

12th September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

Year 6 Autumn Term

We would like you to know about plans for the children's learning this term.

Our topic of Ancient Greece (*Eureka!*) will cover the whole term. The children will visit the early foundations of European civilisation by exploring the chronology, history, myths, legends, geography, mathematics, customs and art of this extraordinary period in time. They will study the many wars that took place in the eastern Mediterranean and debate differences in society among the city states that flourished there.

In maths our main focus will be place value up to ten million and consolidating our understanding of number. These are fundamental, and it is important that the children feel confident in making sense of increasingly large numbers, including negative numbers, so that they can solve problems linked to real life. We will also be working on written methods of calculation as well as on fractions and decimals, including fractions of measure. Counting and number facts (such as all times tables to 12 x 12) are also a crucial part of mathematical knowledge, and we will be developing fluency and recall of these. It is very important that your child continues to practise their times tables and number bonds to 100 so that they are able to answer number and word problems requiring calculation.

In English we will be focusing on the myths of Ancient Greece. The children will write their own myths modelled on those we have studied before, refashioning them as narratives and play scripts. In the second half of term, the children will write explanation texts about life in Ancient Greece and prepare for a debate about the merits of Athenian versus Spartan society. We will also begin our year long focus on the reading comprehension, grammar, punctuation and spelling skills needed for the end of Year 6.

In science the children are studying the human circulatory system and light. They will be practising working scientifically to improve their skills in planning and carrying out investigations.

In computing, the children will be using the "Switched On" computing programme to design an app. In the first half of the term the children will be learning about ancient Greek sculpture before designing and sculpting their own using soap. In DT the children will be considering prototypes, products and reinforcement by exploring ancient Greek inventions. The children's French learning will cover leisure activities and clothes.

In music we will be exploring the story of the Trojan War through song. In RE, the children will be exploring creation stories in different religions and in PSHE we will explore the rights and responsibilities of children and how children can contribute to making and changing rules in school. In the first half of the term the children will be swimming and using the Trojan War as a stimulus for creating their own dances. We will be doing badminton and hockey in outdoor PE.

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 (outdoor) and indoor PE will be on Friday. Children should not be wearing their everyday school uniform for PE so please make sure that your child has a complete change of clothing. 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!

Your child has been given a red homework book in which recording or task sheets will be inserted. The homework will be sent out on Friday, and is expected to be handed in the following Wednesday. Homework should be done in the homework book. We would appreciate if parents added any comments, if appropriate, about the tasks. Do assist your child if necessary but without doing the work for them! It is also vital to read with your child on a regular basis. 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 and to spend no longer than 15 minutes per task. We will also give the children a weekly spelling test every Friday. These spellings will be handed to the children on the Monday before the test. Children should make regular use of a dictionary and thesaurus at home to help them extend their vocabulary and develop spelling accuracy. Times Table Rockstars and Spelling Shed are great online resources which can be used to help children practise these key skills 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 see us as soon as possible.

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 hosborne@mayfield.cambs.sch.uk and pgarrod@mayfield.cambs.sch.uk . We will endeavour to reply when it is most convenient.

Yours sincerely,

Helena Osborne and Poppy Garrod (Class Teachers, Year 6)

Dates for your diary

Aut 1:	Aut 2:
27th September – Harvest assembly (school only) 28th September – International Food Festival (16.30 – 18.30) 3rd October – Individual photos 14th –18th October – Year 6 residential trip	8th November – 6G Assembly 22nd November – Teacher training day 26th – 28th November – Parent consultations 4th December – Rocksteady Concert 11th December – Flu Vaccines, Carol concert at St Matthews Church 17th December – Christmas craft day

Year 6 Spellings: Autumn 2019-20

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7
AUT 1	(ph words – ph come from the Greek language) graph pheasant phone photo physical alphabet dolphin elephant geography microphone pamphlet sphere Topic Words Olympics archaeologist artefact citizen kiln philosopher centaur frieze	Homophones there / their / they're bare/bear, to/too/two, night/knight accept/except, affect/effect, brake/break, fair/fare, groan/grown, heel/heal/he'll, mail/male, peace/piece, weather / whether	Homophones stationary stationery plain / plane, rain / rein / reign, scene / seen, whose / who's missed/mist berry / bury grate / great not / knot grown / groan main / mane	Homophones medal / meddle aisle / isle allowed / aloud device devise practice practise prophecy prophesy licence license father farther affect effect ascent assent	NC Year 5/6 word list including some prefixes and suffixes accommodate accommodating accommodation accompany according accordance achieve achievable achievement aggressive aggression amateur ancient apparent appreciate appreciative appreciated unappreciated attached available	NC Year 5/6 word list including some prefixes and suffixes average awkward awkwardness bargain bruise bruised bruising category categorise categorisation categorically cemetery committee communicate communication community competition competitive conscience conscious	Residential trip

AUT 2	-ation station rotation vacation relation variation operation allegation excavation humiliation suffocation prefix re- repair removable resolve realisation reliable reliability reload review recover reservation	dis- and de- disobey discuss discussion dispute disputing defend defence demarcate devour defeat deflate depart departure detect detective deserve desert design deceive	NC Year 5/6 word list including some prefixes and suffixes controversy convenience convenient correspond correspondence critic critically criticise curious curiosity definite definitely definitive defined definition desperate desperately desperation determined determination	Endings which sound like /ʃəs/ spelt -cious or -tious including exceptions vice vicious grace gracious space spacious anxious anxiety malice malicious precious consciousness delicious suspicious ambition ambitious cautious cautiously fictitious infectious	-ious nutrition nutritious nutritional luscious spacious atrocious -cial / -tial antisocial initial finance financial financially commerce commercial commercially province provincial official unofficial officially special	-cial / -tial speciality superficial artificial artificially partial partially confidential essential essentially residential substantial torrential	-able / - ably reusable sealable preservable sustainable sustainability undesirable undesirability unsuitable unsuitability viable laughable laughably respectable respectably inevitable inevitably arguable arguably regrettable regrettably reliably
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