



# Year 6 Class Newsletter

Term 2

Welcome back after the half term. I hope you are all rested and ready to start a new and exciting term!

This term, we will be delivering some of the foundation subjects as part of a blocked curriculum. For example, instead of having one geography lesson each week, we will have one week where we have geography every afternoon. This will allow the children to become fully immersed in the topic being covered.

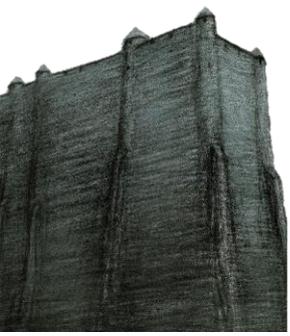
## English

Our work in English will be focused on *The Island* by Armin Greder and *Cogheart* by Peter Bunzl.

*The Island* tells the story of a mystery man that finds himself washed up on a strange and unusual island. It is a stark and sombre tale that will stimulate discussion of racism and prejudice and will inspire the children to produce exciting unwritten outcomes.

*Cogheart* revolves around the character Lily: a young girl whose life is in mortal peril! Her father is missing and now silver-eyed men stalk her through the shadows. What could they want from her? With her friends - Robert, the clockmaker's son, and Malkin, her mechanical fox - Lily is plunged into a murky and menacing world. Too soon, Lily realizes that those she holds dear may be the very ones to break her heart...

We will be exploring the themes of the book and using these ideas to produce written outcomes, including a school report on Lily, non-chronological reports about airships, persuasive letters demanding rights for 'mechanicals' and fact files about our own 'mechanimals'.



## Maths

This term, our Maths lessons will focus on using long division to divide 3 and 4 digit numbers by 2 digit numbers with and without remainders. We will also explore fractions, decimals and percentages to investigate equivalences. Later this term, we will also complete calculations using fractions and use algebraic formulae. Over the year, the children will be practicing all of the times tables up to 12, so that they can recall them fluently. The children will also receive weekly Maths homework to challenge and consolidate their learning.

## Science

In Science, Year 6 will learn to represent circuits using symbols in a diagram. They will learn about two of the most important scientific inventors in the field of electricity - Thomas Edison and Nikola Tesla. Children will get the opportunity to develop their understanding of what electricity is and how to measure it. As well as conducting their own investigation, they will get the opportunity to create their own torch.



## PE

This term, our PE lessons will be on a Thursday. Each Thursday, **the children should come to school in their PE kit, which they will stay in all day.** This will mean that they won't need to get changed in school and will reduce the risk of others accidentally touching their clothing or putting on items belonging to others. Please make sure that your child is wearing a suitable PE kit for the weather that day, such as a t-shirt, shorts and trainers for warm and sunny weather, or a tracksuit and trainers for colder weather.

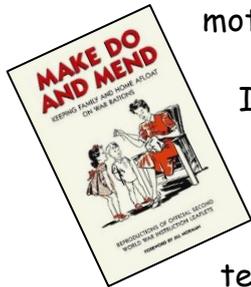
## Foundation Subjects

Our Geography topic this term is all about Europe! The children will explore many of the countries that make up the continent of Europe, as well as their flags, geographical features and manufactured or natural resources. The class will also put their grid reference skills to the test, as they identify areas on a map and then design travel brochures about a chosen European country.



In RE, we will be focusing on the question 'Is it better to express your beliefs in arts of architecture or in generosity and charity?'

During Computing this term, the children will become film directors by creating their own animated movies. The short-films will be based on *The Island* by Armin Greder and will include elements of stop-motion animation as well as green screen work.



In DT, the children will be putting their sewing skills to the test during their new topic: *Make do and Mend!*

In Music, we are lucky to have lessons led by a specialist music teacher. These lessons will continue on from last term, focusing on learning to play the recorder.

In PSHE we will be exploring the topic 'Celebrating Difference' using the Jigsaw scheme of work.

Our MFL lessons this term will develop our understanding of Latin by focusing on present tense verbs.



## **We need you!**

We are looking for parents who would be able to hear Y6 readers. Any help would be greatly appreciated. Please speak to a member of staff if you are interested.

### **Reading**

Reading is an important part of the curriculum and, as such, we believe that continuing to read with your child daily can improve their reading skills significantly. Therefore, we would appreciate it if you could read with your child as often as possible. This does not have to be your child reading to you, it could include sharing a book and discussing the content, as this helps tremendously with comprehension.

## Homework

Children will continue to receive the following homework weekly:

- Spellings
- Reading
- Times Tables

In addition to this, there will be optional homework that can be completed based on the topics we are focusing on in school. The following are a list of ideas for your child to choose from:

- Research a country found in Europe - can you create a PowerPoint presentation about the country including its landmarks, language, geographical features, famous faces and flag?
- Create a WW2 poster based on the "Make Do and Mend" campaign.
- Search Youtube for examples of Stop Motion Animation - can you create a storyboard or piece of written work based on the animation?
- Have a go at some of the free animation tutorials at <https://www.animatingkids.com/free-secret-animation-recipes>
- Design your own "Island" inspired by the story - can you draw and label your picture and then design a travel guide for people who might visit your island?

Remember, if at any time you have any concerns about your child, please feel free to contact the office to make an appointment to see me.

With best wishes,

Mr Buckland