

Dear Parents and Carers

Year 6 Spring Term

We would like to share with you our plans for the children's learning this term.

Our topic of Invaders will cover the whole term. In the first half term we will be studying 8th – 11th century Norse culture and the invasion of northern Europe and beyond. In the second half we will leap to the twentieth century to study events culminating in the Battle of Britain during World War 2.

We will also be focussing on practice questions, papers and activities in order to help the children prepare for the upcoming SATs tests in May. Our aim is both to improve children's readiness to undertake formal tests, and to build their confidence and identify areas on which they need further support.

In **maths** we are recapping place value (thousands, hundreds, tens, ones, tenths, hundredths etc) with specific focus on decimals. We are learning how to multiply and divide decimals by multiples of 10, multiply one digit decimals by whole numbers and solve problems requiring rounding. We will also be working on finding percentages of amounts (e.g. 15% of 360) and fraction, decimal, percentage equivalents. The children will continue to use their understanding of place value to convert between units of measure (g/kg, ml/l, mm/cm/m/km etc.). We will also begin to explore algebra, in which formulae will be used to generate and describe linear number sequences. In the second half of the term we will be converting between miles and kilometres, investigating the area and perimeter of shapes and considering when to use simple formulae to calculate area and volume. We will solve problems relating to ratio. To finish the term the children will study the geometry of circles, interpreting graphs and using them to solve problems and calculating the mean as an average.

In **English** we will be focusing on Norse culture. The children have taken part in an imaginary Viking Thing, and have written newspaper reports about their experiences. They will also draw on various literary interpretations of the raid of the Lindisfarne monastery in 793AD to write their own first person narratives reflecting the experiences of those involved. In the second half of term, the children will write letters from pilots fighting in the Battle of Britain. Key aspects of this learning will be the use of devices to build cohesion in paragraphs, independently editing work and the recapping of all elements of grammar, punctuation and spelling learned to date. We will also continue our year long focus on the specific reading comprehension, grammar, punctuation and spelling skills needed for the end of Year 6. The whole school will be celebrating World Book Day on March 7th.

In **Science** the children are studying electrical circuits. They will be practising working scientifically to improve their skills in planning and carrying out investigations. The children will also study evolution. From 11th to 15th March much of our learning will focus on science, as the school celebrates science week. This runs at the same time as the Cambridge Science Festival (11th – 24th March), which this year has "Discovery" as its theme. A number of family friendly events will be taking place across Cambridge during this time.

Reminders

All children should bring a water bottle to school every day. They should take their bottle home regularly to be washed and refilled. We would remind you that all children need an indoor and outdoor pair of shoes with them at school every day. Sensible slippers may be worn as indoor shoes.

PE lessons will be on Monday (Indoor) and Thursday (outdoor). Children should not be wearing their everyday school uniform for PE so please make sure that your child has a complete change of clothing available at these times. This is a key part of the curriculum, and we wish to ensure that all children take part on a weekly basis. They will need a t-shirt and shorts for indoor PE and tracksuit bottoms and a jumper for outside. The children need a pair of PE shoes, suitable for running e.g. trainers. These could double up as outdoor shoes. **Please ensure that your child has his / her P.E. kit at the start of the week and takes it home on Friday to be washed.** Long hair should be tied back and earrings should be removed. Children should be able to remove and return these themselves- it may be easier for your child to not wear earrings on PE days. Remember to clearly label all P.E. kit!

Homework

Your child has been given a red homework book. Homework is set on Friday, and expected to be handed in the following Wednesday. Please ensure that your child completes their homework and hands it in on time. Children now have accounts for Times Table Rockstars and Spelling Shed. Both of these are excellent online resources for building the children's maths and spelling fluency. Please refer to the attached spellings list for Years 5-6, on which the children will be tested. As we prepare the children to make the transition to secondary school, it is important that their homework reflects a suitable level of personal challenge and time spent. We would encourage parents and carers to discuss their children's homework and their learning on a regular basis. It is also vital to read frequently with your child, including asking questions about the meaning of the text and for children to justify their opinions with evidence. This could involve you reading to them as well as them reading to you. The children are expected to read as much and as often as they can: a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts that they enjoy is vital. We would be very happy to provide guidance on choices of text, including for reluctant readers, and on methods of supporting reading at home.

Medication in School

A reminder of the rules about medication:

If it is absolutely necessary for your child to be given a dose of antibiotics etc during the school day please take note of the following:

- ALL medication coming in to school must be clearly labelled with the child's name and dose (pharmacist's label if prescription medicine)
- You must also send in written permission and details of what time the medicine is to be given.
- All medicine to be handed in at the office.
- Your child should be instructed to go to the first aid room when their medication is due.
- If your child needs an Asthma inhaler, this will be kept in the pink tray in class.

