

YEAR 6



CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER SPRING 2018

Welcome back to Hazlehurst 2018! I hope that you have all enjoyed the Christmas holiday! This is an important year for the Year 6 children, their last here at Hazlehurst, a time where we are pulling out all the stops to prepare for our SATs, make lasting memories and prepare for the transition to High School.



In their English lessons, Year 6 will be working hard and concentrating on reading fluency and comprehension, grammar and punctuation, extended writing and spelling.

The children will continue to be taught various spelling strategies to promote good spelling throughout all written work. Consolidation of spelling conventions and rules will take place with emphasis on learning spelling rules, spotting patterns in words, using mnemonics for irregular or difficult spellings and noticing unstressed vowel spellings in polysyllabic words. When practising spellings, handwriting should be joined. Children should also be making time to practise their key Y5 & 6 spellings. These can be found in the middle of their reading records books.

Every week, the children in Year 6 complete a short exercise, focusing on grammar, spelling and punctuation. This is important preparation for the Grammar and Punctuation and Spelling test in May. The children will continue to



access the school non-fiction library. Please encourage your child to bring their book home and if at all possible, listen to them read aloud, and ask them questions around what they have read. Thank you for your support in this vital area.

Writing will initially continue to focus on the book 'Far From Home' by Berlie Doherty. The children will write in role as different characters and explore the harsh realities of life for children in the cotton mills. Then we will be sharing 'Listen to the Moon' by Michael Morpurgo and written work will concentrate on this book and the sinking of the Lusitania, a cruise ship that was torpedoed in World War One.



Within the classroom the children will read as part of a group, focusing on identifying and commenting on the features of the text and developing their ability to use inference and deduction to understand what they read.

Good readers make good writers! We will be continuing to look at a variety of text types each week, both fiction and non-fiction, and the children will complete a piece of extended writing in that style. They will be encouraged to reflect on their writing and be able to say to what extent they have been successful in meeting the learning objectives for that particular genre.

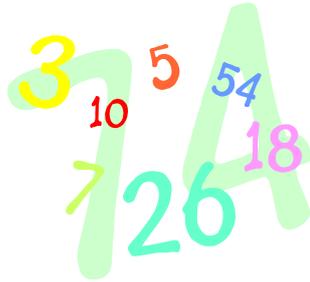
In **Maths** the children will continue to practise their oral and mental skills on a daily basis in order to improve rapid recall of +, -, x and ÷ facts.

The children will extend the work covered in the Autumn term. They will continue to work on the topic of fractions, decimals, percentages and ratio. They will apply their knowledge from the previous term to order fractions and to calculate fractions of number (linked with division). They will work on rounding decimals and extending their work on place value.

They will continue to develop their understanding of the relationship between **multiplication** and **division**, **addition** and **subtraction**. They will focus on mental strategies and pencil and paper activities. This will be applied to money and real life situations.



We will continue to work on interpreting and organising **data**. They will extend their ability to put data into graphs and pie charts.



Children will also focus on the properties of shape. They will draw 2-D shapes using given dimensions and angles.

They should also be able to recognise, describe and build simple 3-D shapes, including making nets. Also compare and classify geometric shapes based on their properties. They will be using geometry to find missing angles.

By the end of the term your child should be able to:

- 1 Round decimals
- 2 Convert improper fractions into mixed numbers
- 3 Sequence numbers, including negatives
- 4 Interpret data from graphs and charts
- 5 Know how shapes translate, rotate and reflect
- 6 Name, classify and sort 2D shapes based on their properties
- 7 Find areas of triangles and parallelograms

We will have regular opportunities to problem solve and reasoning activities for the children to make links between numbers and operations. The children will be encouraged to work systematically and use the language of investigation.

Please encourage your child to know their multiplication tables from x2 to x12 (the multiplication and division facts), so that they can quickly recall the answer when required. This really is essential knowledge to enable them to answer 36 arithmetic questions in 30 minutes on the SAT paper.



Your child will continue to bring home the SAT buster books as well as some past SATs papers closer to the tests.

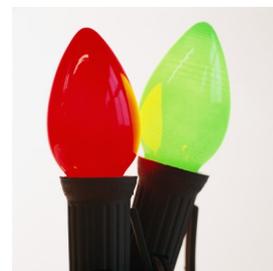


Science

Throughout this term the children will continue with their experimental and investigative work in **Science**. They will make decisions about how to use a fair test to answer a question and, where appropriate, how to vary one factor while keeping others the same. The children will also develop their skills of predicting and forming conclusions based on results.

Living things and their habitats

Children will build on their learning about grouping living things by looking at the classification system in more detail. They will be introduced to the idea that broad groupings, such as micro-organisms, plants and animals can be subdivided. They will classify animals into commonly found invertebrates (such as insects, spiders, snails, worms) and vertebrates (fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals). They will discuss reasons why living things are placed in one group and not another. We will also look at the work of Carl Linnaeus, a pioneer of classification. We will get out to the pond and use classification keys to identify the organisms we find.



Computing

In **Computing** the children will explore the effects of changing data in a spreadsheet. They will learn to identify and enter the correct formulae into cells, modify data, make predictions, and test them. They will be using the knowledge that they have gained in their maths work on data to help them.

Using Purple Mash, children will learn how to code and debug programs. This is taught through a series of progressive interactive programs; the children can also access this from home to become complete experts!

The children will be making good use of the laptops in the classroom, using them to do research for other curriculum subjects.



History

In History children will be looking at more recent history. They will be learning about the life of John Lennon. Beginning with his early childhood in Merseyside, they will track significant events which happened throughout his lifetime.



Geography - Extreme Earth

We are going to investigate the Earth's climate and areas of extreme temperature. Children will extend their understanding of the water cycle and the varying distribution of water across the world. They will build on their knowledge of plate tectonics, earthquakes, volcanoes and tsunamis.



Games and PE

Before half term, on Thursday, the children will be honing their badminton skills and on Friday will have a coached fitness session with Mr Lord.

After half term In P.E., on Friday, the children will be taught by our dance coach. On Thursday they will be outside (weather permitting) taking part in invasion games.

Please ensure your child has their **full kit** in school at **all** times.



Art

The focus this term in **Art** is drawing and painting. Making cross-curricular links, we will sketch from observation, photographs and digital images.



Design and Technology

Children will create funky furnishings, looking at sewing techniques to produce a cushion.



French

This term we are going to learn language about the daily routine “Ma journée”. Children will be able to talk about their daily routine and tell the time in French.

R.E.

This term the children will gain knowledge and understanding about the influence of religious teaching on the behaviour and actions of believers. They will build upon their understanding of the links between their own attitudes, behaviour and values by developing their ability to ask questions about moral choices and decisions.



Below are the assigned dates for the KS2 SATS Tests, please make a note of them in your diaries.

Test	Date
English grammar, punctuation and spelling test Paper 1: short answer questions (45 minutes) Paper 2: spelling (15 minutes)	Monday 14th May
English reading test Paper 1: Reading comprehension (60 minutes)	Tuesday 15th May
Mathematics Paper 1: arithmetic (30 minutes) Paper 2: reasoning (40 minutes)	Wednesday 16th May
Mathematics Paper 3: reasoning (40 minutes)	Thursday 17th May

Many thanks for your continued support. Here's to a great 2018 for all of Year 6 and their families. Mrs Knowles