



Year 6 Spring term 1

English

Class Text: 'Holes' by Louis Sacher

Our class reader this half term, is Holes by Louis Sacher. We will be reading it together as a class as well as studying certain chapters in more detail during whole class reading lessons. Alongside their key text, we will be reading extract from other books linked to our writing and wider curriculum lessons.

In writing lessons we will be using a range of texts to inspire both fiction and non-fiction writing, taking inspiration from Hansel and Gretel and The Graveyard book, both by Neil Gaiman. We will also be reading selected extracts from A Monster Calls by Patrick Ness. All of these texts provide the opportunity for some fantastic descriptive narrative writing!

Children will be developing their knowledge and understanding of grammar terms and spelling rules as well as learning how to spell and use the Y6 statutory words correctly.

How you can help your child at home:

Daily reading aloud and regular discussions about what they have read, especially the meaning of new words they meet in their books, is always beneficial. Completion of homework sent home will also help your child progress.

This website has activities for practising grammar and spelling rules:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zhrdd2p>

History History of a Non-European Society Study

Children will explore the chronology of the early Islamic civilisation by evaluating historical sources about the time period. They will investigate the historically significant city of Baghdad around 900AD, once of the most advanced civilisations of its time. They will be looking at daily life for a child within the city of Baghdad and evaluate the cultural impact of this early civilisation on medical and mathematical innovations and their legacy in the modern world.

How you can help your child at home:

Ask your child to tell you what they have been learning about this early time period and the numerous inventions, innovations and medical discoveries that occurred in Baghdad in the ancient past. Encourage your child to learn about other early civilisations, such as the Aztecs, the Sumer and the Mayans.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/articles/zfp6gw>



Maths

This half term, your child will be learning about fractions decimal fractions and percentages and the relationship between them all. We will also be learning how to calculate area, perimeter and volume of shapes as well. We will also be continually practising using all four operations (+, - x and ÷) to solve calculations and problems.

How you can help your child at home:

Regular practice of times tables and the related division facts, using TTRockstars and completing any homework set. Discussing what fractions, decimals and percentages are (eg part of a whole amount) and talking about when and where they might need to calculate areas, perimeters and volumes of amounts in real life.

When shopping, ask your child to add or subtract amounts in their head to develop their maths fluency.

Science How does light help us to see?

Famous scientist: Isaac Newton

Children will be investigating how we see and that light travels in straight lines. They will be planning, carrying out and evaluating an investigation into shadows. They will also be learning about refraction and the life and work of the scientist Isaac Newton.

How you can help your child at home:

Ask your child to explain to you what they have learned about light each week. Discuss the meaning of key scientific words to do with the topic of light. For example: prism, refraction, reflection and prism. Useful websites are:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zb27kty>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zbssgk7>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zbssgk7/resources/1>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/clips/zg6r82p>

RE Beliefs and moral values—How can we lead a good life?

Religion focus: Islam

How you can help your child at home:

Talk about morals and values and how we form them. What do we mean by 'a good life'?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zpdtsbk/articles/zrxxgwx>

Art: Taj Mahal - Ustad Ahmad Lahori

Use a variety of techniques to add interesting effects (e.g. reflections, shadows, direction of sunlight). • Use a choice of techniques to depict movement, perspective, shadows and reflection. • Choose a style of drawing suitable for the work (e.g. realistic or impressionistic). • Use lines to represent movement.

How you can help your child at home:

Provide opportunities to practice with pens, pencils and paints.

Music

Maintain a third part in a vocal or instrumental piece with an understanding of harmony and texture. Understand and respond to visual cues for starting and stopping, sustaining sounds, ending words with clear consonant sounds and/or fading away, tempi, dynamics and articulation with greater accuracy.

How you can help your child at home:

Sing along with favourite songs and encourage your child to start and stop at the correct part in a song. Practise listening to or singing songs that involve more than one part to the melody or chorus.

Computing

E-safety - your child will be learning more about how to keep safe online and how to be a responsible internet user.

They will also be finding out about computer programming.

How you can help your child at home:

Ask your child what they have learned about how to use the internet safely. The link below has some useful learning about the internet and KS2 Computing.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/topics/cp440njz78zt>

RHSE: Living in the Wider World

We will be learning all about the importance of valuing diversity, challenging discrimination and stereotypes and championing fairness, justice, democracy and universal rights for children.

How you can help your child at home:

Talk to them about how the discussions they have in class each week around these topics. And encourage them to continue to celebrate diversity.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zfhbr2p>

PE

In indoor PE, your child will be learning dance routines and in outdoor PE they will be learning ball kills to play net and wall games.

How you can help your child at home:

Practise throwing and catching balls of different sizes and aiming them at targets with increasing accuracy.

Thank you

Year 6 Staff