



Year 5/6 Autumn 2017 – Curriculum Letter

Welcome to the Year 5/6 curriculum letter, within which you will find useful information about the forthcoming term.

Our first topic this year will be 'Humble Heroes....or just a job?'

Important Information:

- Our PE days are Wednesdays and Fridays although for the first half term, children in Peake Class will be taking part in forest school rather than their outdoor PE lessons. As the colder (and damper) winter days head towards us the children will need warm joggers, preferably black or grey and a warm dark hoodie. We also suggest that canvas plimsolls are kept for inside or dry days and that the children have something more weather proof such as plain coloured trainers for outside PE. As children are in the upper years of Primary school, they will be expected to bring their kit in when it is needed and keep it safely on their peg. If their correct full PE kit is in school on these days then they will earn 5 minutes of their golden time.
- The decision has been made that children can bring an alternative pair of old trousers and shoes to wear on the field at playtimes over the winter months. These need to be things that will get muddy and **are not** part of their school PE kit or school uniform.
- In order to promote self-discipline and best prepare children for Secondary school, homework will now be set on Mondays to be completed by the following Monday and their golden time will be earned by demonstrating that they have been completing their homework tasks (Weekly homework/reading and spelling). Reading shouldn't be limited to their school reading book and we encourage children to read a range of appropriate texts such as magazines, newspapers and their own books, and recorded in their reading logs. Of course, the 'Active Learn Primary' website is still a great way to support them in the development of more specific reading skills. The spelling homework is equally important and should be given a greater focus so they make good progress this term. It is also important to focus on the meanings of the words so that they are able to use them in their writing.
- My Maths is a really important tool in enabling your child to rehearse their maths skills at home. The website is also useful as a step by step tutorial to support their home learning. We would like to see this being used even more as we feel it is a valuable tool to support home learning.



This term:

Our 'Humble Heroes' topic will explore the wide range of heroes, both real life and fiction, that our society has and provides the children with an opportunity to reflect upon the qualities that make a hero and their own personal qualities.

We begin by creating our own Superheroes based on the qualities the children believe are important. There will be an opportunity to write their own comic strips and create their own superhero movies, making props and costumes too. As we are designing our own comic strips, we will study the work of Andy Warhol and use some of his techniques to create images of our own heroes. There may even be an opportunity after half term to develop some of our comic books into moving comic book strips using out DT skills and combing these with our science unit of work (electricity)!

We then use what the children have learnt about superpowers and reflect upon these powers in terms of some real life historic heroes – Martin Luther King and Rosa Parkes. Who were they? Were they heroes? Are they still heroes? What did they do that has had an impact on the way we live our lives today?

We will also explore possible heroes from closer to home, police, firemen, coastguards, as well as looking at more famous heroes that impacted our locality. Who is Lord Horatio Nelson and what impact did he have on our local area and the rest of the world? Are there heroes we have stumbled across in our own lives? Are there people living in our own community that could be considered heroes? During this piece of learning, children will consider the effects of smaller gestures and the impact that these can have on the people around us.

Many of our writing opportunities will stem from the book 'Room 13' that the children chose from a bank of 25 books during our transition day in July. The children thought that this book appealed to them most from all of the titles they were offered and they are looking forward to finding out about the mystery behind room 13! We will be using the text to write our own spooky settings, and writing reports about seaside towns. We will also be using the book to develop our own comprehension skills in reading and learn new, tricky vocabulary we can use in our own writing. There will be a particular focus on spelling, punctuation and grammar as the year six children will be beginning to prepare for their SATS in May and Monday's English lessons will be taught by Mrs Potter, who has a wealth of skill and exciting resources to make learning grammar fun!

Maths will continue to develop the skills of calculating and understanding place value. The children will learn and refine their methods of calculation using larger numbers. There will be an emphasis on investigating and developing their understanding so they are able to apply their knowledge and skills in a variety of contexts.

In Science, we are exploring 'light' during the first half term and 'electricity' during the second. We will be experimenting with 'light' and conducting experiments that prove or disprove scientific theories such as 'Light always travels in straight lines.' When working with electricity, we will consider safety and children will have the opportunity to rehearse what they already know about circuits, and create their own theories to test using their own circuits.

During our RE learning, we will focus upon belonging. This unit will provide opportunities for the children to communicate what belonging means to them, what this concept means in religion and what the importance of belonging is.

Our computing work this term will be integrated within our topic work. We will use computer software to develop our art techniques and evaluate their purpose and ease of use and we will be using different search engines and considering the benefits and drawbacks of using different search engines. We will of course be using word processing software as well and developing our understanding of some of the lesser known functions it can offer when publishing our work.

Ideas for supporting your child's learning:

- It is very important that your child is provided with rich reading opportunities. All the children have a personal login for Active Learn Primary which should be used regularly. This is now available on tablets, including i-Pads. In addition to Bug Club, please also ensure that you regularly hear your child read aloud and check their understanding of what they have read.
- Mymaths tasks are set weekly by the teacher to compliment the teaching and learning that has occurred during the week. However, if there is an area that you would particularly like to focus on with your child then all of the activities are available for you at any time – they do not have to be assigned. Just click on any of the options before your child enters their own specific password.
- Instead of a weekly creative task, there is now a fortnightly creative task and every other week we will be setting an English or Maths task. As the children progress through primary school education the expectations become more challenging and we hope that your child will enjoy the opportunity to build on all their earlier learning. If there is anything that you would like some ideas support with in order to better assist your child, please come into school and speak to me.



BEREWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL- SCHEME OF WORK
AUTUMN TERM 2017- YEAR 5 - 6
Humble Heroes... or just a job?

ENGLISH	MATHS	SCIENCE	HISTORY	GEOGRAPHY	D & T
Report Writing – Heroes Modern Fiction – ‘Room 13’ Explanation Text – Electricity Argument/ Discussion Text – Was Lord Nelson a hero?	Place Value to 10,000,000,(including decimals and negative numbers) Counting in multiples Mental and written methods of the four calculations	Light and Shadow Electricity and Circuits	Impact of historical ‘Heroes’ on current day. Martin Luther King and Rosa Parkes Lord Nelson	<i>Geography objectives to be covered during next topic.</i>	Moving comic books (combining resources and electricity components)
COMPUTING	PE	MUSIC	OUR COMMUNITY AND INTERNATIONAL LINKS	RE / PSHCE	ART
Photoshop/ Paint/ PhotoFX software – Andy Warhole Images	Forest School (outside 1 st half term) Netball (2 nd half-term) Shadow Dance and Gymnastics	Music to be taught by Hampshire Music Service during second half term. Christmas carols and concert	Recognising the significance of some ‘heroes’ across time and miles. Identifying the world-wide change that these ‘heroes’ have inspired. Can we be ‘local heroes’?	RE: Belonging. Christmas from the bible (different accounts/viewpoints). PSHCE – Be the best you can be! What makes a hero?	Art – Artist Study – Andy Warhol. Painting, printing, use of ICT.