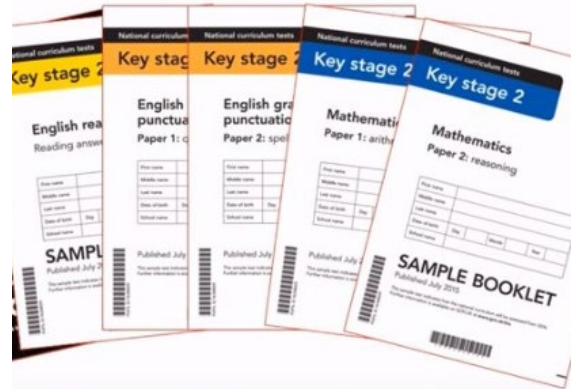


Years 5 & 6 Shepherd's Class Summer Term 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Firstly, I would like to wish you all a Easter and I hope that you had a restful break over the holiday. As usual, the summer term is extremely busy and we have lots of exciting events going on and some fantastic topics to explore.

English - for the first two weeks of term, the children will be planning and writing non-chronological reports about a rainforest animal, as part of their writing assessment. After this, they will be completing short units of work on different genres in order to collect examples of different types of independent writing for the Year 6 writing teacher assessment. Also, in the run up to SATs, the children will be going through past grammar and reading tests in order to prepare them for the Year 6 tests beginning on Monday 13th May. Finally, to finish the summer term, we will be exploring poems, which celebrate our wonderful planet, from the anthology 'Poems from a Green & Blue Planet'. The children will learn about poetic features, language and looking at their effects on the reader. They will also use dictionaries and thesauruses to explore synonyms and antonyms before expressing their ideas and thoughts creatively in their own poetry.



Geography - Our geography topic for the summer term is 'Getting to grips with Grid Referencing'. In this unit, the children will explore the use of four-figure and six-figure grid references to find locations on a map. They will learn about the purpose of grid references and apply the use of four-figure and six-figure grid references to an OS map.

History - In our 'Shang Dynasty' unit, the children will learn who the Ancient Shang people were, where and when they lived, using maps and atlases to locate Shang cities. They will also learn about the role of the king, the religious beliefs and rituals of the Shang people and how oracle bones were used in divination ceremonies. The children will also examine a range of Shang artefacts and draw conclusions about what they can teach us. The unit ends with a close look at the remarkable discovery of the first intact Shang tomb which belonged to the military general and high priestess Fu Hao.

Science - In their first science unit of the summer term 'Electricity', the children are introduced to the terms "current" and "voltage" and will learn that current is the flow of electricity and voltage causes the current to flow. They will look at complete and incomplete circuits and explore reasons why a circuit may be incomplete. In their next science unit - called 'Evolution and Inheritance' - the children will be thinking about characteristics passed from one generation to the next and how species have adapted to suit their environments. They will learn about the process of natural selection, and how our understanding of the process of evolution has developed over time thanks to the work of scientists and palaeontologists.



Art - In our 'Plants and Flowers' unit the children will be taught about how to use pencil, colour, Hapa Zome printing, sculpture and paper modelling to create quality art work that shows progression in their skills. The children will also have the opportunity to explore the work of India Flint, Alexander Calder, David Oliveira and Henri Rousseau.

Design and Technology - As part of our cooking unit 'Super Seasonal Cooking' the children will be taught about the importance of buying seasonal food. The first part of the unit provides an opportunity for children to learn where, when and how a variety of ingredients are grown, reared, caught and processed. Children will then have the chance to sample

some spring seasonal food before designing their own balanced seasonal meal. They will learn how to cook with the seasonal ingredients following their own recipes and using a wide range of preparation and cooking techniques. Finally, children will evaluate their product against their design criteria. Children will learn appropriate hygiene rules for handling meat and fish and safe preparation skills.

P.E. - Those children still unable to swim 25m confidently will attend swimming lessons in the first half of the summer term. After this, the children will be learning the skills and tactics involved in badminton and cricket.

Computing - The children will be following the 'Purple Mash' Computing scheme. We will be designing, creating and debugging programs in our work on coding, learning how to organise data and create graphs in our topic about spreadsheets and discovering how to use blogging to share information in our 'Blogging' topic.



RE - In our first topic, called 'Serving', the children will learn how people from the Bible and in the modern world hear God's message and live Jesus' way of service. During our second topic - 'Reconciliation' - the children will discover that every human being is offered the power to reach out in forgiveness and peace, to receive and to offer reconciliation. Finally, in our topic 'World', they will learn that the diversity of the world and its people is God's gift and how Jesus in his life and gospel, challenges people to appreciate diversity and to create with it a harmony that reflects the unity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Music - Music this term continues with the topic 'You've Got A Friend'. All the learning in this unit is focused around one song: You've Got A Friend by Carole King. The children will learn how to sing the song and study other similar 'upbeat' songs before creating and performing their own score to accompany 'You've Got A Friend'. Our last unit 'Music and Me' focuses on inspirational women working in music. The children will be invited to try out different ways of making their own music, while exploring the work of some of the most influential women in music over the last 100 years.

Homework

The homework tasks that the children are expected to complete are as follows:

- Read their school reading book (daily)
- Practise spellings (weekly)
- Times table practise (weekly)
- One Maths/English task (weekly)

Homework will be set on a Thursday and needs to be handed in on Wednesday morning. The completed homework will be marked on this day, with a reward of a house point for handing it in. The children will receive their book back on Thursday morning and will then be expected to stick in their own spellings and any homework sheets they may have. On a Tuesday morning, the children will be tested on their spellings and the current level of the Multiples Marathon that they are on.





P.E.

PE lessons will take place on a Monday afternoon in the first term. Please ensure that your child has the following kit suitable for both indoor and outdoor sessions:

- A red t-shirt
- Black shorts
- Trainers
- A hoodie or sweatshirt
- Hat
- Sun cream.

We will aim to be outside as much as possible for our P.E. sessions, so it is important that the children have the items listed above to keep them cool, especially with the weather getting warmer. **Please note: in the interests of safety, children with earrings will be expected to remove them.**

If you have any queries or questions, then please feel free to arrange a meeting by contacting the school office.

Kind regards,

Mr J. Causebrook
Years 5/6 Class Teacher
Mathematics & P.E. Coordinator

Useful websites:

Mathematics:

<https://whiteroseeducation.com/parent-pupil-resources/maths/free-downloads>

<https://whiteroseeducation.com/1-minute-maths>

<https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-key-stage/key-stage-2/subjects/maths>

English:

English Grammar: <https://classroom.thenational.academy/subjects-by-key-stage/key-stage-2/subjects/english-grammar>

History:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z39j2hv>

[https://school-](https://school-learningzone.co.uk/key_stage_two/ks2_history/world_history/the_shang_dynasty/the_shang_dynasty.html)

[learningzone.co.uk/key_stage_two/ks2_history/world_history/the_shang_dynasty/the_shang_dynasty.html](https://school-learningzone.co.uk/key_stage_two/ks2_history/world_history/the_shang_dynasty/the_shang_dynasty.html)