



Grange Farm Primary School

# Spring in 6P

Happy new year and welcome back—we hope you had a lovely Christmas holiday...

This newsletter is intended to give you useful information about what we are doing this term. As the term progresses, we will continue to prepare the children for their SATs, with plenty of confidence building, revision and work on exam techniques in English and mathematics. Miss Morris will be working with Year 6 for several additional sessions a week, to provide booster support in preparation for the tests which will take place the week beginning Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May.

Miss Pennington

## Literacy

This term we will cover a range of text types including:

- formal writing
- biographies
- newspaper reports
- non-chronological reports
- extended narrative

These will often be linked with this term's topic, as outlined below.

These units of work will develop children's reading comprehension, speaking and listening skills and spelling. A weekly grammar and punctuation takes place, alongside guided reading sessions and work on reading journals and writing targets.

## Phonics / Spelling

Spelling lessons take place 2/3 times a week and children also have an additional weekly practice session during the guided reading carousel. These sessions address a range of rules, as well as general strategies for spelling and practice of common words. The spellings that are sent home for homework will be individual to each child and will be made up of spellings that have been incorrectly spelt on a previous occasion.

## Homework

Year 6 children continue to use a homework diary and are expected to carry this to and from school on a daily basis. Of course, the routine may vary, depending on the week's lesson format.

English-a task will be sent out on a Monday and should be completed by the following Wednesday. This will usually be grammar or punctuation based.

Maths-Maths will be sent out on a Wednesday to be completed by the Friday of that week.

Spellings-Your child will be given spellings to learn on a Friday and will be tested on the following Friday.

Guided reading-Children will be bringing home weekly guided reading work. Please ask them which day they have it as this may vary from time to time. They will have a week to complete it.

## Reading

A guided reading carousel takes place on a daily basis. This term, children will have two adult led sessions as well as an independent session, to begin to prepare for the comprehension paper in the SATs. In addition to the directed guided reading, children are expected to regularly read and swap their own reading books and work in their reading journals as frequently as possible. Although they are regularly encouraged to do this, it is their responsibility and so we really welcome your support with this. Even in Year 6, children will benefit from reading aloud to others as well as reading independently.

## This term's creative curriculum...

This term's topic is called 'Darwin's Delights'. Children will find out about Charles Darwin and his theory of evolution, looking at the route he took on HMS Beagle and focussing particularly on the Galapagos Islands. They will make scientific observations of plants and animals in the local environment and learn about fossils. Science, history, geography and art/DT skills will be developed throughout this topic.

# Other Curriculum Areas

Some subjects will be taught separately from our main topic theme:

Additional Science-Children will also complete a short science topic called 'Earth and Space' in which they will look at time zones and day length across the world.

Computing-Following some more work on e-safety, this term we will focus on coding. We will create an animated story using Scratch and will be introduced to Kodu.

P.E.-Children will do PE with our specialist sports coaches-gymnastics and basketball.

R.E.-This term, R.E. will focus in on Christianity, looking at belief and meaning and then at Easter.

French-French sessions this term focus on learning games and songs and extending work on numbers.

Music-This term's music will look at jazz and blues music and focuses on two key songs, 'Bacharach Anorak' and 'Meet The Blues'.

## PE Days

Children will need both indoor and outdoor kit on a Monday and Wednesday and of course, for any additional sports clubs that they take part in.

## Dates / Trips

Diary dates come out every week on the newsletter and are also available on the website.

Year 6 are very much looking forward to visiting the Natural History Museum on Friday 27th January, which should be a great day!

Year 6 parents' evenings will be on Tuesday 31st January and Wednesday 1st February, as I am due to have minor surgery on Friday 10th February and so will be absent from work during the last week of half term. A letter with more information will follow.

## Staff

Miss Morris will be working with Year 6 for several additional sessions a week, to provide support in preparation for the SATs tests which will take place the week beginning Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May. She will also be teaching science, RE, French, music and DT over the term. On a Wednesday, Rob will teach PE and on a Monday there is a gym session with the specialist sports coach.

## Communication

Most letters now come by email and are available on the website. Do make sure we have your up to date email address and contact details.

## Maths

These objectives form the maths curriculum for the whole year and are revisited over the year:

- Read, write, order and compare numbers up to 10 million and determine the value of each digit
- Short and long multiplication and division using numbers up to four digits; multiply one-digit numbers with up to two decimal places by whole numbers
- Mental calculations, including with mixed operations and large numbers
- Multiply and divide numbers by 10, 100 and 1000 where the answers are up to three decimal places
- Add and subtract fractions with different denominators and mixed numbers
- Multiply simple pairs of proper fractions and divide proper fractions by whole numbers
- Recall and use equivalences between simple fractions, decimals and percentages
- Solve problems involving ratio and proportion
- Use algebra in terms of formula, sequences, variables and unknowns
- Recognise and use the formula for volume and area including parallelograms and triangles
- Illustrate and name parts of circles, including radius, diameter and circumference and know that the diameter is twice the radius
- Recognise angles where they meet at a point, are on a straight line, or are vertically opposite, and find missing angles
- Draw and translate simple shapes on the coordinate plane, and reflect them in the axes
- Construct pie charts
- Calculate and interpret the mean as an average
- **Solve number and practical problems involving these ideas**