

Sheen Mount Primary School



Autumn Term Update for Year 6 – Autumn Term 2023

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to Year 6! We are very pleased with how well the children have settled into their new year group and they are already setting a good example for the rest of the school. Below is an overview of the children's learning in the autumn term. If you would like to find out more about our Year 6 curriculum, please go to

<https://www.sheenmount.richmond.sch.uk/page/?title=Year+6&pid=48>

English

Our two core texts are "Letters from the Lighthouse" by Emma Carroll and "Holes" by Louis Sachar.

Reading – we are very keen to encourage a love of reading and the children will be given an allocated date to share their book recommendations with the rest of their class. They should continue to read at home and can select books to borrow from school to do so.

Writing – the children will develop their skills at word, sentence and text level. They will be taught to write for different purposes including letter writing, newspaper report and formal report writing. They will also be working to improve their grammar and spelling on a weekly basis.

Maths

The children will consolidate and develop their mathematical skills with an emphasis on calculation (both written and mental), understanding number facts, measuring, geometry, and identifying relationships and patterns between numbers.

Science

The science topics we will be studying this term are 'Living things and their Habitats' and 'Evolution and Inheritance'. As part of our studies, we will visit Kew Gardens to enhance the children's understanding of plant evolution.

Humanities

We will be studying World War II. If any of the children have relatives who are happy to share their memories and experiences of the war, it would help to provide the children with a greater understanding of the impact of the conflict on the lives of individuals. Our geography topic will focus on the main geographical features of the UK.

Art, DT and Music

Art - the work of Mark Rothko and Abstract Expressionism.

Music – we will work on singing a range of songs in unison and harmony, including those with syncopated rhythms, in preparation for our performances at the Harvest Assembly and Christmas Carol Concert.

Computing

We will be improving our programming skills using 'Scratch' as well as learning to input and manipulate data in Google Sheets.

French

The children will be broadening their vocabulary and developing their confidence in speaking French through learning about a range of everyday situations. They will be focusing on accurate and authentic pronunciation and will be learning to talk and write about their pets.

RE

We will learn about the Jewish faith, focusing on the festivals of Yom Kippur and Rosh Hashanah and then discuss how Christians celebrate Christmas.

PSHE

The children will develop their understanding of the core themes of health and well-being, relationships and living in the wider world. Our Living Values for the first two half terms will be unity and peace.

PE

Outdoor PE will take place on Wednesday with Mr Brown and the children will also have indoor PE on Thursdays. **Children should come to school on Wednesdays and Thursdays in their PE kit. The children will stay in their PE kits for the whole of the day.** A quick reminder of our PE Kit:

- PE shorts
- colour team t-shirt
- suitable trainers for outside PE
- children can also wear a Sheen Mount hoodie and dark, plain tracksuit bottoms (no patterns or stripes please) for outdoor PE in the winter.

Oracy

The children will take part in weekly debating sessions and will also be given a date during the course of the year to make each of the following presentations to the class:

- public speaking about a topic of their choice (without the use of a PowerPoint presentation)
- poetry recital from memory
- book recommendations

Routines

Children can come into their classroom at 8.45am. Registration is taken at 8.55am. At 3:30pm, the children will be ready to be collected from the Orchard. **If you are happy for your child to return home unaccompanied, please give your permission on Arbor.**

Please label all items of uniform. We also recommend that your child labels all of their personal stationery. We encourage each child to have a basic stationery kit of their own, to include: a black pen and a blue pen, a pencil, a small ruler, a rubber, a glue stick and a whiteboard pen.

Please ensure that your child brings a water bottle to school so that they can keep hydrated throughout the day.

Children in Year 6 are allowed to bring mobile phones to school, so that they can contact their parents if they are travelling to or from school alone. We recommend that they do not bring them to school unless absolutely necessary. Phones must be handed in to the class teacher at the start of each day.

Homework

Homework in Year 6 is set via Google Classroom. There will be four parts to each week's homework:

- maths, set on Thursday to be completed by the following Monday.
- English or topic work, set on Thursday to be completed by the following Monday.
- spelling, set on Tuesday to be completed by the following Monday.
- daily independent reading.

Secondary Transfer

At this time of year, many families are considering secondary transfer. If your child is taking entrance exams for private secondary schools, we will probably need to write a special secondary transfer report. If this is the case, you will need to request one via the school office. The deadline for receiving these requests is Friday 13th October as the Year 6 teachers will be given non-contact time to complete them in the week before half-term. Please provide some brief information to the school of any school clubs your child currently attends and their hobbies and interests outside school. There is a one off charge of £35 for this irrespective of the number of copies you require or alternatively you can receive an additional copy of your child's Year 5 report.

How to help at home

- Developing your child's independence; allow them to pack their own bags for school, taking responsibility for delivering and returning messages to and from school etc.
- Expose them to a range of challenging real life texts to continue to develop their awareness of different genres and to improve their comprehension skills.
- Encourage them to use and apply their maths skills in real life situations, for example when using money in shops, understanding weights and measures when preparing and cooking food.

Key dates for this term

Thursday 14th September – visit to St Leonard's Court air raid shelter (6S and 6AD)

Friday 15th September – visit to St Leonard's Court air raid shelter (6K)

Monday 18th September – Science Dome

Wednesday 20th September – meet the teacher 8.30am

Wednesday 11th October – visit to Kew Gardens

Thursday 19th October – Harvest Assembly 9.10am

Friday 20th October – end of half term

Monday 30th October – INSET day. School closed to children

Tuesday 31st October – start of half term

Friday 3rd November – sharing our learning 2.30pm

W/B Monday 6th November – parent consultations

Wednesday 20th December – Christmas Carol Concert 7pm

Thursday 21st December – end of term 2.10pm

Kind regards,

The Year 6 Team

Teachers: Mrs Adams and Mrs D'Urso (6AD), Mr Kennedy (6K), Mrs Sroka (6S)

Support Staff: Mrs Hay, Mrs Normann, Mrs Rao, Mrs Dickinson