



Year 6 Newsletter Autumn Term 1 | Tuesday, 5th September 2023



## Looking forward....

### Our Year 6 Topics

We love our topics in Year 6!

Autumn 1 and 2 – **Frozen Kingdom**

Autumn 2 and Spring 1 - **War and Peace**

Spring 2 and Summer 1 – **The Land of the Free!**

To encourage a love of reading and writing, we are going to study at least one key book, linked to each topic. In Year 6 the books will be:

Frozen Kingdom - **The Arctic Railway Assassin (M.G. Leonard)**

War and Peace – **The Midnight Guardians (Ross Montgomery)**

The Land of the Free! – **Wizard of Oz (L. Frank Baum)**

### Frozen Kingdom

In this topic, Frozen Kingdom, we will examine the characteristics of the polar regions, the ecosystems and tundra of the regions. In art, we will create a clay tile that reflects the Arctic landscape and in writing, we will produce an evolution story which is aimed at younger children. In Science, we will investigate living things and their habitats.

## A introduction....

Welcome to Year 6! It's unbelievable how quickly this time of year comes around, isn't it?

As you are aware, at Sitwell Junior School our aim is to promote a love of learning by providing rich, rewarding experiences through a creative curriculum. Through celebrating efforts and achievements, we aim to develop pride in the success of our pupils so that they are ready to face future challenges.

This letter is designed to give you an insight into the learning experience we will be providing your child during their time in Year 6. We value our effective communication and strong links between staff, parents, and children. Together, we can make a difference!

The curriculum at Sitwell Junior School gives children opportunities to learn, build on, and develop new skills. Children are exposed to a range of subjects and activities that allow them to experience different topics and learning styles encompassing the Sitwell 7 Values.

### War and Peace

A firm favourite in Year 6! From the ancient battles and some rather unique methods to more recent battles, our army of learners will march into the past to identify the causes and effects of the different battles, and how they impacted on others, notably women and children. This year, we are intending to visit the National Holocaust Centre in Newark to learn more about a Jewish child's experience in Germany during World War Two. We will follow Leo as his life changes beyond all recognition and his quest for safety in England.

### The Land of the Free

Throughout this topic, children will explore the culture, traditions, famous people, tourism and climate, and make links between Great Britain and the U.S.A. We believe this topic to be an exciting one and one which will enthuse and excite the children as they progress through Year 6.

## Special mentions!

During the course of the year, please let us know if your child has a special achievement that you would like to share with us.

## 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.

## KS2 National Curriculum Tests (SATs)

We will be hosting a SATS information meeting later on in the school year. The purpose of this meeting is to inform you of what will happen during the course of the week and how you can support your child at home. However, be assured that our aim for the children is for them to enjoy a curriculum that enthuses and prepares them for the next stage of their education. We do politely ask that, should you wish, you avoid giving your child past papers to complete as we use these as assessment tools to identify where there are gaps. When we do complete assessments, they are to inform us of their next steps in learning.

### Supporting your child at home...

**Our long term plans, outlining the objectives we will cover in our maths, English and topic sessions, are currently being updated and will be available to view on our school website very soon. If you wish to support your child at home, or to discuss their learning with them, please use the following link, which will take you directly to the relevant part of our school website:**

[Long Term Plans](#)



### Reminders

#### P.E. Schedule

The Year 6 children will have two sessions of PE every week. 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 or black tracksuit, and black trainers.

6EB - Tuesday and Thursday

6MC and 6CH - Tuesday and Wednesday

#### 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**.

# Year 6 Home Learning

## Autumn Term



Below are some home learning project ideas related to this term's topic, 'Frozen Kingdom'. This home learning encourages the children to become investigative learners and to develop their enquiry skills, independence and creativity.

The first project needs to be completed and returned to school by **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October** and the second by **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December**. If your child needs any paper, or other resources that school can provide, please encourage them to ask their class teacher.

### Project Ideas

- Use a range of snowy images to create a polar collage. Remember to use lots of interesting textures, shapes, colours and patterns.
- Imagine a common domestic animal has become an inhabitant of the Arctic or Antarctic. Draw or write about how it would have to adapt to survive there? Longer, thicker hair? What else? Rename your common animal with a more exciting 'polar' name!
- Make replicas of some of the artefacts that might have been found on board the Titanic e.g. jewellery belonging to passengers from 1st Class.
- Make a model, painting or sketch of the Titanic.
- Create a poster or brochure for a new travel company which arranges visits to the Arctic or Antarctic. Use powerful images and text to tempt customers who want an extra-special trip!
- Make 'iced jewels'. Mix powder paints and dyes into water, in an array of colours. Pour into an ice cube tray before freezing overnight. Pop the cubes out and explore your iced jewels. What happens if you sprinkle salt on the cubes?

**Please can you make sure your child brings their projects into school on the following days:**

**Project 1 – Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October**

**Project 2 – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

This will give time for the children to share their projects with the rest of the class before the end of each half term.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Elliott, Miss Chapman and Miss Houghton.

The Year 6 Team