



Curriculum Newsletter — **Year 6** Spring

The information below is designed to tell you what your child will be learning this term in each curriculum area. We have complemented each subject with suggestions as to how you can support your child outside of school with their learning.



English

This term we are learning:

- Classic texts: *Oliver Twist*
Jane Eyre, *Black Beauty*
- Information texts
- Grammar: perfect, progressive, simple tense (past, present)
- Parenthesis (brackets, commas, dashes)
- The meaning of prefixes and suffixes
- Apostrophes (omission and possession)
- Determiners
- Active and passive voice
- Direct and Reported speech
- Ellipsis, colon, semi-colons, dashes
- Possessive pronouns
- Subjunctive

Suggested activities to support learning:

- Use the *Reading Express* to find new books to read
<http://www.churchfieldsjunior.com/reading-express/>
- Review a range of information texts: looking at layout and language style (newspapers, magazines, *First News*) e.g. Why has the author organized the text in this way?
- Read other books by Charles Dickens (adaptations)
- Find out about the life of Charles Dickens
- Think about how animals are portrayed in other books e.g. *The Outlaw Varjak Paw*
- Brush up on your non-fiction writing
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/english/writing/reports/read/1/>
- Create a word bank of ambitious vocabulary from books read at home
- Can you spot different grammar rules in your reading book? E.g. Which of these words... is a synonym for (choose a word from the text)
- Useful grammar websites:
<http://www.dailygrammar.com/archive.html>
<http://www.grammar-monster.com>
- Discuss punctuation in books – why is it there? E.g. Why do you think the author chose to use a...
- Read to your children without pausing where the punctuation should be – can they correct you?



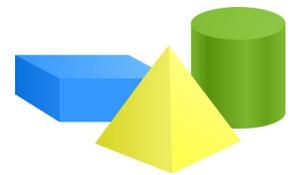
Mathematics

This term we are learning:

- Fractions, decimals and percentages
- Four operations (multiplying decimals and division)
- Co-ordinates
- Algebra
- Geometry
- Nets
- Rotation and translation

Suggested activities to support learning:

- Review topics on <http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/maths/>
- Visit the IXL website <http://uk.ixl.com>
- Practise multiplying decimals using the grid method
- Tackle investigations on <http://nrich.maths.org/frontpage/>
- Talk about maths and apply to real life situations e.g. cooking, time, shopping, estimating etc...
- Get your children to show you the new strategies they have learnt in school e.g. bus stop division, solving fraction questions using bar models
- Visit <http://www.mad4maths.com/parents/>
- Read *The Number Devil: A Mathematical Adventure* by Hans Magnus Enzenberger with your child
- Go to art galleries and look at shapes and patterns in art



Humanities

This term we are learning:

- History – Were the Vikings always victorious and vicious?
- Easter – What are the sources of the first Easter story?

Suggested activities to support learning:

- Learn about the Vikings online:
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/ztyr9j6>
<http://www.britishmuseum.org/vikings>
- Explore the *Jorvik Artefact Gallery* >
<http://jorvik-viking-centre.co.uk/about-jorvik/gallery/>
- Review the Easter story using http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/religion/christianity/easter_questions.shtml

Science

This term we are learning:

- Evolution – Why do we look like this?

Suggested activities to support learning:

- Look at the science links on the *BBC Bitesize* website:
http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/science/physical_processes/
- Visit the *Natural History Museum* (or website) and explore! Ask to see the spirit collection there and investigate how animals have adapted to their environments. How do penguins survive in the snow?
<http://www.nhm.ac.uk/nature-online/evolution/index.html>
- Research Charles Darwin, Mary Anning and Alfred Wallace and discuss what they have contributed to the scientific world
- Look back through pictures of your family and identify any traits that have been inherited through the generations
- Go fossil hunting!
- Design a new animal that can survive in the ocean
- Investigate breeds of dogs. How do you make a labradoodle?
- Look at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/z3pp34j/>

PE / Dance / Gym

This term we are learning:

- Gym – Circuit Training
- Maypole Dancing
- Hockey
- Badminton



Suggested activities to support learning:

- Taster sessions available at *Redbridge & Ilford Hockey Club* Wednesday 6-7pm at *Redbridge Sports Centre*. Contact Di Berrill at diberrill@gmail.com
- MOVE IT 10-12 March, Excel, London. Over 25,000 dancers - three days – performances, classes, career advice, celebrities, interviews and shopping! MOVE IT is your chance to celebrate all forms of dance and the performing arts. Watch breath-taking Main Stage performances, take part in dance classes, discover dance career opportunities in the MOVE IT PRO series, brush up on your acting and vocal skills in performing arts workshops and shop for all your dancewear needs. No matter what level you are – there is something for everyone and a glorious celebration of all things dance and performing arts at MOVE IT. [Gallery](#)

Music

This term we are learning:

- Samba

Suggested activities to support learning:

- Take children to watch live music
- If possible, use *GarageBand* app and become familiar with Samba instruments
- Learn about Samba: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/clips/zcqs9q>
- Listen to *Happy Samba* as an example of samba rhythms <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BpbZX1cyPQQ>

Art

This term we are learning:

- Georgia O'Keefe

Suggested activities to support learning:

- Look at pieces by Georgia O'Keefe, how have different colours been combined together?
- Look at other artists who use flowers and nature – e.g. William Morris, Van Gogh *Vase of fifteen sunflowers*

PSHE / Philosophy

This term we are learning:

- Sex and Relationship Education (2nd half of term)

Suggested activities to support learning:

- Ask your children what they have discussed in philosophy each week and discuss questions with them
- Discuss current affairs and the tricky concepts that come up in specific articles
- Talk about relationships. Discuss the following questions: What makes a good relationship? How are relationships different? How do relationships start? What do we mean by going out with someone?

Computing / DT

This term we are learning:

- Designing and creating an app

Suggested activities to support learning:

- Watch how to use different tools on *AppShed* via their Youtube site: <https://www.youtube.com/user/AppShed>
- Use the *AppShed Academy* videos to develop a London tourism app on <http://www.appshed.com>
- Discuss Online Safety with your children
- Explore <http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk>
- When possible, allow children to word process homework <http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/>
- Create online storybooks: <http://storybird.com>
- Create personalised websites. You can add photos, photo slide-shows, upload files and much more: <http://www.weebly.com/>
- Create animated videos: <http://goanimate.com/>
- Coding tips and techniques: <http://code.org/>
<https://www.touchdevelop.com/app/>
- Alternative to PowerPoint: <http://prezi.com>
- A bit of positive procrastination: http://www.ted.com/talks/thomas_suarez_a_12_year_old_app_developer

Russian

This term we are learning:

- Russian
- French Breakfast
- French body parts and animals
- Forming the perfect tense in French

Suggested activities to support learning:

- Ask children to tell you what they have learnt – can they teach you any phrases?
- Locate Russia on a map
- Watch Russian cartoon such as *Cheburashka* on YouTube
- How to order food and drink in French
- Ask them to name body parts in French and help them to learn how to say what pets they have or animals they like

We hope you find this information useful, as well as interesting. Please let us know if you have any other suggested activities to support your child with their learning so that we can include additional information for other parents/carers in the future.