



# Edmund Waller

## CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER



### Important Dates

#### Educational visits and visitors

Thurs 22nd Sept: Globe Theatre Tour  
Thurs 29th Sept: *The Tempest* Cast Workshop  
Thurs 3rd Nov - *The Tempest* rehearsal and performance  
Wed 9th Nov - British Museum

#### Class Assemblies

Wed 12th Oct - 6A  
Wed 7th Dec - 6J

#### Memorable Experience

TBA - Ancient Civilisations Debate with Holbeach

#### Parents' Evenings

Wednesday 12th Oct 4-6pm AND  
Thursday 13th Oct 4-7 pm

#### Parents and Carers Drop in

Thurs 6th Oct  
Thurs 1st Dec

## Year 6

**Welcome to the autumn term!**

### Meet the Year 6 Staff

#### Class teachers

Mr Absolom, Mr Chilvers and Ms Jones

#### Support staff

Ms Davis, Ms Houghton and Mr Hunter

### Our Topic this Term is *A Civilisation Long Ago*

In the first half of the term, our focus will be Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. As a whole year group, we will be studying the language and storyline. The work will culminate in some of the children performing a production of the play at Greenwich Theatre. 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.

### 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 have started maths by learning about place value. Following this, 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  $12 \times 12$ ) 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 *The Tempest*. Alongside the drama aspect of the play, the children will be exploring the characters and writing a biography for one of them. Following this, the children will write newspaper reports about the events of 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 unit of English work will include a selection of related words, which we will send home. Please support your child in learning how to spell them by identifying the spelling rules and patterns.

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.