Term 2 Newsletter (Puffins)

Dear Year 6 families,

Welcome back! It was quite the length 8 week stretch so hopefully you found some time to rest and get ready to our next term.

This newsletter aims to provide you with an overview of the main learning planned for this term, alongside other useful information. As always, if you have any questions, concerns or worries, do come and talk to me. I am available via e-mail (info@somerdaleet.org.uk) or at the end of the school day.

The Year Six team are excited to continue working with your wonderful children!

The Year Six team:

Jim McLaughlin	Lottie Simpkins	Beth Baker
Class Teacher	Class Learning Support Worker	PPA Cover Teacher
Monday - Friday	*Monday to Friday (AM)*	*Tuesdays (PM)*

Enquiry Questions this term:

As historians we will explore *Who were the ancient Mayans?*

As scientists we will investigate how the circulatory system works and what impact diet, exercise, drugs and lifestyle can have on our body functions.

As activists in Learn Together, we will investigate What impact Food Miles or Fast Fashion have globally.

Rights Respecting Schools

This term we will focus in particular at these three rights:

Article 12: You have the right to give your opinion, and for adults to listen and take it seriously.

Article 14: You have the right to choose your own religion and beliefs. Your parents should help you decide what is right and wrong, and what is best for you.

Article 28: You have the right to learn.

Teaching and Learning This Term

Our medium term overview is now available on the class page of our website.
Please click here to view the overview for this term. (Y6)

Home Learning

Reading

It is our recommendation that children should be reading daily where possible. The expectation is that children read **a minimum of 4 times a week**.

Year 6 Homework books

Each year 6 child has three books which contain dates and pages to complete. These will be checked every Monday in a Reflection Time where children can bring questions.

Spelling

Children are expected to log in to Spelling Shed and play the games set as Assignments by their teacher. A new spelling list and set of assignments will be set each Monday followed by a spelling quiz on Friday in school.

The first spelling quiz will be on Friday 6th November.

The focus for spelling patterns are found on our medium term overview (see above link). Please follow the link on the overview to see the word lists for each week.
Spelling Shed Home Use (For weekly spellings including interactive games)
Access Letter Join at home to practice letter formation and spelling. Available on desktop, laptop and tablet.

Maths

TTRS for Key Stage 2

In upper key stage 2, children should continue to practise number facts to help with automaticity.
Your child has a log-in for Times Table Rock Stars so that they can practise their time tables at home.

The White Rose 1-minute maths app can also be used to practise number facts at home. https://whiterosemaths.com/1-minute-maths

White Rose also have videos relating to the main Maths teaching. These can help you to see the methods that are being taught, or can be used as additional practice. They also have downloadable workbooks that can be used at home.
Year 6
Free Downloadable Workbooks for Year 1 – 6

Busy Things also have some good games for times table recall practice, particularly miner birds.

Other important information/notes for the time ahead

Class Page
You can access information, long term and medium term overviews as well as other resources on the class page on our website.

Reading Records
Please date and sign yellow reading record when your child reads at home. Children reading 4 times get a golden ticket for a chance to win a book.

School Clothing Guidance
Please see the page on our website for more information on appeopiate clothing for school.

Library Day
Our Library Day is on alternate Fridays.

Please ensure your child has their book on these days. Automated emails are sent for overdue books. If you feel a book may be lost or damaged in your care, we ask for a donation to cover the cost of replacement.

PE Day
Our PE days are Wednesdays (Hockey) and Fridays (Handball).

On these days, please ensure your child is wearing a loose-fitting top and shorts/jogging bottoms which allow them full movement of their bodies. Children should also wear suitable footwear such as trainers. Ear studs should be removed or covered with medical tape for health and safety purposes.

Science
Term 2 – Dissecting Hearts

In term 2, we have a lesson booked to dissect hearts in groups as part of our study of humans as creatures.

We will be putting in some pastoral sessions ahead of time to prepare the children for this.

What does my child need to bring into school every day?

- Bookbag with reading record and reading book inside. (Bookbags are then put into children's drawers. If you need a replacement bookbag, contact the office for the price.)
- Homework books on Monday

Healthy Snacks for Playtime

In Key Stage Two, children need to bring a piece of healthy snack for breaktime. This should be a piece of fruit or vegetable.

Ultra processed snacks are high in sugar, even those that are advertised as '1 of your 5 a day'. NHS advice states children aged 7-10 should have no more than 24g of free sugars a day. Due to the processing, reconstituting and reblending of ingredients to create fruit winders, these snacks contain high amounts of free sugars.
For example, Bear Fruit Yoyo, strawberry contains 8g of sugar. This equates to one third of the recommended daily allowance.

• Spelling books on Mondays • Filled Water Bottle • For Year 3 - 6, a piece of fruit or vegetable • Library book on library days	For this reason, with consideration to Article 24 (children have the right to healthy food) we ask that these are not brought to school as they are not considered a healthy snack due to the high sugar content. It also creates littering problems with the excess packaging.