











Year 6 Newsletter –Spring 1 2022

A great welcome back to the lovely Year 6. We hope you've had a restful break and are ready to work better and harder than ever with only two terms left at St. Matthew's. Please read below to find out what we'll be covering this half term and how you can do more at home to support your learning.

 <p>English</p>	<p>In our English lessons, we are continuing our non-fiction unit of writing non-chronological reports. Our final piece will be on our chosen animals, so ensure that these are well-researched. Following this, I'm already looking forward to going back to our poetry unit. As well as this, we'll complete some cross-curricular writing in Art (graffiti) and Science (classification). As always Year 6, the best pieces are the best researched. Our shared reading book is Number The Stars by Lois Lowry - a book set in wartime Copenhagen.</p>
 <p>Reading for Pleasure</p>	<p>Our author focus this term is Michael Morpurgo, a brilliant author who wrote books such as War Horse, Kensuke's Kingdom and The Butterfly Lion. Children continue to read for pleasure daily and we hope to have much more free time in the library this half term. Do ensure you are reading at home daily (for 20 minutes at least), both silently and aloud. We can't wait for more of your recommendations and books for the wish list.</p>
 <p>Maths</p>	<p>This half term our Maths learning will continue to focus on fractions, as well as percentages and decimals. It is really important that you can manipulate and calculate with these, so ensure all homework is completed to embed your learning in school. Continue your work on TT Rockstars, to ensure your ability to recall these doesn't slip.</p>
 <p>Science</p>	<p>Over this half term, Year 6 will be covering living things and their habitats, in particular classification. We will work scientifically to identify, group and classify plants and animals. This topic links closely to Latin too with connections between classification and animal names. There is plenty of interesting information on this on the internet - as always, BBC Bitesize is a good starting point.</p>
 <p>RE</p>	<p>In RE, this half term, we are studying salvation and our bible study is The Pools of Bethesda. Covering this topic will teach us about being respectful of suffering as well as being merciful and forgiving. We look forward to finding similarities and differences between the religions we follow through more great discussions.</p>
 <p>Computing</p>	<p>This half term in Computing, we will be analysing websites and their web pages to create our very own website. Remember the internet can be a great but also dangerous place so continue to keep in mind internet safety. What do you do to ensure you keep safe online? Just another reminder that primary school children should not be on Snapchat or Tik Tok, which both have a minimum age of 13 and WhatsApp has a minimum age of 16.</p>
 <p>Art</p>	<p>During Art Week, you will be learning all about graffiti. This will include studying the artist Banksy. During the week, we will have an opportunity to view graffiti both in Birmingham and over the world. There is also a special treat in store... watch this space!</p>
 <p>PE</p>	<p>We've been extremely impressed with your gymnastics skills last half term, including a special performance in the Christmas Cantata. You will continue to build these skills this half term with Mr Browne. Football clubs are also on this half term too, so sign up now! PE will be on a Monday afternoon this half term and it is important that you arrive with the appropriate kit - a white t-shirt, black shorts/joggers and trainers.</p>
 <p>Music</p>	<p>We will continue to enjoy our music assemblies, music lessons and visitors this half term with our music unit being, 'How does music make the world a better place?' We will listen to a variety of music including disco, Zimbabwean pop, rock and R&B. We hope to see big improvement in your ability to play the glockenspiels too!</p>
 <p>Foreign Languages</p>	<p>You've made a great start to your Latin learning and this half term we will explore constellations, as well as build our Latin dictionaries, learning more vocabulary to help us build our own Latin sentences.</p>

Attendance

In order for your child to get the best out of school and maximise their learning, please make sure your child **comes to school every day and on time**. School starts at **8.45am**. Thank you.

Homework

Homework will be sent out on a **Friday** and should be returned on a **Tuesday**.

As part of the children's homework, could I ask all parents/guardians to read to your child for at least 20 minutes every day. Do sign the reading diaries so we can see their reading journey at home.