

Year 6 Curriculum Update

Friday 11th September 2020

Values: Care & Awareness

A very warm welcome to Year 6. I am extremely pleased to say that the children have all settled back into school life with great ease and have approached the changes and new routines with considerable enthusiasm and maturity. A super start!

Madley Enterprise

For our theme this term, the children will be thinking about what it means to be an entrepreneur and will have the opportunity to “run” a small business. This is something, which the Year 6 children at Madley have explored for almost ten years and, during this time, the theme has evolved to include a number of local businesses and professionals. Learning entrepreneurial skills has started to gain more focus in the media recently as shown in the article on the following link:

<https://www.thisismoney.co.uk/money/smallbusiness/article-8278237/Bizkids-set-business-child>

The class has been divided into six small groups and, over the next few weeks, they will be deciding on their company name, what products they are going to make and how they will promote and sell them. This will also involve looking at the importance of “branding” during a virtual session with Mark White, the UK Branding Director for Pizza Hut UK.

As well as learning what makes a successful business, this year the children will also have the opportunity to find out how some local businesses have needed to adapt in recent months, either through visits to companies where safe to do so, or through the use of virtual technology.



Enterprise Visit to Madley Plants

The class had the opportunity to visit Madley Plants on Wednesday, where Michele Blackmore explained how she and her husband, Simon, decided to start the business five years ago and the challenges and successes that they have encountered along the way.

The children asked lots of very interesting questions and came away with numerous tips and ideas on what they will need to do to make their own businesses as successful as possible. They have started to use some of the information that they learnt from the visit to write a magazine article on Madley Plants.

PE

As mentioned in a recent parentmail, Year 6 will be doing PE on Tuesday mornings (outdoor) and Friday mornings (indoor) and will need to come to school in the appropriate kit on those days. Guidelines on what can be worn were outlined in the parentmail.

40 Reads

We are hoping to make this a record year for the number of Year 6 children who achieve their 40 reads before the end of the term. The children can be responsible for keeping their own reading record, but we would ask that parents sign it on a Friday morning to say that their child has completed their reading, which for Year 6 is recommended at no less than 20 mins, at least three times each week.

Homework

The children will receive weekly homework on a Monday, which they will write into their diary.

Maths – a combination of TT Rockstars and online activities.

English – in addition to reading three times a week, the children will be set either online comprehensions or grammar work on Education City. At times, this may be a repeat of an activity undertaken last term, but I would ask that they still complete it again.

Spelling – the children will be covering weekly spellings in class and these will be set as assignments on Spelling Shed.

If your child is unable to complete their homework for any reason, could you please email the office before the Friday morning that week so that I can arrange for them to complete it in school that day if needed.

Outdoor Opportunities

We will be taking every opportunity we can to timetable outdoor learning activities across the curriculum this term. Indeed, the children are already looking forward to their day at Longtown on Thursday 17th September and we have also discussed plans for transforming the “Madley Growing Space”, which is the land opposite The Comet pub that last year’s pupils had been hoping to develop as part of their legacy to the school.

The children will have the chance to develop their forest school skills every other week during sessions in our forest area onsite. It is also planned that they will spend a day or so every half-term at the main forest school site and we will ensure that they are given adequate notice of when these sessions will take place.

We are delighted with the progress and determination that the children are already showing: they certainly appear to be as excited about their journey into Year 6 as we are to be working with them. If, however, you do have any concerns or if your child expresses any concerns, please let us know as soon as possible so that we can try to alleviate them.

I would also be grateful if you could advise the office as early as possible of any dates when you may be visiting High Schools so that I can take these into consideration when planning. In the meantime, I hope that the children have already started to engage in conversations with you at home regarding their enterprise group and what they are hoping to produce. It is an extremely challenging theme for the children but a very rewarding one for all those involved.

From Mrs Lacey, Mr Batstone and the Year 6 Team.