



Upper Key Stage 2
Foxyards Primary School
Curriculum newsletter
Autumn Term 2018

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

6W Mr Weaver Phase leader	6M Mrs McNaney	5E Miss Evans	5ES Mrs Earnshaw Mrs Shaw	Support Staff Mr Morris Mrs Fitzgerald Mr Evans
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Welcome back to all staff, children, parents and carers! It is an exciting time at Foxyards whereby we further build upon the success of last year! Please follow the normal procedures regarding any messages to staff, in leaving a message on the door in the morning or a phone call to the office. The team will endeavour to follow up any issues as quickly as possible. **By signing up to the Class Dojo programme as a parent, you can also send messages which go straight to your child's class teacher. However, please don't use this system to notify us of absence or urgent matters as we can't guarantee that these messages are monitored daily.** To continue teaching the children about the British value of democracy, this year's school councillors will again be selected through a ballot in which all the children can apply (if they wish) and vote. Those in year 6 will also be given the opportunity to apply for a position as a prefect or house captain.

Science

In year 5, they will be beginning with their topic on living things, followed by Earth and Space. During these topics the children will get the chance to learn about the solar system, what classifies a creature as living and much more. Year 6's first science topic of the year will be based on electricity. They will be learning all about circuit diagrams, designing experiments to test brightness of bulbs and the loudness of buzzers. In the second half of the term they will be focusing on living things, classifying creatures into groups, looking closely at micro-organisms and plants.

ICT

This term we will be using a wide range of skills in ICT. We will be using Purple Mash, a program for manipulating text, graphics. We will be using a variety of different software to present information, sound and graphics, such as PowerPoint and J2e. The children will also be learning to further develop their coding skills, building on those learnt last year.

PE

This term in year 5 and 6 the children will again be benefitting from the expertise of our sports coach, Mr Atkins, who will be delivering indoor sessions on a Monday and Friday whilst class teachers will focus on delivering tag rugby and hockey outdoors.

PE days will be Monday and Friday afternoons for all year 5 and 6 children.

Music

Music will be taught throughout the phase by a specialist teacher Mrs Watson. She will deliver a programme through Charranga, enabling the children to play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression. They will also improvise and compose music for a range of purposes.

RE

This term the focus will surround religious stories, where the children will learn about famous religious stories from a range of religions and their impact on today's society.

MFL

This term, our specialist French teacher, Madame Jones, will focus on both spoken and written French. The children will continue to build on and apply their knowledge from last year.

English

This term, Year 6 will be exploring a range of genres linked to the school's current programme, 'Talk for Writing'. In the first half of the term, these will include: Poetry - vocab building; fiction - *Adventure at Sandy Cove (which is a finding tale which focuses on suspense)*; and non-fiction, *Is Honesty the Best Policy?*. We will also be reading the text 'Holes' during class reading sessions.

In the second half of the term, the focus will surround: fiction - *Dobber and the Silver Ring (which is a finding tale which focuses on characterisation)*; and non-fiction - *Bully Proof Mobile Phone* (a persuasive text). The class reader this half term will be 'The Arrival'

To broaden the children's understanding of modern Britain this Term, we also have 'Black History' and 'Anti Bullying' weeks planned, whereby the children's English lessons will explore these topics in greater depth.

This term, the children will continue using the skills ladders, linked to the new curriculum, which will enable them to practise, apply and master their reading and writing skills.

Children will also read twice a week in Guided Reading, once as a group and once individually. Please help your child by hearing them read at home, regardless of their current ability, in order to achieve the 'Reading at Home' certificates.

Maths

Similarly to English, we will also be using skills ladders linked to Maths. These will be in the children's books at the beginning of every unit of work, allowing the children to see their next steps and helping them to move forward. We will be working hard on place value to begin with, moving onto calculation, shape space and measure along with data handling. We are hoping to use maths across broader subjects, such as in topic sessions and ICT lessons. There will also be interventions for Maths and English, taking place during afternoon sessions, these are designed again to help us enable the children to move forward with their learning. These skills will then be applied and mastered to solve various mathematical problems involving money and measures, in preparation for life in modern Britain.

This term's Parental Engagement session will involve Maths, whereby you will have the opportunity to work alongside your child to answer arithmetic test questions in a fun, non-threatening environment. We will also go through the more difficult questions so that you can further support your children at home.

Homework

Homework will be set on a **Wednesday** and will be expected in no later than **Monday** morning. The homework task will be explained in class, and will generally be an activity to consolidate learning. Please encourage your child to check that they understand what they need to do on a Wednesday, and bring it back into school on either Thursday or Friday to ask a teacher if they are unsure.

There is now a homework club which will take place weekly on a Monday lunchtime and 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 break and lunch times. When this occurs more frequently, parents will be informed and will be involved in completing homework diaries for their children.**

Topic

This term we will be learning all about the Anglo-Saxons. We will be learning all about:

- Their ancestry, including the important clans during those times.
- The way they lived, along with the clothes they wore and the food they ate.
- The geography of the area the Anglo-Saxons came from, comparing this with how those countries appear on maps today.

To enthuse and inspire the children in this topic, we will be visiting Bishop's Wood in Worcestershire on the 5th December to take part in an enrichment Anglo-Saxon day.