

How to Help at Home



Please encourage your child to take responsibility for their own organisation to ensure they are always **READY** for learning.

- P.E. kits – To be worn to school every Tuesday and Wednesday for our PE lessons. Children must wear their school PE hoodie, white top and black shorts or joggers / leggings. Hair must be tied back and no watches worn.
- There is no Forest School this half term.
- Going home - Children to know how they are getting home daily and ensure they leave the premises by **WONDERFULLY** walking and pushing bikes or scooters if they have them.
- Weather - Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing for lunch and playtimes.
- School reading book and diary should be brought to school **everyday**.
- Children need to bring a school bag to carry their books.

Homework expectations:

- Reading Book - Reading three times a week for twenty minutes a week - please see the guidance in the front of your child's diary. **We will be checking diaries every Friday.**
- Reading Plus - Four lessons a week.
- Number Facts and Spellings - these are sent home weekly and will be tested every Monday. Please find them in your child's diary.
- English and Maths homework book—one page per subject—due every Friday.
- Times Table Rock Stars—we advise that your child does a short session every evening.

Dates for the Diary



| Date | Event |
|----------------|------------------------------------|
| 29.09.23 | Macmillan coffee morning |
| 02.10.23 | Harvest Festival for children only |
| 16.10.23 | School Photographer |
| Week beginning | |
| 27.10.23 | Half Term |

All dates for Christmas at Dunston Hill will be shared with you nearer the time.

Please see our school website for term dates.

We regularly use Facebook, app messages and email to update and remind parents of events. Please ensure that the School Office have your current mobile and email address.

Curriculum Overview



AUTUMN TERM 2023



YEAR 6



Dunston Hill
Community Primary School

Ready



Respect



Kind



Welcome



Welcome to Year 6! We would like to take this opportunity to share with you the fun-filled term's learning we have ahead of us and introduce the Year 6 team: Miss Parkin and Miss Reay.

English Overview



This term we begin our exciting new "Ready Steady Write" writing lessons. These lessons will allow the children to be immersed, analyse, plan, draft, write and edit diary entries and informative speeches, based around the book *Rose Blanche* and then focus on a newspaper report and flashback narrative when we study *A story like the Wind*. We will be looking at the specific writing skills of formal and informal language, effective use of parenthesis and develop our vocabulary through synonyms and antonyms.

In reading this half term, we will be working on our retrieval and understanding of words in context skills, through reading a range of short texts including Wilfred Owen's *Dolce et Decorum Est*. After half term, we will develop our reading skills by reading a collection of short stories by the well-known author Michael Morpurgo.

Maths Overview



As in previous years, Arithmetic skills are very important therefore Arithmetic quizzes are completed each week and key areas of learning identified and addressed during our daily Arithmetic lessons. We will also focus on quick recall with regard to times tables and other number facts such as squared, cubed and prime numbers.

We are continuing to apply the 'Mastery' approach to Maths which strengthens our fluency, reasoning and problem solving skills. Our Maths curriculum begins with calculating using known structures, this is followed by multiples of 1000 then numbers up to 10 000 000. To conclude this term, we will draw, compose and decompose shapes as well as develop our efficiency and accuracy when multiplying and dividing.

Science Overview



We begin the year with a focus on animals including humans. During this topic, we become familiar with the workings of the digestive and circulatory system. We will also explore the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. After half term, we shall be learning about inheritance and evolution, which includes the theories of Charles Darwin and his findings when visiting the Galapagos Islands. With this in-mind, we investigate how and why animals are adapted to suit their environment and ensure their survival.

Our Curriculum



R.E./PSHE: Our RE lessons will see us explore the faith of Islam and follow a line of enquiry into 'What is the best way for a Muslim to show commitment to God?' In addition to this, during our PSHE lessons, we will learn about the importance of healthy lifestyles, growing and changing as well as keeping safe.

History /Geography: Our Geography lessons will allow us to recap location knowledge from previous years e.g.: time zones, uses of different maps and locating key areas on UK and World maps before we explore tourism in the UK, France and North America. Our History unit after half-term will see us build on our Victorian knowledge from Year 4.

Art / Music / DT: We will focus in DT on our sewing skills in order to create our own stuffed toy. Art will see us explore Victorian politics through art in the style Banksy. We will develop our musical notation after half term.

Computing: Following our bespoke Computing curriculum, each half term will include elements of online safety as well as computer science and digital literacy skills. Our focus this term includes an introduction to spreadsheets using Microsoft Excel, coding and computational thinking using Scratch as well as reflecting on our Online Relationships as well as Online Bullying.

PE: This half term we will be developing our Hockey skills with a focus on dribbling, striking, tackling and game tactics. After half term we will be working on our gymnastic skills: rolls, balances and stands on floor and apparatus before applying these to routines.

French: Children will explore the use of French grammar to construct and write sentences using a range of vocabulary. We will concentrate on correct pronunciation and being confident speakers.

Homework



Our priority is always to work collaboratively with parents and carers to secure children's knowledge and application of basic skills in reading, writing and maths. For this reason, our homework expectations are outlined on the next page and we ask you to support us with the following in consolidating our children's basic skills. In addition, please see the separate homework guidance letter.