

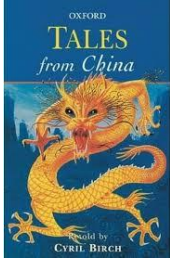


# YEAR 6

## SUMMER TERM NEWSLETTER

Welcome back for the final term of this academic year. Year 6 have plenty to look forward to over the final third of their final year of primary school. As we return refreshed and rested from the Easter break, we hope that our children are prepared for the first month back as we continue to focus on our revision for upcoming assessments (SATs). Once they are completed, we will enjoy a range of diverse activities and trips/experiences so that our children have the fondest memories as they move to secondary school. Our aim is to support your children to be secondary ready in all aspects.

### ENGLISH



This half-term we will finish reading *The Final Year* - Matthew Goodfellow's touching and innovative verse novel which tells the raw story of 10 year-old Nate, in his own words, who moves into his final year of primary school.

We will also read extracts from *Room 13*, a classic, spooky suspense story by acclaimed writer Robert Swindells. This will help to inspire us to write our own spine-tingling stories and terrifying tales.

Later, we will read short stories from *Tales from China* by Cyril Birch, and the science-fiction novel *Boy in the Tower* by Polly Ho-Yen, which is sure to excite the children.

### MATHS

Much of the summer 1 term is given to revision of all topics, as we make our way towards the SATs exams in May (week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> May). Please encourage your child to use Mathletics at home as often as you can, combining this with the use of TT Rockstars to ensure they are fluent and efficient with their recall of facts for multiplication. We will continue to practice our arithmetic skills to make sure we can do all four operations, work with percentages and calculate with fractions. We will also be revising measure, perimeter and area – understanding units of length, mass and capacity, along with new units on ratio and algebra.



### SCIENCE



Did you know that mould is useful? Our topic for summer 1 is Living Things and their Habitats which includes micro-organisms. We will learn about micro-organisms: how they grow, reproduce and how the world needs them to survive. As part of the topic, we will grow and observe our own micro-organisms in class and survey the school grounds to find other organisms as they do their vital jobs.

Our final topic in summer 2 will be Evolution and Inheritance. Dinosaur discoveries, human evolution and the UK Jurassic Coast will be amongst our adventures into this fascinating area of science.

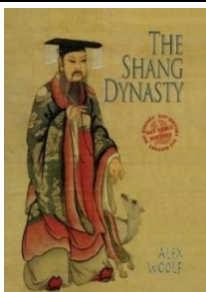
In addition to this, we will continue to learn about the skills required to be a scientist: observe, plan, test and evaluate.

### GEOGRAPHY

For geography we will study *Our Changing World* as our unit of work, looking at how landscapes, particularly in the UK, have changed over time. Children will learn about the impact weathering and erosion have on our coastlines as well as considering how other physical and human factors contribute to our changing landscapes. As part of our study, we will investigate the school environment for patterns of weathering and identify potential causes. In addition, we will explore how Nottingham has changed over time by comparing its size and land use through our own observations and records of Nottingham (photos and maps).






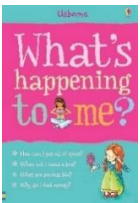
### HISTORY







Our history topic this term is The Shang Dynasty, which was the earliest well-documented dynasty in China that ruled from about 1600-1046 BC. Children will learn about some of the amazing achievements of this ancient bronze-age civilisation, from which many of the most important aspects of Chinese culture were developed. Most fascinating of all, we research about the use of Oracle bones in predicting the future, and how life and death often hung in the balance of the 'predictions' these bones made.

Combined with the knowledge gained, children will continue to explore the important skills required to be a historian: using different sources, identifying credibility in documents and knowing how historians use information to make decisions about the past.

| ART  | DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY  |
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|    | <p>Year 6 will learn to use Crumble kits for our D&amp;T project – building a model car. The car will be able to move forwards, move backwards and stop when given the correct instructions via the coding system. Soon, we may be asking for small boxes and cartons to assist in our making.</p> <p>Our other unit of work involves the planning, designing and making of the scenery for our end of year production (Hoodwinked). We will conduct customer research and explore materials and construction methods to build portable, lightweight and strong products. Construction will involve a range of methods to reinforce structures to make them strong yet portable.</p> |
| <p>Our project for summer will involve the ancient art of puppet making, but with a modern twist. Many craftspeople and artists have worked hard to keep this tradition alive, and now, Year 6 join the effort. Lotte Reiniger (a famous German animator) has inspired techniques in puppet making for nearly 100 years and her work has helped movie making for Disney and other world-famous companies. We will combine her work methods and those of Malaysian master puppet makers to create puppets and then produce our own shows.</p> |   |

| PERSONAL SOCIAL HEALTH & ECONOMIC EDUCATION  | RELATIONSHIP AND SEX EDUCATION   |   |
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|   | <p>Children will explore the process of conception and pregnancy. Children will also explore positive and negative ways of communicating in a relationship</p> |   |
| <p>We begin our DAaRT course in the summer term – Drugs, Alcohol and Resilience Training. This involves learning around a number of key issues that can impact the lives of many young people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Knife, gun and drug crime</li> <li>❖ Safe relationships - exploring risk</li> </ul> <p>Further information about the course will be out soon and parents/carers will be asked to read important documents so that you are aware of the course content.</p> | <p>Recommended book to support the RSE learning is What's happening to me? by Susan Meredith</p>   |  |




