



Welcome back to the first half of the final half term of this school year. We can't believe how quickly this year has flown by. Before we get to the end of the year, we still have plenty to do and this half term our curriculum focus areas are history and DT.

In our history lessons, we will be learning about what life was like in Tudor England. We will use different types of evidence to interpret the character of Henry VIII and decide if he was a fair ruler or a tyrant. We will use sources to find out information about his different wives and explore why Anne Boleyn was executed. Finally, we will find out what life was like for people; and use inventories to deduce if they were rich or poor.

In DT, the children will develop their knowledge of a balanced diet and use this information to adapt a recipe for spaghetti bolognese. They will make their food and evaluate it. As part of our Digital World topic, the children will learning about monitoring devices and do some 3D modelling.

In computing lessons, we will be exploring databases, learning how to interpret them and then creating our own databases. In RE we will be considering how the Qur'an influences Muslims today and in our French lessons the children will continue to develop their vocabulary and conversational skills.

Our science work will be building on the children's prior knowledge of light to investigate the shape of shadows. They will also be exploring a variety of mechanisms and forces, with a particular focus on gears. We will learn about DNA and complete an investigation.

In our English lessons, we will continue to look at the organisational and language features of horror texts. The children will learn how to choose vocabulary for affect and develop how they use of different types of sentences in their work. We are looking forward to reading what they write.

**Reading at home**

It is important to hear your child read at home or share stories with them. The homework policy is to read 5 times a week at home. Your child will bring home a coloured reading book but is also encouraged to read a book for their own enjoyment, for example an information book, a magazine or a poetry book.

## Core Texts

The core texts we will be reading this half term are: The Haunting of Aveline Jones and The Boy in the Tower.

## Homework

We will be continuing to set homework this half term in line with the homework policy:

- In Year 5 and 6, maths and English homework is set every Thursday and is due in the following Tuesday.
- Children are expected to read a minimum of five times per week and this is to be recorded in their planners (Year 6) or reading records (Year 5).
- Children should access TT Rock Stars for a minimum of 10 minutes daily. It is important that all children are able to recall their times table and division facts **randomly** and **at speed**.
- Throughout the year, additional spelling, punctuation and grammar homework may also be set to support the learning taking place at school.

## PE Days

For PE days, children can come to school wearing the correct PE kit, considering the weather. Please ensure appropriate footwear is worn on these days; long hair is tied back; jewellery is removed; and your child has a refillable water bottle with them. The children will have PE on the following days:

Stingrays: Wednesday and Friday

Sharks: Tuesday and Wednesday

Dolphins: Thursday and Friday

## Important information

Years 5 and 6 will be taking part in an archaeological dig on Bury Common on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June. We are hoping to find some evidence from the Civil War. Further information will be sent to you about this.



This year, the children in Year 6 will be presenting to you The Wizard of Oz. These are the performance dates:

- Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July at 5pm
- Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July at 2pm

The year 6 residential will be from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> July.

Throughout this term, the classes will be visiting Newprt Pagnell library. This trip will take place during the school day. The dates we will be going on are:

Sharks 4<sup>th</sup> July

Dolphine 11<sup>th</sup> July

Stingrays 18<sup>th</sup> July

If you have a child in Year 6, please make sure you find out from their secondary school when their transition days will be.

**The teachers in Upper Key Stage 2 are:**

Mrs McGarragh (each morning) and Mrs Barton (Tuesday-Thursday afternoons) –  
Stingray's class teachers

Susan Burton (Monday-Thursday) and Hira Shahzad (Friday) - Dolphins' class  
teachers

Mrs Lockley – Sharks' class teacher

**The adults supporting in Upper Key Stage 2 are:**

Miss Holman, Mrs Donald, Mrs Brown and Mr Marshall