Finally, if you would like to help in the classroom on a regular or occasional basis or to assist on school trips, we are always grateful for extra pairs of hands. Please speak to us if you are interested.

As before, we are keen to discuss any concerns about your child. Please arrange an appointment to meet either of us at a convenient time. We prefer to meet parents after school unless there is an

urgent issue, as mornings are always a busy time, or alternatively email the office at office@mayfield.cambs.sch.uk or feel free to contact us directly at cbutler@mayfield.cambs.sch.uk and hosborne@mayfield.cambs.sch.uk . We will endeavour to reply when it is convenient.

Yours sincerely,

Helena Osborne and Chris Butler

Class Teachers, Year 6

	Spring 1	Spring 2
English	Newspaper reports	Formal letters
Maths	Decimals Percentages Algebra	Measurement Ratio Geometry and statistics
Science	Electrical Circuits Working scientifically	Working scientifically Evolution
Geography	Human geography – types of land use	
R.E.	Buddhism	
P.E.	Netball Gymnastics	Netball Gymnastics
P.S.H.E	Healthy Living What makes up my 'identity' and that of other people?	In what ways is it positive to have differences between people?
Music	To learn about important periods in music	
DT	Strengthening, stiffening and reinforcing complex structures	
Computing	Staying safe online	
Art:	Viking figureheads carving Use tools to carve and add shapes, texture and pattern .	Drawing: Use a variety of techniques to add interesting effects eg reflections, shadows, direction of sunlight
French	Food & Animals	

Dates for your diary

Spring 1:	Spring 2:
<p>Thursday 7th February: Year 6 French play in assembly</p> <p>11th – 15th February: Spirals Week</p>	<p>Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th March: Parent Consultations (Tuesday late evening)</p> <p>Thursday 7th March: World Book Day</p> <p>Monday 11th – Friday 15th March: Science Week</p> <p>Friday 22nd March: Year 6 Leadership Day</p> <p>25th – 28th March: Bikeability</p>

Year 6 spellings

<p>SPRING 1</p>	<p>ible/ -ibly</p> <p>collectible convertible forcible gullible inedible illegible inaudible plausible sensible flexible inevitably inaudibly sensibly forcibly irresistible irresistibly impossibly irresponsibly</p>	<p>Words ending in -(e)able</p> <p>changeable noticeable</p> <p>Adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words ending in -fer</p> <p>refer referring referred prefer preferring preferred transfer transferring transferred confer conferring conferred offer offered offering differ differing differed</p>	<p>Hyphens <i>used to join a prefix to a root word, especially if the prefix ends in a vowel letter and the root word also begins with one.</i></p> <p>co-own co-operate co-ordinate re-enter pre-eminent self-explanatory</p>	<p>Words with the /i:/ sound spelt ei after c (with exceptions), plus ie words</p> <p>ceiling receipt receive deceive perceive conceit deceit protein seize diesel hygiene pierce retrieve siege shriek yield</p> <p>Exceptions</p> <p>protein caffeine seize either neither</p>	<p>Words with ough</p> <p>ought bought thought nought brought fought rough tough enough though although dough through throughout borough plough drought</p>	<p>Words with silent letters</p> <p>island solemn thistle lamb loch crumb succumb handkerchief champagne silhouette wreckage wreath</p> <p><i>Silent t</i></p> <p>hasten glisten listen</p> <p><i>Silent k</i></p> <p>knight knack knead</p> <p><i>Silent b</i></p> <p>doubt doubtful subtle</p>	<p>Homophones and words easily confused</p> <p>cereal serial complement compliment descent dissent profit prophet</p> <p>Tricky words</p> <p>argument conscience definite embarrass equipment necessary grateful humorous leisure miniature</p>
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SPRING 2	NC Year 5/6 word list	NC Year 5/6 word list	NC Year 5/6 word list	NC Year 5/6 word list	NC Year 5/6 word list	NC Year 5/6 word list
	develop developed development redevelop dictionary disastrous disastrously embarrass embarrassment environment environmentally equip equipped equipment	especially exaggerate exaggerated exaggeration excel excellent excellence existence explain explanation familiar familiarise familiarity foreign forty frequently frequency government governance guarantee	harass harassment hindrance identity immediate individual interfere interfering interrupt interruption interrupted language leisure lightning marvellous marvellously mischief mischievous mischievously muscle	necessary unnecessary neighbour nuisance occupy occupation occur reoccur opportunity opportunities parliament persuade persuasive physical physically prejudice privilege profession programme pronunciation	queue queuing recognise recognition recommend recommendatio n relevant relevance restaurant rhyme rhyming rhythm sacrifice secretary shoulder signature sincere soldier stomach sufficient	insufficient suggest suggestion symbol symbolism symbolic system systematic temperature thorough thoroughly through though twelfth variety variable vegetable vehicle yacht