

Year 6 Curriculum Letter - Spring Term 2022

This term our topic is:
Geography - Rivers

English



English units of work will include persuasive writing, balanced arguments, letters, biographies and narratives.



Reading: We will continue to have regular opportunities for reading in school and our whole class reading sessions will cover a range of interesting texts. Please also encourage your child to read at home as often as possible and to record this in their Student Planners. Discussions about their reading will greatly enhance their understanding and we really appreciate your support with this. Our read aloud books this term will include 'Children of the King' and 'River Boy'.

Spelling:

Investigations will be a regular feature of our spelling lessons and home learning. We will have weekly dictations on a Friday to assess the spelling rules learned in school and practised at home.

The Leader in Me

We will continue our learning of the Leader in Me and the 7 Habits - lessons will explore 'leading self' as well as 'leading others'. Classroom leadership roles are changed regularly and help develop maturity and independence. In addition, we now have some pupil representatives on the Pupil Lighthouse and Curriculum Teams.



Maths

We will continue to follow the Essential Maths programme and will be covering a range of topics such as fractions, percentages, decimals, angles and spatial reasoning. Maths fluency is a real focus and so repetition of skills taught is essential. Presentations used in school will often be available for the children to access on Google Drive. Please encourage revision and continue to help your child to practise their multiplication tables on a regular basis at home. We would also appreciate it if you could check that they are completing their weekly maths home learning assignments on Google Classroom.



Science

Science topics this term include: 'Living Things and their Habitats' and 'Evolution and Inheritance'.



To start with, the children will discover more about systems of classification and how to group and identify a range of living things. Later in the term, we will study how fossils are made and how species adapt to their environment.

PSHE

'Healthy Me' is the theme for this term, not only touching on the importance of fitness to our bodies, particularly to our heart and lungs, but also understanding the effect of over-consumption. We shall also be learning how we react in safe and unsafe situations. We will delve into possible strategies when we face the conflict of doing the right thing and how peer pressure can affect this.



Geography

This term, Year 6 will be exploring rivers and the water cycle in our topic which has a Geography focus. We will be learning a range of geographical skills including the use of grid references and compass directions as well as studying the formation and effect of rivers on our local environment as well as on a global scale.



Physical Education

PE lessons will take place on Thursdays and Fridays for 6 Warhol and Tuesdays and Thursdays for 6 Moore. Our topics for this term are gymnastics and basketball. Children will need to wear their PE kits to school on both of their PE days and must have warm clothing to wear for cold weather. Their trainers should remain in school every day as we will also be participating in the Daily Mile.

Religious Education

This term in RE we will be learning about Judaism. We will be looking at the links with other Abrahamic religions and learning about celebrations within Judaism. We will be exploring the Holocaust and how religions were affected by WWII. We are also looking forward to visiting the Welwyn Garden Hebrew Congregation Synagogue (more information to follow).

Design Technology

In DT we will be doing a unit focusing on healthy eating, using seasonal produce. We will be looking at developing a range of food preparation skills. The unit will culminate in designing and making soup in our fantastic new food technology room.

Art & Design

We will be learning a number of drawing techniques and studying work by Leonardo de Vinci and Hector Gonzales. It would be beneficial if the children have their own sketching pencils (anything from 2b-6b) for this unit of work.

Computing

Year 6 has been chosen as the second year group to be given a set of 60 Chromebooks to use in school as part of daily work. Hand-written activities will continue alongside opportunities to utilise this great resource and we are very excited to see how the Chromebooks enhance the children's learning. In computing lessons we will be learning all about variables, whilst coding our very own games on Scratch.



MFL

This term in French we will be learning the language associated with weekend activities. We will be recapping on how to tell the time in French, learning the vocabulary for different leisure activities and how to talk about them.



Music

Using the Charanga scheme of work, we will be studying a range of genres including jazz. There will be opportunities to play instruments such as glockenspiels and hand bells, to compose their own music and to improvise. If your child is learning to play an instrument, we would encourage them to bring it in (if possible) so that they can use it in our music lessons on Wednesdays. Later in the term, we will also be linking music with our Rivers topic and studying *The Moldau*, by Smetana.

Communication

We will be communicating with the children via Google Classroom, so please ensure they regularly log on to check for assignments and messages. We will also be updating the Year 6 page of the school website and using Twitter for school events.

If response, please contact us via the school office. Otherwise, our email address is: year6@applecroft.herts.sch.uk

Please feel free to contact us if you have any queries. If it is a non-urgent matter, we are usually available on Mondays after school. Please book an appointment via email, if you would like to talk to us.

Uniform

School Uniform:

- Red jumper/cardigan
- Grey trousers, skirts, shorts or pinafore dress.
- White polo shirts, shirt/blouse.
- Smart, black shoes.
- White/grey socks.
- Grey/red tights.
- Grey/red/white hair bands/clips/Alice bands only.

PE Uniform:

- White t-shirt
- Black shorts
- Black jogging bottoms
- Black hoodie
- Black trainers

We ask that parents/carers wash this uniform as regularly as possible.

Home Learning

Home Learning tasks will be set as Google Classroom assignments, where appropriate. Children are expected to spend between 30 and 60 minutes on most tasks. The timetable is as follows:

| Subject | Day it will be set | Day it is due in |
|--|--------------------|------------------|
| English | Monday | Monday |
| Maths | Wednesday | Monday |
| Science | Friday | Friday |
| Geography/Art: 2-3 pieces every half-term | | |

Attendance & Punctuality

The school day runs from 8.55am to 3.15pm. We encourage the children to arrive for 8.45am for a 'soft start' and to enable a prompt start to the school day. If your child is absent, please inform the school office as soon as possible.

End of KS2 Assessments

As you probably know, your children will be sitting the statutory tests for Key Stage 2 this year. SATs week is from Monday 9th to Thursday 12th May 2022 and will include tests in Maths, Reading and SPAG (spelling, punctuation and grammar) as well as some revision sessions and some food! (More information on this to follow.)

In order to help with revision the school will be acquiring English revision guides. These can be purchased from the school shop for approximately £2.50 each. Maths revision books will be provided by the school.

Key Dates

13th January: Online Road Safety Workshop
25th January: Indoor Athletics
3rd February: Indoor Athletics Final
11th February: INSET Day
11th February: Stanborough G&T Dance Production
4th March: K'NEX Challenge
W/c 14th February: Half term
W/c 28th February: Themed Week - Arts Week
Thursday 3rd March: World Book Day
Thursday 10th March: TAP event
Friday 1st April: End of term