication tables to calculate mathematical statements in order to maintain their fluency.

Number – Fractions and Decimals

- use common factors to simplify fractions; use common multiples to express fractions in the same denomination
- compare and order fractions, including fractions >1
- identify the value of each digit in numbers given to 3 decimal places and multiply and divide numbers by 10, 100 and 1,000 giving answers up to 3 decimal places
- multiply one-digit numbers with up to 2 decimal places by whole numbers

Algebra

- express missing number problems algebraically
- use simple formulae

Science



Living things and their habitats

The children will begin this topic by exploring how living things are classified into broad groupings, such as micro-organisms, plants and animals and how these can be subdivided according to common observable features and similarities and differences.

The children will enjoy a fieldtrip to West Boldon Lodge where they will have the opportunity to work scientifically by using classification systems and keys to identify plants and animals found there. They will also look at classifying different plants and animals in the local area to explore contrasts between marine and woodland habitats.

The children will also carry out research to find out about the significance of the work of scientists such as Carl Linnaeus, a pioneer of classification.

Evolution and Inheritance

The children will research how living things on earth have changed over time. They will explore how fossils provide information about living things that lived on Earth millions of years ago. We will explore how characteristics are passed down from parents to offspring by investigating different breeds of dogs. They will also explore how variation in offspring over time make animals more or less likely to survive in particular environments.

The children will find out about the work of palaeontologists such as Mary Anning and about how Charles Darwin and Alfred Wallace developed their ideas on evolution. They will work scientifically by observing and raising questions about how plants and animals are adapted to their environments. The children will end the topic with a visit to the Hancock Museum to consolidate and celebrate their learning.

RE

LOVING - God who never stops loving

VOCATION AND COMMITMENT

The vocation of priesthood and religious life

JUDAISM

Children will learn about various aspects of the Jewish faith



Computing

Web page design

Music

Singing -Perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using voices with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression: Mix and Match songs for more complex harmonies. Christmas songs.

PERFORMANCE: Exploring beat and syncopation through a song and body percussion

Developing coordination and rhythm skills

Performing a rhythmic sequence to a piece of music Developing the idea of pitch shape and relating it to movement Understanding pitch through movement and notation. Creating rhythm patterns

History

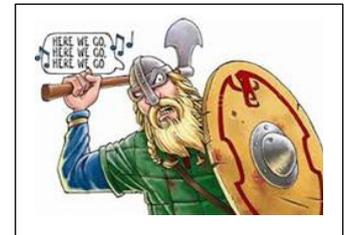
History topic – Anglo –Saxon and Viking Britain



We will begin our topic with a visit from 'That History Guy' who will help to launch our new topic. The children will enjoy listening to the Saga of 'Ragnar Hairy Legs' and the Lingworm. They will also have the opportunity to explore and handle a number of artefacts to help them get a flavour of what life was like in Viking times.

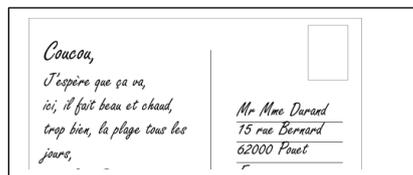
Within this topic the children will recap about the arrival of the Anglo Saxons and what it was like to live in an Anglo Saxon settlement. They will complete case studies of the monks of Lindisfarne and the Priory and study the arrival of the Vikings.

Throughout the term the children will learn about who the Vikings were, where they came from and how they got their name 'Vikings'. We will also learn about the Viking and Anglo-Saxon struggle for the Kingdom of England.



French

- Holidays & Writing Postcards
- Describing our Home Town
- Countries Surrounding France & French towns
- Points of the Compass



DT – Textiles - Design a bag

The children will carry out research to design, make and evaluate a reusable fabric gift bag.

Art – Figure work and visual recording

PE

Invasion Games - tag rugby

Sportshall Athletics

Things parents can do to support teaching & learning

Y6 PE Day is Thursday. Children come to school dressed in their school PE kit on this day.

Homework

All homework will be given out on a Friday to be completed by the following Friday.

English

- Read every night at home for a minimum of 10 minutes. Ask them to talk to you about their reading book to check their understanding. Challenge them to keep a record of any new words and support them in using a dictionary to help them find out the meaning of any new vocabulary. The children should aim to complete at least one Accelerated Reader quiz each week
- Weekly spelling homework (Spelling Test on Friday)
- SPAG.com homework weekly

Maths

- Times Tables
- Abacus online games / MyMaths
- Revision sheet for weekly mental maths practice

Y6 may also be given test papers as additional homework to help prepare them for the SATs this year.

Events, visits & visitors

- Viking Workshop – Tuesday 15th Sept
- Bikeability – Monday 19th October – Thursday 22nd October
- West Boldon Lodge – TBC
- Break up for half term - 3.15pm Thursday 22nd October
- Test Week - Monday 9th November - Friday 13th November
- Break up for Christmas Holidays – Friday 18th December (12.30pm)

Can you help?

We would love to hear from you if you feel you or someone you know could contribute to any of our topics this term or if you have any ideas as to how we could further enrich the children's learning experiences.

Many thanks

Mrs Carol Devine & Mrs Lisa Welsh