



Heathcoat Primary School

Year 6 Spring Term Newsletter

January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back to a new term! We hope that you have all had a really relaxing and enjoyable break. Here are the exciting new topics that the children will be exploring in Year 6 this term.

Spring Term 2023		
Subject	1st half term	2nd half term
English	<p style="text-align: center;">The Tear Thief (Fiction)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The children will be creating their own stories inspired by this lovely story.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A Word In Your Ear (Fiction)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The children will be writing a story that has expanded detail and which changes in pace</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Wallace and Gromit- Cracking Contraptions (Non-Fiction)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The children will be Devising and writing about their own cracking contraption to create a class Haynes Manual</p>
Mathematics	<p>Unit 7: Fractions and Percentages</p> <p>The children will learn about fractions, decimals and percentages recognising their equivalence.</p>	<p>Unit 6: Area, perimeter, position and direction</p> <p>The children will compare the areas and perimeters of different 2D shapes. They translate and reflect shapes in all 4 quadrants.</p>
Science		<p style="text-align: center;">Light & Electricity</p> <p>The children will learn how light travels from different light sources.</p> <p>The children will learn how you vary an electric circuit and identify its components</p>
PE	<p style="text-align: center;">Real PE</p> <p>The children will learn static balance floorwork and coordination.</p> <p>They will also orientate a map to landscape, understanding and reading map symbols 1:25 map.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Real Dance</p> <p>The children will explore and create their own and group dances.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Real PE</p> <p>The children will learn static balance floorwork and coordination for 3 weeks.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Orienteering/ Striking and Fielding</p> <p>Through cricket and rounders the children will learn how to bowl a ball and to bat effectively and field with increased accuracy.</p>



ICT	Data Handling 1: Big Data 1 The children will understand the use of big data including barcodes, QR codes, infrared, and RFID technologies.	Creating Media: History of Computers The children will write, record and edit radio plays set during WWII, looking back in time at how computers have evolved and designing a computer of the future.
DT		Light The children will learn how light travels from different light sources.
Geography	Why is Fair Trade Fair? The children will explain why the Silk Road was the most important trading route in the world. They will explain why and how countries trade with each other.	
History		How did a pile of dragon bones help to solve an ancient Chinese mystery? The children will describe a historical significance of the bones bought by Wang Yirong in a market in Peking (now Beijing) in 1899. They will build a timeline of key events during the Shang Dynasty.
French	Language Angels – At the Weekend The children will be introduced to the vocabulary to ask what time it is in French and learn how to tell the time accurately to the nearest hour, half hour, 15 minutes and quarter to. Language Angels – At the Weekend We will be introducing the vocabulary for activities we would do at the weekend.	
Music	Advanced Rhythms The children will explore the Kodaly music method and rhythmic patterns to develop a sense of pulse before composing and notating a piece of their own.	Film Music The children will explore and appraise film music. They will use graphic scores to interpret film music before composing a soundtrack play alongside film clips.
Art	Printing The children will combine different printmaking processes in developing their work and produce a reduction print block using Press Print.	
RE	U2.7 Why do Hindus want to be good? The children will know the story of the man in the well and explain how it relates to Hindu beliefs.	U2.5 What do Christians believe Jesus did to ‘save’ people? The children will understand the link between Jesus’ death and Holy Communion and the impact of ideas of sacrifice in their own lives and the world today?



PSHE	Dreams & Goals	Healthy Me
	The children will know their learning strengths and can set challenging but realistic goals for themselves. They will work out the learning steps they need to take to reach their goal and understand how to motivate themselves to work on these.	The children will take responsibility for their health and make choices that benefit their health and well-being. They will know about different types of drugs and their uses and their effects on the body particularly the liver and heart.
Dates for your diary:	Wednesday 17 th January Enhanced THS Transition Friday 2 nd February NSPCC Number Day Tuesday 6 th February Safer Internet Day Half Term Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th February	Wednesday 21 st February Enhanced THS Transition Thursday 7 th March World Book Day Wednesday 20 th February Enhanced THS Transition Thursday 21 st March Reports out Monday 25 th March Parents Evening Tuesday 26 th March Easter Bonnet Competition Wednesday 27 th March Parents Evening End of term Thursday 28 th March

READING: It is really important that children read every day for at least 20 mins.

Any reading should be recorded in the child's reading record book- we ask that parents/carers write in their child's reading record at least once a week. Please ask your child questions about what they have read or to summarise/explain what they have read to check their understanding.

Here are 3 example questions that you could ask about their reading:

- **Tell me about what you have just read (summarise).** Can they clearly explain to you what has just happened?
- **What do you think is going to happen next? Why? Explain why you think this.** A good example of an answer would be: I think the main character will go back to the bike track because he was so excited last time, and even though he fell off, he wants to race because he said "I wish I could race my bike like those fast kids". (The child is using what they have read, including quotes, to explain their ideas – even if they are not right about what happens next. They are showing a good guess based on what they have read).
- **Which words do you not understand?** Ask them to try to work out what the word means from the rest of the sentence. Then look up the word on a computer/tablet or in a dictionary.

