

HIGH LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Autumn 2020

Year 6

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to the new academic year! The last 6 months have certainly been unpredictable, but I hope you all managed to have a little 'down time' as a family before the start of term. The class have made an excellent start to the year: they are adapting to new routines and immersing themselves in their learning.

Maths

In light of the impact of school closures last academic year, we will be interlocking key learning from Year 5 and 6 to ensure the children have a solid foundation for their learning in Maths. This means that we will be starting new topics with some Year 5 content as a 'refresher', before building up to the Year 6 content so that the children have the opportunity to consolidate their learning. This term we shall be working on place value, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Formal methods and mathematical reasoning skills will be taught regularly, as more emphasis is placed on this in the National Curriculum for Year 6. Later in the term, our work will move on to fractions and geometry.

To support our work this term, it is important that the children continue to practise their Maths skills at home through Maths Shed.

English

The children will be studying a range of literature in their English lessons, focusing on texts that integrate the theme of exploration and adventure. They will be looking at a range of high-quality texts and considering how authors develop characters and settings whilst integrating dialogue. They will be developing their ability to evaluate and assess the effectiveness of their own work, making suitable adjustments to improve their writing along the way. The children will be expected to use a range of punctuation and grammatical features to add detail and develop clarity across their written work.

Through our shared reading sessions, the children will have the opportunity to explore and develop their comprehension skills. To support their reading at home, please encourage your children to read from a variety of genres on a regular basis. If possible, it is always beneficial for your child to share their reading with you on at least once a week, as this will give them the opportunity to clarify their understanding of the text and any unfamiliar words.

Science

This term we will be looking at 'Living Things and Their Habitats' and 'Evolution and Inheritance', where we will be finding out how living things are classified into groups according to their characteristics, similarities and differences. We will also be looking at how species have adapted to suit their environment and how this may lead to the evolution of species over time.

Topic

Our first topic this year is 'The Search for Evolution', which links to our science work on evolution and adaptation. Throughout the topic, the children will learn more about the lead theories of evolution and where significant scientists explore, in order identify and observe a wide range of species. As we progress through the topic, we move to focus on South America - using a range of maps to explore physical and human geography. Whilst concentrating on Brazil, the children will be investigating how the land usage has changed over time, how the country is similar and/or different to England and how natural resources are dispersed across the country.

RE/PSHE/Citizenship

As part of our return to school, all classes will begin their PSHE lessons by looking at social distancing, personal hygiene, recognising and managing emotions, dealing with disappointment or challenge and maintaining hope. Afterwards, our work will focus on 'Relationships' for the autumn term and explore the following questions: How do friendships change as we grow? How can we build and maintain positive relationships? What does it mean to be a positive role model?

Mrs Haylock will be teaching RE in Year 6 on a Thursday. This term, as part of the Year 6 syllabus, the children will be discussing life, death and beliefs in reincarnation. If you have any questions about this unit, please do not hesitate to contact me directly through ClassDojo.

Homework

Please find below a timetable of when homework is given in Year 6. After half term, we envisage providing additional Maths and English homework. If your child is struggling to access online learning, please let me know as soon as possible and I will find a suitable alternative for you.

Reading (15 minutes daily)	Reading diaries sent home on Friday, returned Monday
Spellings	Set on Monday, tested the following Monday
Ed Shed (Maths and Spelling)	Weekly sessions set Monday, completed by the following Monday

PE

All PE is taking place outside on a Thursday and Friday. As the children are already wearing appropriate clothing for sport, there is no need to bring a change of clothes. (Please find further information regarding uniform in the document '*High Lane Primary School: Opening our Bubbles for Everyone*', which has been sent via ClassDojo.)

General Information

Key Stage 2 SATs will commence Monday 10th May 2021 – Thursday 13th May.

Currently, there are no changes to the intended SATs week for 2021. More information will follow in early Spring term.

If you would like more details of what we are doing, or if you have any queries about your child's progress, please do not hesitate to contact me via Class Dojo.

Yours sincerely

Miss K. Lloyd
Year 6 Class Teacher