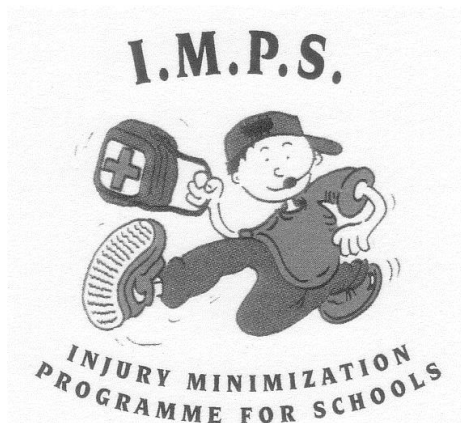


Class 6

Curriculum Overview

Autumn Term 2016



I hope you all had an enjoyable summer break. Already Year 6 has settled in well and started the new academic year very positively.

In Literacy we will begin by looking at basic sentence structure, in particular how nouns and verbs can be modified and identify different types of clause and phrases. We will then explore different ways of increasing sentence complexity and find new ways of connecting ideas together within and across paragraphs.

Our text level work will look at ways of improving the quality of descriptions by expanding ideas and getting them to flow together, particularly using 'Point Evidence Explain'. We will look at a variety of different authors and learn how to analyse and compare their writing style.

We will continue to focus on spelling patterns and strategies for remembering more difficult ones, such as mnemonics or words within words. Spellings are critical in improving your child's vocabulary, enabling them to become more versatile and write at a higher level.

Maths will build on Year 5 objectives but will focus on the application of concepts. Topics to be covered include place value, multiplication and division, fractions decimals and algebra

A key focus for the term is proof. Many times the children will be challenged to prove their knowledge, forcing them to look at a familiar concept in a new light which will really push the depth of their understanding.

We will focus heavily throughout the term on their knowledge of tables, learning them at speed both forwards and backwards and to a high level. The times tables will be memorised up to 12x but we will work hard to ensure that calculations up to 19x and beyond become rapid and instinctive. This gives them a great sense of achievement and loads of confidence so the more help you can provide with tests and games at home the better.

Just a quick reminder that the calculation policy is available on our website.

<http://crowmarshgiffordprimary.com>

Visit the website, click on the 'curriculum' tab at the top and scroll down to find 'Mathematics - Ks2 calculation policy'.

For those who may not be familiar with the policy it is a breakdown of the different techniques used in maths and shows clearly how they evolve throughout the year groups – very useful in checking the sort of techniques used in schools today and coping with 'That's not how Mr Silvester told us to do it!' scenarios.

Our first topic in science is the human body. We will take a close look at the circulation system to understand its various components and how they interact before using this knowledge to explain the principles behind a healthy life style.

ICT this year will be taught by Mrs Corrigan on a Wednesday afternoon. The class will be exploring how computer games are programmed using 'Kodu' and how to de-bug commands. We will then apply this knowledge in creating our own games.

Alongside this, we will be working collaboratively to explore how E-Safety films can be constructed and presented before moving on to writing and filming our own. The work will be filmed using digital cameras and then edited using Windows Movie Maker. The hope is that the finished films will be shared with others within the school.

The history topic this year will be WW1 and will be taught by Mrs Lucas on Thursday afternoons. In it, we will study life in the trenches, the rapid development of technology and transport, and how the war transformed British society. This provides a great opportunity to look at some artists from the time, particularly focussing on Paul Nash alongside others such as Nevinson and Bomberg.

In RE we will be looking at harvest, particularly how a failed harvest can be caused by many disasters which in turn can add to the initial problems. We will also take stock of the situation in Choko, our long established school charity, and reflect on their situation in some detail.

PSHCE (Personal, Social, Health & Citizenship Education). Lessons will be developing speaking and listening skills through discussion, reflection and appreciation of other people's point of view. On **Wednesday 5th October**, we will be visiting Henley Accident and Emergency unit as part of IMPs (Injury Minimisation Programme) - an excellent opportunity for the children to learn or refresh life-saving skills.

PE will take place on Tuesday during PPA and on Friday afternoon. For as long as the weather holds we will go outside so please ensure that the children have suitable clothing. Please note we have a **PE morning to Wallingford school on 30th September** for which a letter has been sent out. If you need another copy, please ask.

Homework:

Children are expected to select an activity from the homework grid and complete it by the following Friday. As the term moves on, I will encourage the children more and more to begin taking increasing responsibility for the quality and completion of their work. In a Utopian world, they would select their task on the Friday, make a start over the weekend and then come and see me regularly throughout the week to seek advice and guidance. I consider this independence and self-organisation to be the real worth of the tasks rather than their completion at the last minute for the sake of meeting a deadline.

There is also a list of maths skills which are considered to be important for this point in Year 6. It is hoped that children chip away at this list, little and often in order to keep their skills progressing rather than trying to attack it in one hit.

Reading: The value of regular reading in the primary years cannot be stressed enough and although it can be very hard to find the time, we really would encourage you to make every effort to do so where possible. It doesn't have to be a story book, any reading is good reading as long as the quality of the text is high. If you are unable to sit with your child while they read, asking questions afterwards is an excellent practice. Reading with the intent to respond is a different skill to reading for pleasure alone and needs plenty of time to develop. **I have some key questions available for you to use at home if that would be of interest. Please just ask me for a copy at any time.**

Ultimately, the children will be issued with school planner diaries to help them to organise themselves throughout the year. **Please use these books to write any comments in if you wish, especially if your child is unable to complete any work for whatever reason or has encountered problems.** Homework is not expected to be onerous or too time consuming. Please remember it is the effort that is important.

The **Isle of Wight residential trip** has been booked for Monday 17th July which is the final week of term. Full details for the reason behind this decision will be released in due course.

If I haven't met you already, I look forward to speaking to you very soon about how your child has settled into their final year at primary school.

Mr Andy Silvester