Here is an example of what might be written in a reading record:

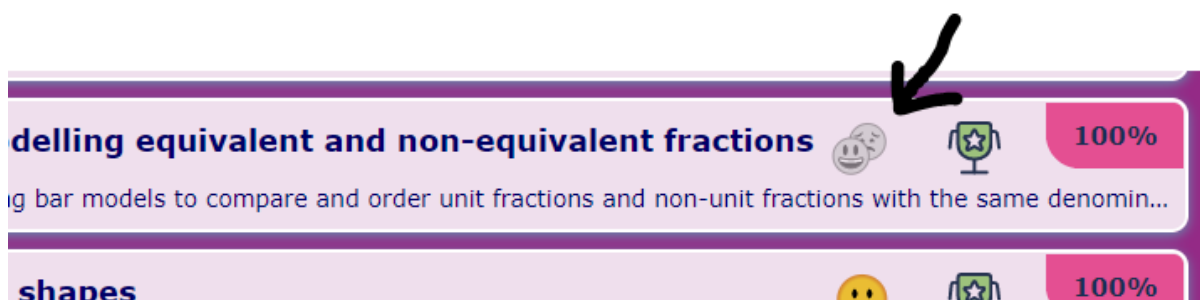
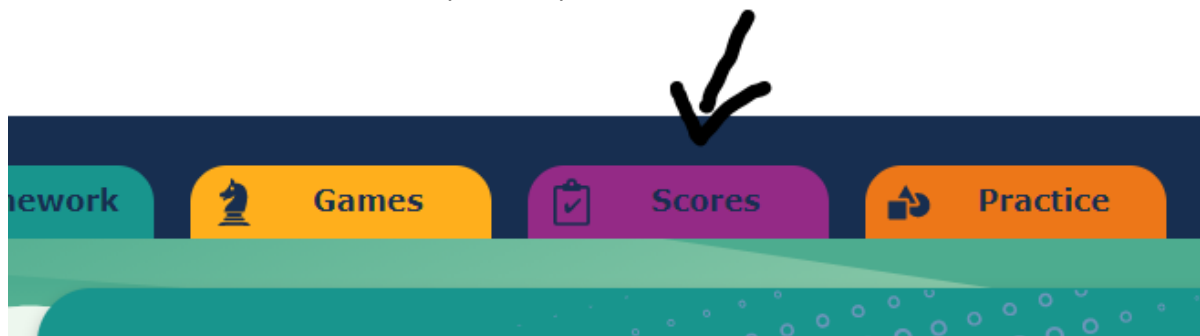
Summarised what I had read to my Dad or I really enjoyed the exciting opening. Got stuck on reading the word 'route'. Pg 12 next.

Homework: Maths and English homework will be set each week on a Friday via Google Classrooms. This is to be completed and handed in online by Wednesday. If you have any problems accessing the homework, please get in touch with us. Occasionally we will also set topic based homework projects.

MyMaths: It is important for children to complete the **lesson** and **practise** tasks as well as the **homework** section. This enables them to reinforce learning and see fun graphics which explain topics. Lots of these lessons are fun games that you can play together. The games help to remind children of efficient ways of working and will also show



you how the maths topic is being taught. When they finish their homework, your child can rate how well they did – e.g. did they feel a bit unsure? Did they totally understand it? Click on the tab marked SCORE and then the relevant statement and face to show how they feel they did.



Useful websites:

Topmarks	fun maths games	https://www.topmarks.co.uk/
Scratch	a fun coding ICT site where children can create their own animations	https://scratch.mit.edu/

You can help your child at home by using the above websites and encouraging them to learn through play.

You can also help them to research World War 2.

If you aren't a member already, the local library in town is free to join and is a great place to visit with your children so they can do research or borrow books to read at home.

PE: Our PE days are **Tuesday** and **Friday**. Children should come to school wearing their school PE kit on these days. This includes a white PE shirt or t-shirt in their house colour, plus their school jumper. They must wear sensible trainers. Earrings must be removed or covered with tape (provided by parents/carers) for safety.

Outside learning: Please remember that children will often be going outside to learn. They will need waterproof coats in school each day- as you know our English weather can be unpredictable!

We hope this information is helpful. Please do not hesitate to email us if you require any further guidance. We now have a year group email: year6@heathcoat.devon.sch.uk This will be checked on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. If you need to get an important message to us urgently, please contact the office on 01884 252445 or email them on admin@heathcoat.devon.sch.uk

We are looking forward to a really exciting term of learning.

Yours sincerely,

TeamWork Respect Aim High Independence Never Give Up



Mrs Sullivan, Mr Thomas and Mrs Soper (Year 6 Class Teachers)

Mrs Sullivan (Key Stage 2 Leader and Assistant Head of School)