



Edmund Waller

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER



Important Dates

Educational visits and visitors

Tues 22nd Sept: *Macbeth* Cast Workshop
Wed 18th Nov: British Museum
Thurs 1st Oct: Globe Theatre Tour

Class Assemblies

6C - Wed 23rd September

School Journey

Isle of Wight: Summer term

Memorable Experience

Tues 3rd Nov: *Macbeth* performance

Parents' Evenings

Wednesday 30th Sept 4-6pm AND
Thursday 1st October 4-7 pm

Parents and Carers Drop in

Monday 2nd November
Monday 7th December

Year 6

Welcome to the autumn term!

Meet the Year 6 Staff

Mr Chilvers - class teacher
Ms Jones - class teacher
Ms Davis - support staff
Mrs Kenny - support staff

Our Topic this Term is *A Civilisation Long Ago*

In the first half of the term, our focus will be a production of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. The year group will work as an ensemble, with all children having an important role in its success, whether they are acting or supporting the cast through sound, lighting, costume preparation or promotion. This is a fantastic opportunity for the children; we hope that you will be able to support them throughout as well as attending the performance at Greenwich Theatre just after the half term break.

As part of our topic focus on ancient civilisations, the children will investigate and learn about the ancient Egyptians and Greeks. We will compare them with each other and our modern day society. During this unit of work, we will be building a picture of these cultures through an exploration of their architecture, systems of law, art and other historical sources. This learning will be brought to life during a visit to the British Museum. In the second half of the term, the children's learning in art will explore a Greek myth as they produce a portrait of the Gorgon Medusa.

In science, we will investigate the connected topics of electricity and light. The children will use their learning about the components of electrical circuits to create an interactive piece of art. While learning about light, they will investigate its properties and apply their knowledge to photography.

Our focus in RE during the first half term will be Judaism's concept of the one God. In the second half term we will discuss different religions' beliefs regarding death and the afterlife. This will link to the children's learning in PSHE, where we will address loss and bereavement.

Brenda Garrick will be creating a 'storm on the heath', where, taking some of Shakespeare's famous magical moments as inspiration, children can create a magic spell using their own words and language. It will take place at Manor House Library on Sunday 20th September, as part of the Lewisham Story Festival. If you are able to attend the workshops will take place at 2-3pm and is suitable for ages 8+.

PE

Outdoor PE - Mondays

Indoor PE - Wednesdays

Please ensure your child brings in their PE kit on these days. They will need plimsolls or other suitable trainers. Children without a proper, separate, kit cannot take part in the lesson. No jewellery to be worn in PE.

Maths

This term we will be starting maths by learning about place value. Following that, we will be working on standard written calculation methods for all four number operations. In the second half of the term, we will investigate geometry and measurement through the world of the ancient Greeks and Egyptians.

It is important that your child continues their mathematical learning outside of school in real life contexts. Perhaps you could encourage your child to calculate journey times using a timetable or help during cooking by weighing out the ingredients. Please continue to practise number bonds (e.g. $32 + 68 = 100$) and time tables (multiplication and division to 12×12) at home.

English

For the first half of the term our English work will be based primarily around immersing the children in the language and imagery of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. Alongside the drama aspect of the play, the children will be exploring the characters and writing a biography for one of them. This unit of work will begin with the children writing their own autobiography. Later in the term, the children will engage in discussion and debate around the moral questions that arise from the play.

In the second half of the term, the children will develop their narrative skills through thorough analysis of a text that exemplifies a genre. They will write their own version before moving on to study adjusting their writer's voice to achieve an effective parody.

Homelearning

Each week your child will learn a selection of spellings based around a spelling rule or pattern. Please support them in practising these at home.

Children will take part in guided reading activities daily. Please ensure you listen to your child read and also take time to model reading aloud to them. Discuss the stories you read: likely progress of the story, opinions of the characters and themes of the books.