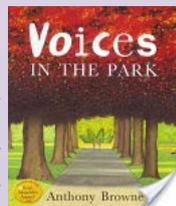


Welcome to the Summer Term. We hope you had a lovely Easter holiday. It's amazing that we are in the final term of the school year already. This year really has flown by. Year 6 children will be taking their SATs in the week beginning Monday 8 May. Year 5 will be undertaking assessments at the same time. The assessments will be in Reading, Maths and Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling. They will take place every morning with the exception of Friday. The children should not be concerned about this and will perform at their best if well rested, breakfasted and adopt a positive mindset.

Rosemarie James & Tracey Wake  
Class Teachers

### Literacy

This term our work will focus on the Anthony Browne story entitled *Voices in the Park*. This is a beautifully illustrated story about a visit to the park told through the different voices of the characters. During the unit of work we will focus on the 'voices' of the characters and will look in particular at dialogue both as part of the narrative and in the form of a play script. Martin Young will, as always, be with us to create a range of images with the children which will act as a visual focus for their writing.



Following the work on the narrative we will then move on to the non-fiction text type of *Persuasion*. Persuasion is any text designed to persuade the reader to think or act in a particular way. Like most non-fiction, persuasion writing begins with an introduction to inform the reader of what the writer is 'selling'. To write an effective piece of persuasion, the author needs to have a very good eye for the audience being appealed to and craft the text accordingly. The persuasive writing will be linked to the story and will involve creating promotional leaflets.

### Reading

This term we will continue to read *Phoenix* by SF Said as the class reader. We will also use passages from the book to develop skills in comprehension. The book is also punctuated to aid the reader's understanding and enjoyment and we will analyse the author's use of all forms of punctuation in order to develop the children's own writing.

The children will continue to have their weekly lessons which will build on their inference skills and giving their opinions on a specific text, with a particular focus on supporting their answers using evidence from the text and how to PEE (Point, Evidence, Explain). Where possible, history topic related comprehension texts will be used to enhance their history knowledge as well as their reading skills.

### Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (GPS)

Most grammar, punctuation and spelling will be taught through the Talk for Writing process. We will continue to create and use 'toolkits' in order to help to internalise the grammatical terms and their uses. Please encourage your child to use IXL Grammar as its use will provide regular reinforcement.

### Maths

This term we will begin by focussing on a three week unit of work in which we will look at performing mental calculations effectively and carrying out the four operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will re-visit rounding and estimation to aid accuracy. We will also focus on adding and subtracting fractions with different denominators and mixed numbers, using the concept of equivalent fractions.

We will then focus on fractions, decimals and percentages with the children being asked to explain the relationship between fractions, percentages and decimals and how they fit into the number system. They will then use this understanding to solve word problems.

The weekly maths challenges will continue to be sent which will contain both arithmetic and reasoning questions across a wide range of areas.

Please continue to encourage your child to use IXL to practise concepts and reinforce teaching and learning in the classroom.

## Science

This term our topic is entitled *Circle of Life* and is all about living things and their habitats. In this topic, the children will look at life cycles of various species including mammals, amphibians and birds. They will also look at and describe the life processes of reproduction in plants and animals. The following Learning Objectives will be taught during the topic:

- Describe the life processes and reproduction in some plants
- Take measurements and present findings from enquiries
- Explain the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird
- Describe the life processes of reproduction in some animals

## Computing

This term we will continue as web developers where the children will create a website about cyber safety and responsibility when using the internet. This ties in nicely to our online safety focus of *Reporting, Behaviours and Bullying*. This topic looks at what a child can do online to affect others or see/experience others doing online which may be deemed to be cyberbullying.

- Targets:
- Understand how to ask for help when using the internet and identify a range of ways to report any concerns
  - Develop a website based on e-safety
  - Add artwork, audio and video to your pages
  - Review, and help improve, each other's pages
  - Collect final feedback and publish your site

## History

This term we shall be starting our new topic which will take us up to the end of this academic year: Ancient Greece. We will begin to look at where Ancient Greek civilisation existed within history and look at some significant events from this period of time. The children will learn about the Greek Empire and also look at the religious beliefs of the people and some of the gods they worshipped. We will also be looking at history-based stories and gaining knowledge and understanding from these.

## Art

Our artwork will link to our history topic. We will explore Greek art including jewellery, pottery and sculpture.

## RE

This term's topic is entitled *Hinduism: What can we learn from some aspects of the Hindu religion?* This unit will introduce the pupils to some of the key concepts of Hinduism. It looks at the Hindu belief in a Supreme Being (God) and how this belief is conveyed through practices and worship. This unit helps pupils to understand the place of ritual and festivals in Hindu life, making links to their own experience of religious or family celebrations. We will encourage the children to look at underlying religious beliefs and ideas. We will consider Hindu practices and festivals in India and in the UK and how they are similar and different.

## Spanish

¡Hola a todos! (Hello everyone!).

During the first part of of this term, children in Class 3 will extend their food and drink vocabulary. They will learn how to say when mealtimes are and what they usually have, comparing with eating habits in Spain. They will also learn how to give their opinions of different food and drink.

In addition to this, they will be introduced to verb conjugation by using different persons of the regular -AR verb DESAYUNAR (to have breakfast) and write short sentences about what different people eat for breakfast.

## Music

After our short interlude for Samba lessons, I'm looking forward to teaching Class 3 again and have enjoyed seeing them demonstrate the drumming patterns and chants they learnt last term. We will now be focusing on the style of *The Blues*. Over the next few weeks we will learn the twelve bar blues sequence, use chords and work out which notes of the scale create them, and play a walking bass pattern. The children will learn a song and look at the structure of the piece, adding in their own instrumental sections to each verse.

## PE

Our PE sessions will be swimming on a Monday afternoon and PE with the coach on a Thursday afternoon. Please ensure your child has their complete PE kit in school including outdoor footwear (separate from their normal school shoes). PE is an essential, not optional, part of the school curriculum and as such we will always take every step possible to ensure your child can take part. Please note it is also not acceptable for children to wear items of their school uniform such as polo shirt/shoes as their PE kit.

In our **Rounders** unit children learn how to hit or strike the ball into spaces, so that they can score runs in different ways. When fielding, they learn how to work together to keep the batters' scores down. In all games activities, children have to think about how they use skills, strategies and tactics to outwit the opposition. In rounders, players achieve this by striking a ball and trying to deceive or avoid fielders, so that they can run around bases to score runs. When fielding, they try to prevent runs or points being scored.

## PSHE

This term we will continue to develop the *Growth Mindset* concept. We will do this in assemblies and will use stories, poems and songs to reinforce the learning. The aim is to develop open-mindedness in our children and an appreciation that learning can be tricky at times but that success is a reward for keeping trying.

In the words of Shakira: “**Try Everything**”.

