

Happy Spring Term!

In English this term, we are firstly reading 'Shackleton's Journey': a non-fiction picture book about Ernest Shackleton and his brave crew. In August 1914, they set out to cross the frozen wastes of Antarctica: ahead of them lay unimaginable dangers – ferocious seas, uncharted mountains, ice and snow. English lessons will include writing a job advertisement, a persuasive letter, a motivational speech, a newspaper report and an information text.

In the second Spring term, we are reading Macbeth, a play by William Shakespeare. English lessons will include descriptive writing, dialogue, persuasive arguments, text analysis, a play script and character profiles.

We practice spellings three times a week using Spelling Shed, with a weekly 'Hive' challenge to check children's progress. Three times a week, we also complete whole class reading, where we read a text together and answer comprehension-style questions. Children will develop their grammar knowledge once weekly with Mrs Lomax, and are looking at a range of different key stage 2 concepts.

During the spring term, we will be working through the following mathematical concepts (we have a lot to get through!), including beginning revision for the SATs in May: fractions, decimals and percentages; statistics; shape; position and direction; ratio; algebra; place value and number. On a Monday, the children also work on their arithmetic as a lesson to check their understanding of place value and the four operations.

Children need to ensure that they can recall their times tables fluently, which is believed to be essential for future success in mathematics. Children would benefit from using Times Table Rock Stars to help continue to progress: this can be accessed from home. If your child has forgotten their log-in details, please make us aware.

**Geography: Fairtrade (journey of a banana, where our food comes from).**

**History: Crime and Punishment (Romans through to present day).**

**Science: Evolution and Inheritance (fossils, characteristics, variation, adaptation, Charles Darwin) and Light (how light travels, periscopes, shadows).**

**French: The Weekend.**

**PE: PE is on a Monday with Mr Dickinson and on a Tuesday with Mrs Walker. Please ensure that children are wearing the appropriate coloured PE top, school jumper and tracksuit bottoms or shorts.**

**PSHE: Dreams and Goals and Healthy Me.**

**RE: What matters most to Christians and Humanists?**

**Music: Charanga (A New Year Carol and You've got a Friend)**

**Computing: Creating Media – Web Page Creation (design and evaluate own website, what makes a good webpage) and Data and Information – Spreadsheets (formulae, plan an event, create graphs and charts).**

**D&T: Structures (playgrounds) and Textiles (make a waistcoat).**

Please remember that homework is handed out on a Wednesday to be returned by Wednesday, and will be marked as a whole class. This term the children will be sent home with three A5 booklets: reading, Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling, and mathematics. Each week, children will be required to complete one 10-minute test from each of the three books. These need to be returned every Wednesday, as we will be using them in class that afternoon.

On a Thursday, children need to bring in their Buster Book Club bookmark, as if they read and have their bookmark signed, they might even win extra playtime! The Forest School dates for this term are as follows: **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> of January** and **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> of February**.

The Year 6 Team

(Mrs Walker, Mrs Lomax, Mrs Anderson and Mrs Cripps)