



7th September 2020.

Dear Parent and Carers,

We hope this letter finds you all well. We have been so pleased to see the children back in class this week, and are all looking forward to the term ahead.

This letter will detail what we will be covering in the curriculum as we start Year 6; there is a lot of exciting learning coming up for the children this autumn!

Topic: Our topic this term is World War 1. This topic will be the premise for our history, reading and art lessons; the work will also underpin some of the themes for writing in English lessons.

History: In history lessons, we will be using a wide variety of evidence to study and debate our big question: “World War 1: celebrate or commemorate?” We will examine and select different sources to understand how World War 1 started, was fought and the impact it had on wider society. Using key events from the Great War, we will look at differing answers to our key question and provide carefully researched opinions founded in contemporary resources.

Art: We will sketch everyday items circa 1914-1918 using distinct shading skills and will also be focusing on shadow. The children will also have the opportunity to create a piece of art in the style of their class namesakes: Roy Lichtenstein, David Hockney or Eduardo Kobra. Please can all children bring an art shirt into school, to keep in their lockers to ensure their uniform does not become a canvas!

English: In English, our first piece of writing will be to create a chapter of a suspense novel, with a gothic twist, as our children enter ‘The Attic’. We will be drawn to a forgotten and sinister attic, where an ominous character lies in wait. Through drama, sound, images and props the children will be fully immersed in the suspense genre and provide a chapter that will leave their readers longing for more!

Reading: Our class text for guided reading lessons is ‘The Skylark’s War’ by Hilary McKay. This book provides a beautiful story following the loves and losses of a family growing up against the harsh backdrop of World War One. In addition to this, it is very important that the children read for at least 40 minutes every day (and half of this expected to occur at home). This will mean that children should be taking a quiz

on Accelerated Reader every 1-2 weeks and class teachers will monitor this carefully throughout the term. Reading skills are hugely important in Year 6, and the more the children read, the more confident they will feel in a multitude of subjects.

Maths: In maths, we will start by expanding our knowledge on place value and rounding, before moving onto problem solving with four operations and learning more about the application of factors, multiples and primes. We will then grow our understanding of fractions, decimals and percentages.

Science: Our science lessons will focus on the heart and circulation. We will be looking at the anatomical structure of the heart and circulatory system and will also examine what factors can affect heart health, how best we can look after our heart and circulatory system and conduct some investigations to support our learning. Class teachers will give notice when any additional items of clothing or footwear are required.

PE: Lichtenstein, Hockney and Kobra will all have both PE lessons on Mondays. Please could children come into school in their PE kits; they will not be required to change back into school uniform on Monday in line with our COVID risk assessments. Please remember that all children will need PE kit suitable for **all** weathers so we would recommend the children have a pair of jogging trousers as well as shorts, school PE t-shirt and trainers. As with previous years, all children will be expected to participate unless a written explanation from you is provided.

Homework: English homework will typically be a grammar worksheet and will be sent home on Fridays to be returned to school on Wednesdays. Maths homework will also be sent home on Friday, for return on Wednesday, and will be worksheet based, with the addition of various Athletics activities. Your child should also practise their Race for Recall targets and your class teacher will be able to provide specific advice on this. A complete list of all weekly spelling rules covered in school is available on the class pages of the Windhill21 website. A further copy can be found in your child's homework folder. On this copy, there will be highlighted spellings that your child needs to practise further at home.

With kind regards,

The Year 6 Team.