| COMPUTING   | CYBER SAFETY  |
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|    | <p>iSafe - embedded throughout wider curriculum areas such as PSHE and our SCARF assemblies. We will learn about the methods for protecting ourselves when working and using online systems. We will create passwords and learn which information is important to keep private.</p> |
| <p>iLearnAI- this unit introduces the children to Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence (AI) They will explore what makes intelligence artificial, the benefits and drawbacks and train their own models to produce AI applications using Scratch.</p> |    |

| RELIGIOUS EDUCATION   | DIVERSITY CALENDAR  |   |
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|    | <p>This term as part of our whole school diversity calendar, we will be learning about:</p>   |   |
| <p>In RE lessons this half-term, our main focus will be on beliefs in action in the world. First, we will be looking at how religions and beliefs respond to global issues of human rights, fairness, social justice and the importance of the environment?</p> <p>Later, children will learn about pre-war Jewish life and the impact of persecution and discrimination on Jewish people living in Germany in the 1930s. What was the Kindertransport? Who resisted and rescued? How can we be Upstanders today?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Vaisakhi – Sikh New Year</li> <li>➤ Earth Day</li> <li>➤ St George's Day</li> <li>➤ Deaf Awareness Week</li> <li>➤ Vesak – Buddhist festival</li> <li>➤ Global Accessibility Awareness Day</li> <li>➤ Eid-Al-Adha – Islam Holiday</li> <li>➤ Pride Month</li> <li>➤ Race Unity Day</li> <li>➤ Al-Hijra/Muharram – Islamic New Year</li> <li>➤ School Diversity Week</li> </ul> |  |


| PHYSICAL EDUCATION  |  | QUESTIONS AND ISSUES  |
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| <p>Did you know.... a good night's sleep helps children's mental, physical, social and emotional development?</p> | <p>On PE days, please ensure your child wears the PE kit uniform of black shorts/joggers/leggings, a school polo shirt and trainers (preferably black). Please remove any earrings.</p> <p>Our PE days continue to be Tuesday and Thursday. For the final term children will explore athletics and outdoor adventure (including orienteering).</p> <p>Our annual sports day will be held in the summer term so have your trainers ready for the parents/carers sprint event!</p> | <p>• <b>Do SATs boosters continue after the Easter break?</b><br/>Yes, our boosters continue to run on Monday (Trent) and Thursday (Loxley). If your child can not attend their usual day, we are happy for them to change where necessary and access the other class session.</p> <p>• <b>When can I speak with a teacher if I am concerned about my child?</b><br/>Please see a member of staff at the external classroom door to book an appointment or head to the office to arrange it there.</p> <p>• <b>Where can I find information about the curriculum and expectations of the school?</b><br/>Our school website and the Arbor app have all the information you need. Important documents, policies, calendars and year group details are all located there. Please access both Arbor and our school website regularly to ensure you have the most up-to-date information.</p> |




### HOMEWORK

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|    | <p>Our homework continues to be set on a Thursday and will include three pieces to complete. We usually assign homework on Mathletics, TT Rockstars and Spelling Frame, However, there are occasions when we alter the assigned homework which is always explained to the children in advance.</p> <p>On Fridays, we host a homework club over lunch times where children can attend on a voluntary basis. If children do not complete their homework, we expect them to attend the catch-up homework club on Monday lunch times. Unfortunately, if they do not complete the homework fully, we expect the children to miss all of the break time which we would prefer not to do as a break and rest from the classroom is key.</p> <p>Whilst we do appreciate that keeping a track of their reading can take a few moments of your day, it is essential that our children read 5 times per week so that they can maintain good progress and develop their understanding of the world. Please continue to support our reading goals for your child by encouraging them to read as often as possible. Children can substitute reading paper versions of books for books that are available in the library section of Reading Eggspress, where we can also monitor their progress. Any reading completed on Reading Eggspress can be recorded in their diary too.</p> |
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### TRIPS AND EXPERIENCES

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| <p>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June – trip to Nottingham Trent University.</p> <p>Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June – trip to the Nottingham Tennis Open, providing opportunities for pupils to try the game of tennis.</p> |  |
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### DIARY DATES

|  | HALF TERM ONE   | HALF TERM TWO  |
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|  | <p>13/04 – Start of summer 1 half term<br/>21/04 – KS2 Road Safety Quiz<br/>30/04 – Spanish Day<br/>04/05 – Bank Holiday<br/>11/05 to 14/05 – SATs week<br/>13/05 – National Numeracy day<br/>22/05 – End of summer 1 half term</p> | <p>01/06 – Start of summer 2 half term<br/>04/06 – Trip to Nottingham Trent University<br/>17/06 – Sports Day<br/>18/06 – Nottingham Tennis Open trip<br/>06/07 to 10/07 – World Cup theme week<br/>15/07 – Summer Fayre<br/>17/07 – Reports to Parents<br/>22/07 – End of summer 2 half term<br/>23/07 – INSET day<br/>24/07 – INSET day<br/>02/09 – First day of new school year</p> |