



Upper Key Stage 2
Foxyards Primary School
Curriculum Newsletter
Spring 2018

At Foxyards we:
Respect everybody and our environment.
Aim high in everything we do.

6W:
Mr Weaver
Phase Leader

5/6ME:
Mrs McNaney
Mrs Earnshaw

5C:
Miss Chilton

Support Staff:
Mrs Fitzgerald
Mrs Malpass-Rust
Mrs Morris

Happy New Year and welcome back! I hope you all have had a fantastic Christmas break and are ready for another busy term!

Any concerns you have, please speak to a member of staff on the door in the morning who will pass any message on to members of staff. The team will endeavour to follow up any issues as quickly as possible.

Topic

Our topic this term will be "**Explosive Earth!**" which will be based around the study of natural disasters around the world.

This term, pupils will be focusing on using their geographical skills. They will be investigating earthquakes, volcanoes and tsunamis; how they are formed and the effect they have on the environment. They will also have the opportunity to explore the effects natural disasters can have on the lives of people who live in these environments. Through this topic, pupils will understand the structure of the Earth and how these natural disasters are caused.

Science

In year 5, children will be learning about Animals, including humans. During this topic they will be looking at the changes of animals as they develop towards old age. Near the end of the spring term, year 5 will be exploring Forces, identifying the effects of air resistance, water resistance and friction.

In year 6, children will be studying the unit on evolution and inheritance, which looks at how living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago.

During the second half of the term, year 6 will be studying light; how it travels and how it helps us to see.

An enrichment trip is being organised for later on in the term to visit the Thinktank in Birmingham.

ICT

This term we will be using a wide range of skills in ICT. We will be using Purple Mash's 2code to develop the children's coding skills. We will also be using 2Animate to create animations. Parental engagement sessions this term will surround ICT, and will include elements of e-safety.

MFL

The year 5 and 6 staff will continue to teach the children to read, write and speak French, building on their previous learning.

RE & PSHE

During this year children will have the opportunity to investigate and discuss British Values. Focusing on what it means to be British and looking closely at the five key British Values. They will also be given the opportunity to watch 'News Bites' weekly, which will expose the children to the current news in the world. The children will also learn about keeping themselves safe. During RE sessions this term, children will be taught about various Holy books and the morals contained within each.

P.E

This term in year 5 and 6 the children will be taught by both Sports coaches and Class Teachers. During the spring term the children will take part in football and dance.

Children will need their PE kits in school on a **Monday** and **Friday** every week.

English

Pupils will revisit all styles of writing in English, making links with our topic where appropriate. Foxyards will also be encouraging the children to enjoy, and develop, their reading by using whole quality texts in English lessons.

Children will also read at least once a week during guided reading sessions to an adult. Please help your child by hearing them read at home in order to achieve the 'Reading at Home' certificates.

Children will also be set weekly spellings, please help your child to learn these spellings at home ready for the test.

Maths

Children will continue to build on the progress they made last term in all areas of maths using the school's overview. Year 5 and 6 will continue to focus on improving mental maths and consolidate formal written methods for addition, subtraction, division and multiplication, before applying these to solve various worded problems.

The Maths Challenges have started again this term with children working towards Maths Challenge two. Children will have three targets to work towards to achieve the second award.

Homework

Homework will be set on a **Wednesday** and will be expected back on **Monday morning**. The homework task will be explained in class, and will be an activity to consolidate learning. Please encourage your child to check that they understand what they need to do on a Wednesday, and if they are unsure, bring it back into school on Thursday or Friday to ask a teacher.

The homework club will continue to take place weekly on Monday lunchtime. This will be run by Mrs Thomas and Mrs Hughes.

Please be aware that homework is a statutory requirement and helps pupils to reinforce what they have learnt in class. Incomplete homework will be completed during homework club on Monday lunchtime.