



Dear Parent / Carer,

Welcome back and a Happy New Year to you all! This is a busy term running up to SATs with SATs week approaching after Easter and the children have shown us they are motivated and ready to take on the challenges of a new term. We have another parents evening for you to come and find out how your child is progressing in both English and Maths on the 14th and 15th of March, but if you have any questions before this, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

The Year 6 Team.

### 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**

The children will be set maths homework at once a week on MyMaths. If the children need support with their homework or have access issues then they should ask their set teacher for assistance. In addition, they can log in to the website Times Table Rockstars to practise their times tables.

#### **Topic**

This term your child will be set an open-ended homework project linked to our learning across the curriculum. This is an opportunity to be creative and pursue research in a way that interests your child. Thank you for your support with this. Further details will follow via Parentmail.

### Subject Overviews

#### **English**

During the first half term, we will be focusing on Planet Earth as the basis for our writing in English. The children will be exploring endangered animals by creating fun and informative reports, and investigating and explaining a python's diet. Our English topic during the second half term is 'Explorers'. This unit of work will require the children to use their imagination fully as we dive into largely undiscovered frontiers such as The Abyss. As we approach Easter, we will be spending time revising grammar and spelling rules and patterns from the Year 5 curriculum as well as continuing to learn new Year 6 content.

#### **Maths**

The children will continue to develop their knowledge and understanding of a wide range of topics in Maths including fractions and decimals, ratio and proportion, algebra, statistics and measure. There will be an increasing focus on solving problems with increasing complexity, as we concentrate on applying their number skills to everyday problems.

## **Science**

In line with our 'Planet Earth' topic, our Science Unit this half term will be 'Living Things and their Habitats'. Following this, we will be exploring 'Evolution and Inheritance'. 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**

Our topic for this half term is 'Planet Earth'. We explore time zones in different countries, research and record climate information in a graph and consider ways to be greener.

## **Computing**

In computing this half term, we are focusing on communication. We begin by exploring the QWERTY keyboard and developing the essential skill of touch typing, before learning about how to use web browsers efficiently and effectively when completing research. After half term, we build upon our previous knowledge of coding to explore controlling systems.

## **DT**

Inspired by sustainable energies, children design and create a wind turbine that can generate electricity. As part of the process, they will learn how to draw an annotated diagram of their design. In addition, children learning at home will have the opportunity to use materials around the home to create products powered by renewable energy sources.

## **Art**

In the second half term, children will be exploring Charles Darwin's descriptions of animals he discovered and creating a 3D decoupage sculpture.

## **PSHE & RE**

In the first half term, we will look at the impact of mental health, how to support our mental health and peer pressure. In the second half of the term, we will study the Christian belief of annunciation, Jesus' disciples, the formation of the early church and comparing to the old testament.

## **French**

In the first half term, we will be learning how to say which sports and activities we like to play and do and we will link this back to our topics of the weather and clothing in order to create some extended descriptions. In the second half term, we will learn how to describe our town, tell the time and talk about plans for the weekend.

## **Music**

Pupils will develop their ability to critically appraise music and identify what makes it effective for a given audience. They will listen and respond to the music of Hans Zimmer and develop their instrumental and composition skills to compose a piece of music to depict planet earth.

## **Games / P.E**

During these times we want to make sure everyone is as active as possible. During Games lessons the children will work together in Basketball and Tag rugby, to continue to develop their invasion skills, while in their outdoor PE lessons they will be studying Netball as well as using our new and exciting Outside Adventure Activity (OAA) resources to orienteer around the school site. This is all in addition to their indoor PE, where they will be looking at acro-gymnastics and dance that links with PSHE topics.

Year group info- pictures below from left to right:

- **Head of Year 6** – Miss C Campbell
- **Teachers:** Mrs K Shiers, Miss A Sheard, Miss L Baldwin, Miss E Megeary, Mrs L Polmear
- **Teaching Assistants:** Mrs C Dilger, Mrs A Ahmed, Mrs S Bell, Mrs C Downs, Mrs L Bird, Miss M Reid



*Be the best you can be.*

**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!

