

Year 6 Autumn Term: 'Castaway' and 'Memories from the Field'



Science

As Scientists we will be working scientifically to use evidence from a range of sources, generate and answer questions through carrying out investigations. We will also be using scientific equipment, recording our findings and developing our scientific language.

Geography

As geographers we will be studying a contrasting location. We will be looking at Weymouth and how the coastal town contrasts to our own community. We will be looking at geographical features of each area and how they have developed differently over time.

Music

As musicians we will be becoming composers and creating our own music using the app Garage Band.

Art

As artists we will be studying the art work of the printer Liz Somerville. She is a local artist to Weymouth and gets inspiration from the Weymouth landscapes around her. We will use her images to create our own and complete work in the same

Design and Technology

Linked to our English work we will be designing and making our own wooden lighthouses, developing our cutting and joining techniques. We will be incorporating our own scientific knowledge of circuits to make the lighthouse work.

Physical Education

As athletes we will be continuing to follow the Real PE curriculum, developing our agility and balance skills. We will also be challenging ourselves whilst away on the residential trip to overcome fears and obstacles to success.

Life Skills (Citizenship and PSHE)

As responsible citizens and philosophers we will be learning about our local community and how we can show more respect to it. We will be considering how communities are built and the importance and structure of morals within them.

Religious Education

In RE we will be studying the religions that are found in the local community. We will be seeking ways that we can help to build respectful communities.

History

As historians we will be learning about World War I through our topic of 'Memories from the Field'. We will learn about the causes of the war, and the countries involved. We will also learn about the trenches, propaganda and the Christmas truce.

Computing

As Technologists we will be exploring different apps that have been created to support us in our everyday lives. We will research what is currently on the market and then begin to think about designing apps of our own.



YEAR 6

Autumn Term 2017

After the summer holidays your child will begin their final year at Bridgewater. We will be off to an adventurous start with our first theme 'Castaway'. Which links to our trip to PGL. This theme will take us up to the October break and will give children the opportunity to immerse themselves in: geography, philosophy, drama, RE, art as well as linking, Maths, English and Science through it all. After half term we will move on to 'Memories from the Field', which is a World War I focused theme.

Our English topics this term will include a range of fiction and non-fiction, such as short stories, descriptive pieces and newspaper reports. Through our maths learning we will develop our problem solving skills, applying them to a range of mathematical contexts, including place value, fractions and all four operations, building up our confidence to access the arithmetic and reasoning papers at the end of the year.

This is, as ever, an important year for your child especially as we start to prepare them for the move on to Secondary School. There are a number of key points we would like to inform / remind you of regarding their work in Year 6 listed below. Please take the time to have a read through these in order to help your child both this year and beyond.

Punctuality

Your child should be in school and **working** by 9am. As their independence develops it is essential that they learn the importance of being punctual. If children arrive just before, or after 9am, they have missed the Morning Work. Often this is linked to the day's work and that could have a real impact on your child's learning.

Reading

Please help them find time in each day to read, either to themselves or with others, and build their enjoyment of reading as a life skill and source of pleasure. If you can continue to hear your child read on a regular basis and discuss their reading with them this will still be very useful in building their literacy skills.

Equipment

This year all Year 6 pupils will be given a pencil case by the school, to be used every day. Children are not to bring in their own pencil cases as they will not be needed and there is no space. In their pencil case we will provide a ruler, a pencil, a black ink pen, an editing pen and highlighters. If your child wishes to buy a different black ink pen it needs to be a proper handwriting pen – biros are not allowed. Please feel free to check with us if unsure.

Please ensure that the children have the following in school each day:

- Reading book (supplied by school),
- Drinks bottle,
- Healthy Snack (fruit only)
- Full indoor and outdoor PE kit, named.
- Homework and Reading diary (supplied by school)

Uniform

As Year 6 children we expect them to set an example in all aspects of school life, including their appearance, so please ensure your child has the correct uniform for school. Due to having lockers, Year 6 pupils may also bring in small rucksacks/bags. However the lockers are small, and both their school bag and PE kit must fit inside.

Multiplication Tables

We have talked many times about the importance of these in helping children develop their mathematical understanding; this continues to be extremely important in Year 6 and beyond. Now they are in Year 6 they must know all of their multiplication and division facts up to 12 x 12 as they will need to recall these at speed for the arithmetic test. If your child is unsure of any, please support them with this at home.

SATs

Towards the end of Year 6 the children will sit their SATs. These are national tests that all Year 6 children participate in to give schools and the Government a snapshot of attainment at this stage in a child's education. The children are tested on their Maths: arithmetic and reasoning, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation, Writing, Reading and Science. The children will practise sitting tests through the year and more information on the tests will be made available at an information evening.

Spellings

During this term your child will build their independent spelling strategies for unfamiliar words and investigating spelling patterns. We will be sending spellings home each Monday to reinforce their strategies they have learnt within class. These will be tested on the Friday.

Homework

Your child will be issued with a Homework Diary by the school. They need to learn to use these to manage their time effectively. We appreciate that they lead busy lives outside of school and this diary is to help them get into the habit of planning and managing their time well. Please help them to use these diaries as it is excellent practice for the following September. These need to be signed by a parent/carer each week, and handed in every Monday to be signed by us. Homework will be set every Thursday and is due in the following Tuesday.

Important Dates

- **PGL Information Evening:** 12th September 3.30pm in Inspire Studio.
- **PGL:** 25th – 29th September
- **Christmas Soiree and Celebration of Learning:** 12th December 3.30pm in the hall.
- **SATs Information Evening:** 10th January 6pm in the hall.

Any questions / concerns, please don't hesitate to come and talk to one of us.

Year 6 Team