



## Viaduct Federation of Schools



### Year 6 Curriculum Newsletter

Dear Parent / Carer,

Spring 2 marks the midpoint of the year already! We have worked hard since September to work through most of Year 6's new learning, meaning we are now ready to begin revising key topics in preparation for SATs. If you are wanting to know more about the SATs, please come along to the SATs information evening on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> April. We have another parents evening for you to come and find out how your child is progressing on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> April, but if you have any questions before this, then don't hesitate to get in touch.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

The Year 6 Team.

### Subject Overviews

#### **English**

During the half term, we will be using our new topic of 'Explorers' as the basis for our writing in English. This unit of work will require the children to use their imagination fully as we dive into one of the most unknown areas on Earth– the Abyss! Throughout the term, we will continue to revisit spelling and grammar rules from previous weeks and years as well as putting our reading skills into practise with a wide range of different extracts.

#### **Maths**

The children will build on prior learning relating to place value to understand the relationship between tenths, hundredths and thousandths, and linking this to fractions. We will then build on this to look at percentages, equivalences between fractions, decimals and percentages and finding percentages of amounts. We will end the term by looking at other topics such as area, perimeter and volume, and statistics.

#### **Science**

Our new unit for this half term is 'Evolution and Inheritance' where we will explore key concepts such as Darwin's theory of evolution, variation, inheritance, adaptation and how fossils can be used to draw conclusions about the past. Children will also continue to extend their questioning skills as we focus on the understanding of scientific enquiry, which teaches the principles of fair testing, scientific questioning and drawing conclusions.

#### **Geography**

This unit will focus on human geography, in particular, economic activity by exploring various jobs, industries, trade and the impact on climate. Children will develop their understanding of why people work and why it is important, global industries and those specific to the UK, unemployment and the impact of child labour.

#### **Computing**

We are focusing on programming. We will build upon previous knowledge of coding to develop skills in controlling systems, specifically to create a reaction game using Crumble.

#### **Art**

This half term, through their studies in English and Science, children will learn about lots of different animals. Inspired by this, children will look at the sculpture work of the artist Phillip Cox and create 3D decoupage sculpture in the shape of an animal.

## **RE**

This half term, RE studies will focus on the Christian belief of annunciation, Jesus' disciples, the formation of the early church and making comparisons between the New Testament and the Old Testament.

## **French**

We will be learning how to describe our town, say how we travel to places, how to express future plans and learn to tell the time. Children will continue to develop foreign language skills including listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

## **Music**

This half term, pupils will compose their own music using Bandlab: an online music collaboration platform. They will develop their skills in creating loops and introduction and select sounds to create different moods.

## **Games / P.E**

This term, the children will be learning skills in volleyball in PE. Games lessons will focus on coaching and officiating (in the context of multi skills). This will help with their knowledge of sports and having the opportunity to be a 'referee'. We're also looking at a targeting unit this will include dodgeball, rocket-ball, bocca and archery.

## **Homework**

### **Reading**

We ask that children are listened to while they read for about 10 minutes a day. If children complete a book review (copies are available in school) and bring it to a teacher to be signed, they can be entered into a prize draw to win an Amazon Fire tablet! Raffle tickets are also given to children to reward them for positive reading behaviour and then entered into a prize draw to win a book from our friendly book vending machine, Jeff!

### **Maths**

We encourage the children to spend time practising their times tables on Times Table Rockstars and there are prizes available for those who practise regularly. For additional arithmetic practise, children can access online practise papers that provide feedback. Follow this link: <https://mathsbot.com/primaryMenu>

### **Spellings**

The children will still receive new spellings on a Wednesday which will be uploaded to Spelling Shed for them to practise online. In school, we will spend time working on our spelling activities, focusing on spelling patterns and rules.

**Year group info- pictures below from left to right:**

- **Head of Year 6** – Miss C Campbell
- **Teachers:** Miss Shiers, Mrs Polmear, Miss Robertson, Mr Targett, Miss Megeary
- **Teaching Assistants:** Mrs Downs



**Items to remember**

- Practise TT Rockstars twice per week
- Spellings - new spellings every Friday
- Reading – read each day
- PE Kit – Tuesday and Friday. Children should arrive to school in suitable kit for the time of year – remember hats in the summer and warmer items in the cooler months – we aim to have PE outside as often as possible!
- Label all clothing and water bottles
- Snack - please remember to pack a healthy snack for your child to eat at break time.

**Useful websites**

- [www.linguafun.eu](http://www.linguafun.eu)—for French
- [www.ttrockstars.com](http://www.ttrockstars.com)—for times tables
- <https://mathsbot.com/primaryMenu> for arithmetic test practise
- [www.edshed.com](http://www.edshed.com)—for spelling practice through games

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

**Did you know we now have a Facebook page?**

We have created a Facebook page which will show any news and events across the Viaduct Federation of schools, it is titled 'The Bushfield and Wyvern Viaduct Federation of Schools'. Like us and keep up to date with any fun school events and news!



## Attendance Matters



Viaduct Federation of Schools



## ATTENDANCE REVIEW

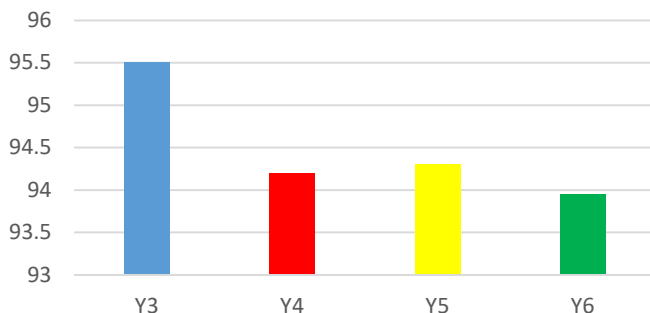
### SPRING TERM 2

103 possible days

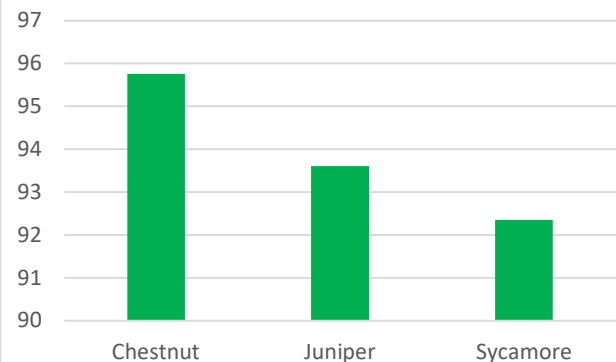
As you know, pupil attendance is very important and is a focus on schools from both the government and the local authority. In terms of our drive to raise awareness, please see below our classes' average attendance.

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 by Year Group



Year 6 Attendance by Class



**100%**  
attendance  
103 days of  
learning



#### EXCELLENT

High attendance leads to high achievement and greater chance of success. Well done!

**97%**  
attendance  
100 days of  
learning



**95%**  
attendance  
98 days of  
learning



#### CONCERNING

Poor attendance makes it harder to progress and limits opportunities for success.

**90%**  
attendance  
93 days of  
learning



**85%**  
attendance  
88 days of  
learning



#### SERIOUS CONCERN

Very poor attendance seriously impacts on education and reduces life chances.

**80%**  
attendance  
82 days of  
learning



*Be the best you can be.*