



## Viaduct Federation of Schools



### Year 6 Curriculum Newsletter

Dear Parent / Carer,

Welcome back, we hope you have all had a restful break. Our main topic for this term is 'The Vikings'. We will be linking our learning across the curriculum so that the children really get the sense of the history and the culture of this era. This will include themed work where the children will explore Viking life and use Art and DT skills to create their own models of Viking longships and shields. It is also the term where the children will sit their SATs but we will approach this with a balanced outlook and plan to reward their hard work with a trip out to Top Jump!

### Homework

#### **Spelling**

The children will still receive new spellings on a Monday which will be uploaded to Spelling Shed for them to practise online before being tested the following Monday. In school, we will have three 30 minutes sessions working on spelling activities.

#### **Reading**

We ask that children are listened to while they read for about 10 minutes a day. They have an appropriate reading book given to them by the school but they could also choose to read a book from home or the library. Please support them by recording their reading in their organisers. Children who read at least 5 times per week are awarded merits.

#### **Maths**

Children should be logging on regularly to the website Times Table Rockstars to practise their times tables. As well as this, children may be set additional maths homework via their set teacher. If the children need support with their homework or have access issues then they should ask their set teacher for assistance.

### Subject Overviews

#### **English**

The first part of the half term will see children continue to independently write a range of fiction and non-fiction texts using a variety of stimuli that provide the opportunity to apply the writing skills they have learned while also being imaginative and creative. Towards the end of the term, the children will be inspired by our learning of the Vikings and from class reading of 'How to Train a Dragon'.

#### **Maths**

Initially, we will be consolidating learning from across the entire Maths curriculum that we have learnt throughout the year. As always, we will take the opportunity to make links to real life situations and apply their understanding to solving problems.

#### **Science**

To start the term, we will begin with our topic of 'Electricity'. We will be building circuits and experimenting with conductors, insulators and voltage. We will also apply our understanding of circuits to alarms.

#### **History**

The topic for the summer is the 'The Vikings'. The first half of the term is spent investigating who they were; where they were from and why they came to Britain. We will learn about some of the most prevalent aspects of the Viking era, such as their settlements, their weapons, longships, their beliefs and gods and their language.

## Computing

We explore spreadsheets, using Excel. We will look at why they are used and how they are helpful, as well as learning some of their useful functions.

## Art

In this half term, children will be exploring Wax Resist art, based on the techniques used by Henry Moore. The children will create a wax resist art piece inspired by the sculptural work of this artist.

## RE

In the first half of the term, we will study Christianity – The Modern Church. We look at the Christianity church hierarchy, the role of women in the church and various beliefs within the church.

## French

The summer term gives children in Year 6 the opportunity to sample two new languages – German and Spanish. This will enable them to develop their language learning skills and find links across languages and it will also help them to make more informed choices about their preferred language for secondary school.

## Music

Pupils will apply their knowledge of chords to learning to play the Ukulele, practising strumming patterns on open strings and then learn how to play chords and follow a visual score. We will create a whole class ensemble and enjoy the feeling of playing music in a team. This term brings our musical learning together when pupils will learn to sing songs and play chords on the keyboards and ukulele at the same time. Pupils will prepare songs in unison and harmony, develop vocal and performance skills and enjoy the feeling of making music in a large ensemble.

## Games / P.E

This term, the children will build on skills in a range of Athletic sports. They will also continue to develop their abilities in field and striker games like rounders and cricket.

### Items to remember

- Practise TT Rockstars for an average of 6 minutes per day
- Spellings - spelling test each Wednesday
- Reading – read for 10 minutes each day

### Useful websites

- [www.linguafun.eu](http://www.linguafun.eu)—for French
- [www.ttrockstars.com](http://www.ttrockstars.com)—for times tables
- [www.edshed.com](http://www.edshed.com)—for spelling practice through games

*Your children have logins for both of these websites. If you don't have them, we can remind you of the details.*

### Upcoming Events in Summer

SATs Week – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May  
Y6 Trip to Top Jump – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May  
Bournemouth Information Evening – Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May

*Be the best you can be.*

## Attendance Matters



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## ATTENDANCE REVIEW

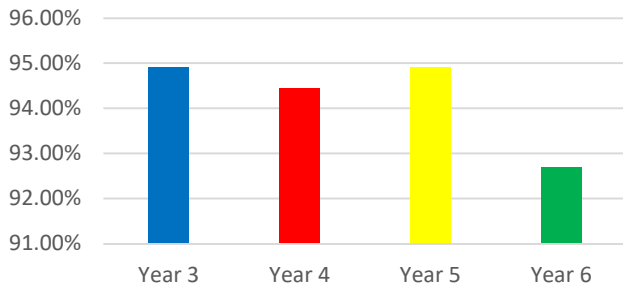
### SPRING TERM 2

128 possible days

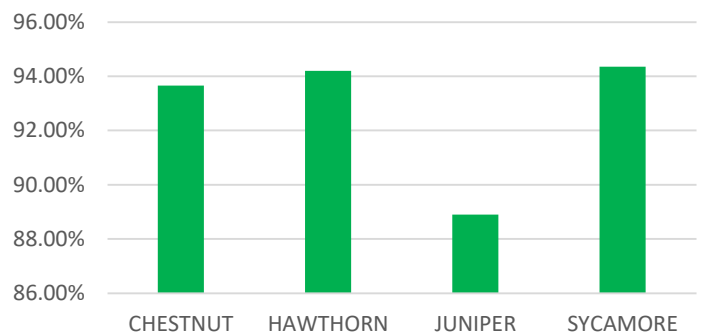
As you know, pupil attendance is very important and is a focus on schools from both the government and the local authority. In terms of our drive to raise awareness, please see below our classes' average attendance.

As you can see, we are so close to reaching the national expectation (96%). Thank you for all of your efforts to get the children in everyday does make a difference. Please can we encourage you to keep it up for the spring term.

Whole School Attendance to end of Spring Term 1



Year 6 Attendance by Class



**100% attendance**  
128 days of learning  
**0 days absent**  
**EXCELLENT**  
High attendance leads to high achievement and a greater chance of success – Well done!

**95% attendance**  
121 days of learning  
**7 days absent**  
**CONCERNING**  
Poor attendance makes it harder to progress and limits opportunities for success

**85% attendance**  
108 days of learning  
**20 days absent**  
**SERIOUS CONCERN**  
Very poor attendance seriously impacts on education and reduces life chances!

*Be the best you can be.*