

Year 6 Learning Letter (Spring 1)

January 2018
Issue 3

Mrs Farmer, Miss Upson & Mr Gough
TLAs: Mrs Sims and Mrs Forsey



Believe in world of possibilities

Year 6's Learning News

New year, new term, new opportunities...

Happy New Year! We hope you all enjoyed the holidays and that your children have had a well-deserved break!

Spring term is a crucial time for your children. We are gaining momentum in our learning in order to prepare them for their SATs in May, as well as the transition to secondary school.

HEADLINE NEWS

Upcoming Events	1
What we will be learning 1 & 2	
Our learning so far...	2
Learning to learn tip	2
Home learning ideas	2
School Council News	2

What we will be learning...with top learning tips

Upcoming Events

- Thursday 11th January - M&M Productions pantomime to the school.
- Tuesday 23rd January - Y6 Booster Sessions start
- Tuesday 23rd January - 2.30pm - SPaG parent learning session for Y6 parents and carers
- Monday 29th January - Y3/4 production to the school.
- Week commencing 5th February- MOCK SATs week
- Tuesday 6th February - SAFER INTERNET assembly
- HALF TERM begins 10th February

Reading... In Whole Class Guided Reading, we will be continuing to read and explore a variety of texts. We will be looking at a range of question types which will require children to use their retrieval, interpretation and explanation skills. We will be thinking carefully about authors' choice of language and layouts.

Learning Top Tip - "Always re-read words you don't understand and use context to help get the meaning," suggests Maxence.

Maths...In Maths we will continue to practise applying our number skills to more complex reasoning problems. Our weekly focus on arithmetic will continue. Keep practising your times tables to help you speed up when calculating!

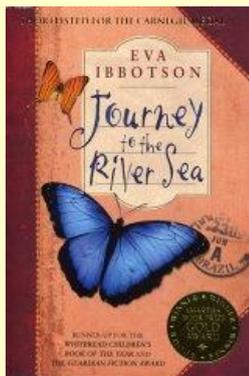
Learning Top Tip - "If you are stuck on a times table, always remember to be resourceful and collect a times table grid," says Kitty.

GRAMMAR - We will further develop our knowledge and understanding of SPaG terminology. We will continue working on applying our spelling, punctuation and grammar skills to our extended pieces of writing.

Learning Top Tip - "In a SPaG test you need to look carefully at the question to see what it is asking you," advises Marley.

Writing... In English we will be exploring the story 'A Monster Calls; by Patrick Ness. This powerful text will be the basis for our continuing work on vocabulary expansion and composition. A regular focus on spelling and handwriting will continue.

Learning Top Tip - "If you are stuck on a spelling, you can ask a friend or use a dictionary," recommends Verity.



“The girls in Maia’s class told her what to expect when she reached the Brazilian jungle. ‘There are huge mosquitoes which bite you. You turn as yellow as a lemon and then you die’.”

Extract from Journey to the River Sea by Eva Ibbotson

What we will be learning...

Science - In our weekly sessions with Mr Gough we will be exploring the exciting topic of EVOLUTION and INHERITANCE. Each lesson will begin with a starter activity to encourage more accurate use of our excellent English skills in Science sessions.

Geography- Our topic this term is South America! We have begun by learning about the geography of many countries within South America. We will now move onto exploring their culture further through research and discussion.

History - Alongside our South America focus will be a study on the Mayans. Again there will be much discussion, research, debate and practical opportunities to explore this unique culture.

PE - This continues to be on Thursday afternoons. Please ensure your FULL PE kit is in school EVERY Thursday. Indoor PE will be run by Miss Upson this term and will focus on gymnastic skills, while outdoor PE will be led by Mr Gough this term.

Jigsaw - In our PSHE sessions for this half term we have already explored our dreams and goals for the future. We have considered what we will need to do in order to achieve their targets.

We were hugely impressed with the respect the year 6 children demonstrated when studying the World War Two topic last half term. The effort they put in to their V-Day Parade celebrations really highlighted their understanding of the significance of the original event.

“I consider myself to be just above average in terms of talent but I work very hard to achieve my goals,” reflected Will Smith.

Monday Mindfulness:

To help prepare the children for the school week ahead, we start every week with a ‘mindful moment’.

We hope that these quiet moments of reflection help the children feel calm and positive.



Home Learning ideas...

There are so many ways you can enhance your learning at home, here are a few suggestions:

- Quiz your family on their SPAG terminology: do they know what a subordinate clause is? Can they explain the types of conjunction?! Doing this will help you to consolidate your own understanding of SPAG (and you can explain it to your family!)
- For written pieces of homework, give yourself opportunities to take ‘pit-stops’ so you can check the flow of your writing and up-level any clever learning mistakes you’ve made.

IF YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO COMPLETE YOUR HOMEWORK AT HOME, YOU WILL BE ASKED TO COME TO HOMEWORK CLUB SO THAT MRS SMITH CAN SUPPORT YOU WITH YOUR HOMEWORK. HOMEWORK CLUB IS ON MONDAYS FROM 3.10-4PM EVERY WEEK. This will also help you prepare for completing homework at secondary school.

School Council News and Views...

Mr Powell (our chair of governors) has recently been consulting with the school council to ask what is great about our school and what could be improved. We are looking forward to 2018.

Improving pupil voice, supporting pupil choice