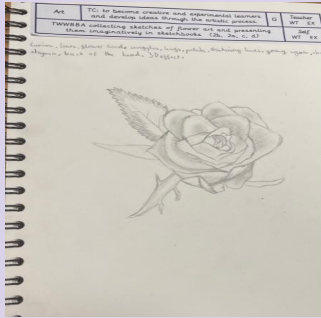


Year 6 Newsletter Spring Term 2 | Monday, 20th February, 2023



Looking forward....

The term will begin with us using a non-fiction book - The National Parks of the USA - to explore the natural life of America; the non-fiction book is informative and includes some wonderful artwork that will stimulate learning based on the style of Yayoi Kasuma. In English, we will be writing an itinerary to Yellowstone National Park. Afterwards, we will be writing a personal description of the Queen of the Falls, the oldest woman to go over the top of Niagara Falls. As we draw the topic to a close, we will be exploring how Rotherham has links to American Independence and how vital natural resources are.

Towards the end of the term, we will begin our topic of Beliefs, where we will start by comparing the main Roman and Greek Gods and how these affected the beliefs of people.

In Science, we will be further enhancing our knowledge around evolution and inheritance, including looking at the work of Charles Darwin.

We are conscious that time is moving swiftly on and that SATs will soon be here. Our philosophy has always been to provide a varied and enjoyable curriculum, which allows children to build up confidence and necessary knowledge and skills to become lifelong and successful learners. However, we will ensure that children are thoroughly prepared for the End of Key Stage Two Assessments, so we will be conducting a mock SATS' week, where the week will be run in the manner as the week itself.

A reflection....

Last term was another success; the children pushed themselves to complete harder challenges and produced work that reflected their dedication and resilience. We continue to be amazed by their work ethic and how determined they are to achieve. As we start the second half of the year, we could not be prouder of the way they have embraced every learning opportunity.

In topic lessons, we looked at the physical geography of America, particularly the Grand Canyon and Niagara Falls as well as why American tourists are fascinated by Europe. The level of discussion throughout the sessions was wonderful to hear, and undoubtedly led to the high quality of work being produced; some children created itineraries for Europe, and they made for a wonderful read.

In English, the children produced a fabulous persuasive piece, encouraging others to visit California; in the cold and dark of winter, this was a wonderful escape during the writing sessions. Their writing skills continue to flourish; there are some very talented writers in the year group.



Special mentions!

Congratulations to our prefects:

Tyler, Katey, Fearne, Enrico, Eden, Fatima, Saliha, Hassan, Manvir, Zikra, Mohid all have achieved their Purple Prefect badge.
Henry, Aqsa, Faariah, Zaynab, Zsa, Molly, Arooba, Tudor, Aizah, Azra, Amarraah, Roshen, Isaac, Darcie, Amna, Lema, Amelia S and Charlotte have all achieved their Bronze Prefect badge.

Reading....

At Sitwell Junior School, we aim to encourage children to acquire a love of reading. Part of this requires the children to be able to read fluently, so it is really important that you listen to your child read every day. This only needs to be for a short time each day, as little and often is the best approach when supporting your child with their reading.

This year, we are continuing with Marvellous Me as a way of recording your child's reading at home. Through the app, you will be able to access a link to a form that should be submitted weekly before Friday morning. If you are yet to sign up to Marvellous me, please contact the office who will be happy to help.

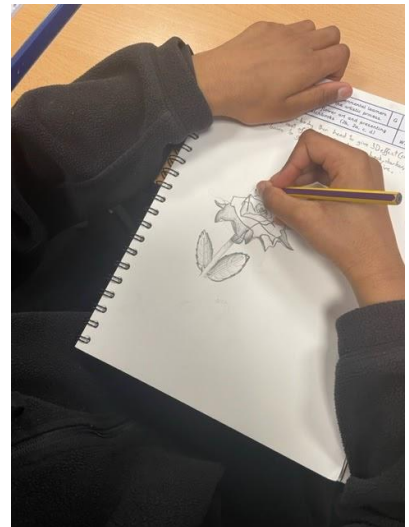
In addition to this, your child should have login details to Reading Eggs, a computer based programme which is tailored to your child's reading ability. The site has a wealth of reading texts and questions for your child to work through. As well as accessing this in class, they will be able to do so at home, providing you with further insight into your child's reading ability. If your child has forgotten their log in details, the class teacher can access these for them.

If your child is finding the text difficult to read, or they are struggling to remain on task when reading, it is a good idea to 'take it in turns'; for example, by you reading a page, your child reading a page, and so on. Children learn a lot from listening to adults reading too. After your child has read a short section, it is helpful for you to ask them some questions to check their understanding of what they have read. For example: what did Jack do when the door opened? How do you think he felt at that moment? Which word tells you he felt that way? What do you think might happen next? Your child needs to make sure they have their reading book in school every day, as there might be opportunities for them to read to an adult in school as well.

Supporting your child at home...

All of the objectives which we will cover in our maths, English and topic sessions are outlined on the school website. If you wish to support your child at home, or to discuss their learning with them, please use the following link:

[Long Term Plans](#)



Reminders!

P.E. Schedule

The Year 6 children will have two sessions of PE every week. 6CH's first session is on a Monday; 6AH's and 6EB's is on a Wednesday. All three classes then have their second session on a Thursday. We ask that all children come to school in their P.E. kit on the days that they have P.E. PE kit is as follows: white t-shirt, black shorts/leggings, black pumps (indoor), black tracksuit, and trainers (outdoor).

Twitter and Marvellous Me

If you would like to keep up-to-date with your child's learning in school, then check out the school's Twitter page. The account details are listed at the top of this letter. We also encourage you to track your child's learning on the Marvellous Me app.

Times Tables

We encourage children to practise their times tables on Times Table Rock Stars.