



Curriculum Newsletter — Year 6 Summer

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:

- Classical texts (extracts from *Treasure Island*, *Frankenstein*, *Hard Times*)
- Creative writing (show not tell, figurative language: personification, metaphors and similes)
- To use a range of sentence types (compound and complex with a range of clauses)
- Diary writing

Grammar and Punctuation

- Subjunctive mood
- Types of subordinate clauses
- Determiners: articles, quantifiers, demonstrative, ordinals, possessive, numbers
- 12 Tenses – simple, progressive (continuous), perfect, perfect progressive in past, present and future
- Co-ordinating and subordinating conjunctions

Suggested activities to support learning:

- Read a range of extracts from classical texts (you could find these in the library) at home with your child. Examples: *Black Beauty*, *The Iron Man*, *The Secret Garden*, *The Railway Children*, *The Phoenix and the Carpet*, *20,000 leagues under the Sea* and *the Jungle Book*
- Read newspaper articles and discuss their features
- Talk about our Year 6 show – read extracts from the story book. How would the information given in the story differ if it was read as a play script?
- Look at a range of Alan Peat sentence types.
- Ask your child to identify and differentiate between examples of figurative language in the books

Suggested activities to support learning:

- Read to your children without pausing where the punctuation should be – can they correct you?
- Useful grammar websites: <http://www.dailygrammar.com/archive.html>
<http://www.grammar-monster.com>
- Create revision posters!
- Have a grammar reading session – how many grammatical terms can you find in one page?

Mathematics

This term we are learning:

- Reasoning skills – giving concise explanations and justifications
- Data handling
- Problem solving and multi-step worded problems
- Ratio
- Fractions – converting between improper and mixed numbers, adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing
- Converting between fractions, decimals and percentages
- Converting between different units of measurement

Suggested activities to support learning:

- Key vocabulary: justify, reason, decimals, ratio, measurement, numerator, denominator, equivalent, lowest common factor, multiple, improper, mixed number, scatter graph, relationship
- Get your children to show you the new strategies they have learnt in school e.g. 4 operations with fractions
- Ask children to justify their methods they have shown you – can they use mathematical vocabulary?
- Practise Times Tables (including decimals and inverse number facts, e.g. $5 \times 6 = 30$. $0.5 \times 6 = 3$. $0.5 \times 0.6 = 0.3$. $700 \times 30 = 21000$)
- Tackle some investigations on <http://nrich.maths.org/frontpage/>
- Revise some topics on <http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/maths/>
- Measurement: bake at home with your child and discuss the different units of measurement. Also, discuss the relationship between the ingredients and how many servings. Look at the ratio between these, for example, if the recipe asks for 500g of chocolate and you only have 300g, how will this affect the other ingredients you use?
- Use Maths in everyday life wherever you can. When shopping, can your child mentally add the items in the basket and calculate the change they will get? Can they calculate the cost of the item in a sale?

Humanities

This term we are learning:

- Using a compass
- Contrasting our local area with Rhos Y Gwaliau
- Rhos Y Gwaliau trip!
- Sikhism

Suggested activities to support learning:

- Look at maps of the places you are visiting – can the children identify keys and features of maps?
- Can you find and discuss geographical differences between different locations you visit?
- Find differences between human and physical geography of different areas
- When out and about, can children refer to compass points and giving directions?
- Go geo-caching!
- Sikhism – for an overview: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/religion/sikhism/>
- Visit a local Gurdwara with your child
- Rhos Y Gwaliau: <http://www.rygoutdoor.co.uk/Welcome.html>
- Explore <http://visitbala.org.uk/>

Science

This term we are learning:

- How do Scientists classify living things?
- Electricity
- Keeping healthy

Suggested activities to support learning:

- Visit the Natural History Museum and notice how the animals are grouped into rooms. Can you write down the names of some groups of animals. Whilst there, see if you can have a tour of the museum's secret spirit collection tour where you will delve deep into the basement chambers of the museum where they store some interesting creatures!
- Research an animal you are interested in – how is it classified?
- Keep an electronic device diary, where you record the number of switched on items at different times of the day and compare it over a week. How could you record this data?
- Build a simple circuit and experiment with changing in different components. What do you notice?
- Electricity key vocabulary: circuit, cell, wire, bulb, lamp, battery, switch, motor, current, voltage, series, parallel

PE / Gym

This term we are learning:

- Sports Day practise
- Cricket

Suggested activities to support learning:

- Practise throwing and catching skills
- Taster sessions available at *Woodford Cricket Club*, contact our school cricket coach Dave Walcott, walcott3@sky.com
- Practise a standing long jump, measuring your distance.

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:

- Drawing techniques

Suggested activities to support learning:

- Visit the National Portrait Gallery. Are there any paintings you like?
- Can you see any of the techniques you have learnt in class being used?
- Look at the work of Leonardo da Vinci and Picasso. How are their drawings similar or different? Whose work do you prefer and why?
- Set up a still life scene at home using objects from around your house. Practise drawing the scene with different materials such as a biro or pencil. Discuss how the drawing and your technique is different depending on the material you use.



PSHE / Philosophy

This term we are learning:

- Secondary school transitions
- Changes
- Friendships

Suggested activities to support learning:

- Talk about what your child is excited about for secondary school and what they are concerned about.
- Ask your children what they have discussed in philosophy each week and discuss questions with them.
- Complete the philosophy book with your child, when they bring it home.
- Discuss current affairs and the tricky concepts that come up in specific articles

Computing / DT

This term we are learning:

- Designing and creating an app

Suggested activities to support learning:

- Discuss e-Safety with your children: <http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk>
- Alternative to PowerPoint: <http://prezi.com/>
- A bit of positive procrastination: http://www.ted.com/talks/thomas_suarez_a_12_year_old_app_developer?language=en/
- Conduct some market research about the most successful app for children currently on the market, and consider how this could contribute to future apps
- Children could conduct their own questionnaires and market research about their own app and consider how they could improve it
- Explore <http://topbestappsforkids.com/>



Russian

This term we are learning:

- Greetings, animals, numbers
- Questions and answers
- Conversational Russian

Suggested activities to support learning:

- Ask children to tell you what they have learnt – can they teach you any phrases?

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.