

YEAR 6

AUTUMN 1

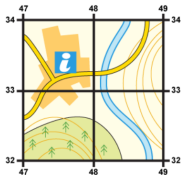
CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

Welcome back!

We hope you have had a wonderful and relaxing summer break and are feeling refreshed for the start of the autumn term and the start of year 6. As a team, we want the children to achieve their full learning potential and will work tirelessly to enable this to happen. Throughout the year, we will help the children so that they are ready to sit their SATs in May, whilst also helping them to become ready in their transition to secondary school.

We know that year 6 is an important year and we will strive to make sure that the children leave Oakridge in the best place possible.

This half term, we have a number of exciting experiences for the children from Calshot in October to hopefully inviting parents in to listen to some of our hard-hitting slavery speeches. We will be posting regular website updates on the school year group page so please feel free to check in there each week.

English	Reading	Maths
		
In English this term, we are starting the year off by writing the story of Juliane Koepcke, who remarkably survived a plane crash in the Amazon rainforest. For 11 days she navigated the jungle using survival skills she had learned from her parents, all whilst she was just 17. After this, we will be doing some persuasive writing about the abolition of slavery, informed by our Maafa history topic.	We are starting the year with a book called 'Cloud Busting'. This is a book on friendship written completely in verse by Malorie Blackman. In the second part of the term, we will read 'Freedom 1783' by Catherine Johnson. The story follows a young boy called Nathaniel who tries to escape from slavery in a bid to better his life and find his mum and sister.	We are continuing to follow White Rose in maths. The upcoming topics in Autumn, we will be focusing on core maths skills needed for year six: place value, multiplication and division. As always, every lesson begins with a 'flashback 4' with questions that will require the children to draw upon previously learnt skills and therefore support their retention.
Science	History	Geography
		
Our topic for the first half of the Autumn term is going to be the circulatory system. This unit will focus on how our heart and blood impacts our body and how it travels around it. It shows us the important role the circulatory system plays for exercise and why we need all the parts made up within blood to be able to survive. Year six will be doing lots of hands-on experiments, some involving a little exercise.	In our history topic, we are learning about Africa past and present, with a particular focus on the slave trade and Britain's role within it. We will take an in-depth look into how and why it started, its horrific journey, as well as looking at how it came to end. This topic allows the children to examine its impacts upon those affected at the time and how it impacts the world today.	Our geography unit for the start of school will be 'Our Changing World' recapping many of the skills that they have learnt in years below. Along with this, the children will learn about features of our globe and why time zones play an important role. It will give everyone a chance to really enhance their maps skills.

Music	Art	DT
		
Children will learn about some of Britain's most influential song writers. They will learn about the structure of chords and songs and use tuned instruments to accompany songs. They will further develop their listening and singing skills-matching pitches with varying intervals.	Trailblazers and Breaking Barriers, will be the first year six unit, studying how artists who faced adversity inspired the world of their craft. This unit will link directly to our slavery topic, focussing on how many black artists have changed the world, making a difference with their art and the messages within it.	Our DT unit, 'Food for Life, will focus on healthy eating and a balanced diet. It takes us on a journey through sorting healthy foods, packaging and the information given on it as well as giving us the chance to even make some bread.
Computing	R.E	PSHE
		
Codebreakers is the name of our first computing unit, which takes a focus on the history of computers. In particular, it looks at how computers were used in World War Two at Bletchley Park, examining The Enigma. We will look at breaking codes and how computers are used to do this.	Peace and Incarnation is the main focus this half term. Year six will look at how peace is an important message throughout all religions and how in particular peace has a focus in the Qur'an and how events like Ramadan play a big role in this.	Our topics in PSHE will be 'Dreams and Goals'. This unit will cover mental health, setting goals, how people overcome odds and the art of resilience. As always, the children will have discussions around emotions and how we can control them to help us in certain situations at the beginning of lessons.

PE	
Every week, the children have two P.E sessions with our sports coaches; Coach Jordan, Coach James and Coach Grace. During this term, one of these sessions is held in our outdoor learning area and the children are taught important skills such as teamwork, communication and strategic thinking. This half term in P.E, the children will be learning Netball. The aim is to develop the skills of netball further and have more emphasis on the knowledge of team tactics such as how to overcome our opponent, specific movement and phases of play. All of this will lead into a more competitive style of play.	P.E kit: ✓ White t-shirt ✓ Black or navy jogging bottoms (winter) ✓ Black or navy shorts (summer) ✓ Plain dark coloured hoodie or sweatshirt ✓ Plimsolls (for indoor P.E) ✓ Trainers ✓ Hair tied back ✓ Earrings out ✓ Waterproof trousers (for outdoor learning) ✓ Wellies

Coming up...



This half term, the children will be provided with the opportunity to cook in DT and this will likely roll over to the next half term too.

We will also invite the parents in to listen to a talk about Calshot with dates to be confirmed. The last week before half term (when Calshot will happen) will provide the children going with an exciting opportunity to experience new things and gain a sense of adventure.

Children who do not go will also be provided with a week of fun at school, led by members of staff.

Home Learning



We set homework on the following days:

Monday: Maths homework set. It's due in Friday.

Wednesday: English homework set. It's due in the following Tuesday.

Children access their homework online using their Atom login.

Finally, there is an expectation that the children read at least 5 times a week. It's so important. We have a well-stocked library at school that the children are welcome to borrow books from. As year 6, they can be logging their reading in the reading diary themselves, but we expect a signature from you to verify this.

Children who repeatedly do not complete their homework will be expected to complete it in their playtime or treat time.

Contact us



If there is anything you wish to discuss with us regarding the information on this newsletter; or if you have any further queries or concerns regarding your child's experience at school, please do not hesitate to get in touch:

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How can you help?



For children attending Calshot, make sure they have plenty of suitable outdoor clothing in advance. If you are unsure, you can always ask a year six teacher.

Reading with your child at home is so important and helps support the work we are doing with them in school. This will help them in the long term with SATs looking this year.

Practicing the calculation methods and TT Rockstars helps the children to learn and practice their times tables as well as improve their speed. Supporting the children and practising as much as possible is extremely beneficial for their progression in maths. Many of the year six math strategies use multiplication knowledge.

We are excited to have the new year six children join us and sure they are going to have a hugely successful year. As always, we thank you for your continued support. Our door is open should you have any queries or concerns.

Kind Regards,

Year 6 teachers