

YEAR 6 CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER – AUTUMN 1



Helpful resources you can use at home

ENGLISH

At home you could

- Children's home reading books can be changed weekly, or more often if children finish them before that. Please make sure your child reads at home every day and that you sign their reading record once a week. Reading is a vital skill that supports your child's vocabulary, writing and comprehension.
- Go to the library to explore authors and books you or your child may enjoy.
- Explore new vocabulary and link with ideas and your child's own experience of the world.
- Discuss your child's preferences and help them to decide what they like.

Make sure that your child completes their homework.

- Let your child know that you think education is important. Help them by setting aside a special place to study, establishing a regular time for homework, and removing distractions such as the television.

Websites

- <https://www.ducksters.com/biography/>
- <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar>
- <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk>

NUMERACY

At home you could

- Practise times tables. All children have access to Times Tables Rockstars online. They should log in and practise these at least 3 times a week to support their arithmetic skills.
- Practise telling the time on an analogue and digital clock
- Ask children to work out the cost of things in the shops, including if they were 10% cheaper or 15% more expensive
- Practise halving and doubling including decimal numbers
- Apply their knowledge to solve problems that occur in everyday life i.e. Is it cheaper to pay a workman by the hour or by the job?
- Estimate the perimeter of your garden or rooms in your house

Websites

- <https://trockstars.com/>
- <https://whiterosemaths.com/parent-resources>
- <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>
- <https://nrich.maths.org/>

SCIENCE

Our topic: Animals including humans

At home you could

- Draw an outline of the human body, then grab some red and blue Play-Doh to make arteries, veins, and the heart itself.
- Make a simple heart model from a plastic bag, and use the straws to breathe into it and make it "beat" in rhythm.
- The heart pumps about 1.3 gallons of blood per minute. Think you can keep up? Fill a container with water, then set a timer. Use a small cup to scoop water into another container as fast as you can. Can you beat your own heart?
- Build a functioning heart pump. Use plastic bottles and drinking straws to make a working model that actually pumps "blood" from one chamber to the next.
- Visit the Science Museum (<http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/>)

Websites

- <https://www.weareteachers.com/circulatory-system-activities/>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zcyycdm/articles/z9w9r2p>
- <https://www.stem.org.uk/resources/community/collection/13109/year-6-animals-including-humans>

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ENGLISH

Key text: Windrush Child by Benjamin Zephaniah

Our writing opportunities:

- Informal letter
- Poem
- Recount - diary
- Biography

Grammar focus

- Include complex sentences, using subordinating conjunctions.
- Use adverbials of time, place and manner.
- Display varied sentence length for cohesion.
- Use relative clause beginning with who, which, where, when, whose, or that.
- using brackets, dashes or commas to indicate parenthesis.

PSHE

We are learning about: Being me in my World

- Identify my fears and worries and identify my learning goals.
- Understand that our actions affect people globally and locally.
- Know the benefits of democracy in school.

HISTORY

We are learning about: The Windrush Generation

- Where are the Caribbean islands and what is their history?
- How did the people of the Caribbean help Britain in the war against Nazi Germany and Hitler?
- Why did people migrate from the Caribbean to England in 1948?
- What was life in London like for the Windrush pioneers?

SCIENCE

Animals including humans

We are learning to:

- Identify and name the main parts of the human circulatory system, describe the functions of the heart, blood vessels and blood.
- Recognise the impact of diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle on the way their bodies function.
- Describe the ways in which nutrients and water are transported within animals, including humans.

The Windrush Generation



How did the Windrush migration change Britain for the better?

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We are learning about:

- What do religions say to us when things get hard?

P.E

We are learning about:

Indoor activity: **Health-related exercise**

Outdoor activity: **Football**

Please remind your child to pack their PE kit and bring it into school on the day of their PE lesson.

MATHEMATICS

We are learning about:

PLACE VALUE: read and write numbers to 10,000,000; compare, order and round integers; understand negative numbers.

ADDITION, SUBTRACTION, MULTIPLICATION AND DIVISION: add and subtract integers; understand common factors and multiples; explore primes to 100, square and cube numbers; multiply up to a 4-digit number by a 2-digit number and solve problems (including multi-step); understand long division with remainders and solve problems; explore mental calculations and estimation.

ART, COMPUTING, DT & MUSIC

In ART, we are learning about:

St Lucian birds and flower observation

- Observational drawings of birds and exotic flowers.
- Use metallic crayons to form resists for paintings on watercolour paper.
- Explore colour theory – think about complementary and analogous colours.

In COMPUTING, we are learning about:

- Sharing information across the internet.
- How sharing information can support working collaboratively online.
- To evaluate different methods of online communication.

In MUSIC, we are learning about:

- To use xylophones and metallophones
- To play *Lean on Me* and *Ayre Shobe Meele*

Spanish

We are learning about: Likes and dislikes

- Express opinions about preferences
- Identify common animals