

## **Year 6 Bulletin Spring 2018**

Happy New Year! Welcome back to a new term!

### **Key dates for the diary**

- Immersion Day: Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January
- Citizenship Training: 6F Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February                      6D Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February
- Book week – week beginning 26<sup>th</sup> February
- **Half term: Monday 12 February - Friday 16 February**
- Parent Meeting Conferences – 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018 (no school for children)
- Last day of term – March 29<sup>th</sup> - 2pm finish

Rather excitingly, this term we are launching a new growth mind-set initiative at Heber Primary School. With a growth mind-set, people believe that their most basic abilities can be developed through dedication, hard work and a positive attitude to challenge. This view creates a love of learning and a resilience that is essential for great accomplishments. At Heber we wish for all our children to have a growth mind-set. We have already started to explore the power of 'Yet'. Rather than a child saying "I can't do this," they'll be encouraged to say "I can't do this, yet", giving them the mind-set that with hard work and extra effort, achievement will follow.

*Our topic focus for this term is World War 2. This will have some cross curricular links with History, English, Computing, and Maths. Links will be made with other subjects wherever possible, making learning more meaningful and enjoyable.*

### **World War 2**

In topic we will be studying World War II. Children will be learning about key events of the war including the Blitz, and evacuation. A major focus is on the effect the war had on children. We will evaluate and explore different sources of evidence. We are hoping to visit the Imperial War Museum where will look at family life in London during the war.

### **English**

We will be carrying on with Macbeth to start off the new year where we will focus on play scripts, poetry and performance as well as character development and setting descriptions.

Our next text is Rose Blanche by Roberto Innocenti. This is the story of a young German girl during the war and fits nicely in with our topic. Many themes arise in this book, leading to excellent discussion opportunities. Our writing focus will be poetry and recounts, including newspaper articles. We will also venture into our wordless text for the year: The Arrival by Shaun Tan where skills of inference and deduction can be developed. Children will have the opportunity to write a longer narrative following one of the stories told by the pictures.

Spelling sessions on a Tuesday will now have more of a grammar focus where children will learn and practise key terminology and skills to help improve writing. Spelling lists will focus primarily on the year 5 and 6 spelling word list (attached).

It remains paramount that your child reads regularly. Children may wish to use their planner to keep track of what they have read and their thoughts on what they are reading.

### **Maths**

Maths is now divided into the following blocks which will be covered in depth during the course of the term.

**Week 1 and 2 – Number: Decimals:** *Understand decimal place value and how it links to real life.*

**Week 3 to 4 – Number: percentages:** *Understand how percentages link to fractions and decimals and how to find percentages of amounts.*

**Week 5 and 6– Number: Algebra:** *understanding algebra and making connections to equations, missing numbers and sequences.*

**Week 7 – Measure: Converting units:** *Converting between units of length, weight and capacity.*

**Week 8 and 9: Measure: Perimeter, Area and Volume:** *Finding the area and perimeter of rectilinear shapes and volume of cubes and cuboids. They will also apply this knowledge to problems.*

**Week 10 and 11: Number: Ratio and proportion:** *Solving problems involving ratio and proportion.*

### **Computing:**

Starting this term, we are changing the way that Computing is taught. We will take a topic based approach to teach the three aspects of the subject in fun and exciting new ways. In Spring 1, the children will use unplugged activities (no technology required) to develop their understanding of networks; they will learn about domain name system and explore Heber's network infrastructure. In Spring 2, the children will learn commands of a text based programming language – Python to create a simple text based adventure games

### **French:**

This term the learning will focus on modes of transport, French around the world, weather and holidays

### **Science**

Evolution and Inheritance. Year 6 will be looking at environmental characteristics and how animals adapt to their environments. Children will observe and raise questions about local animals and how they are adapted to their environment; comparing how some living things are adapted to survive in extreme conditions. Children will explore how living things have changed over time and that fossils provide information about living things that inhabited the Earth millions of years ago.

### **Electricity**

In Electricity we will compare and give reasons for variations in how components function, including the brightness of bulbs, the loudness of buzzers and the on/off position of switches.

### **DT**

Design and Technology will be linked to our topic work this year. This Term Year 6 will be designing and making their own air raid shelters; they will be deciding which types of structures are likely to be the most durable whilst also providing some comfort to the people within.

### **Art**

World War Two: We will investigate London and the Blitz, imagining the Skyline and buildings of today being ravaged by the nightly attacks. We shall create paintings and construct a gas mask. We shall see how artists tried to capture the destruction of war, looking at the art of Paul Nash.

### **Music**

The Year 6 lessons will be centred on rhythm through drums and composition through the ukulele. We will use different types of drum to explore the dynamic of group performance, including tempo and leading/conducting the music live. We will also aim to learn ukulele chords, related notes and strum patterns, in order to compose our own ukulele tunes.

### **RE**

Judaism: Children will develop an understanding of the Jewish faith and the key beliefs. They will recognise the Star of David on Jewish artefacts and what it symbolises.

### **PSHE:**

Our topic is 'Going for Goals'. Children will be encouraged to take responsibility of their own learning and set themselves long term and short term goals. We will be identifying realistic goals and breaking these into small, achievable steps as well as reflecting on a positive mind-set.

### **PE**

The focus will be on developing technical skills in football, basketball and netball. Apart from fundamental skills (passing, catching, evading and shooting) they will also have opportunities to develop their support play and learn how to outwit opponents. The children will have many opportunities to develop their social skills and there will be an emphasis on good communication, listening carefully and being thoughtful.

### **Home Learning**

- Mathletics, TT Rockstars or My maths should be used at least once a week. Year 6 children should be choosing topics on Mathletics that link to the Maths covered in class that week.
- Reading every day is expected.
- On occasion children will be asked to carry out extra home learning tasks that link to their topic.
- Talk to your child about their day at school.
- Help your children to learn the times tables and related division facts for each times table up to 12 x 12.
- Support your child in learning how to tell the time on analogue and digital clocks to the nearest minute.

**Going home** If your child would like to go home alone this term, please give a letter of permission to the office as soon as possible if you have not already done so.

**Nut free school:** Please note that, due to children's allergies, Heber is still a nut free school.

We are happy for you to take Maths and English books home to look at over the weekend; however, we will require them on Monday morning.

Warm Regards,

**The Year 6 Team**