

Class 6 Curriculum Update

Week commencing Monday 27th April 2020

Values: Inspiration & Hope

I hope that this update finds you all as well as can be and ready for another week of “working from home”. Although the weather is not expected to be as beautifully sunny as last week, I am positive that the children will still find plenty of things to do to keep them busy and occupied. Perhaps they can rediscover the joy of completing jigsaw as I know at least one of class have done in the last few weeks, or finish that piece of artwork that they started before Easter and have left in their bedroom ever since...

As previously, I have set a range of tasks and activities for the week ahead and I have also left the online assignments “live” for a few more days for those who didn’t quite get to finish them all last week. Understandably, some children are choosing to focus on what they enjoy (e.g. completing TT Rockstars but not Education City or Spelling Shed and vice versa) and in these cases could I please ask that you encourage them to spread their time more evenly and to show you what they have completed as all of the areas of the curriculum are equally important.

Maths

Hopefully you have all been able to get on to the White Rose website and have been able to complete the daily activities. From next week onwards, only the videos will be available on line and the activities for each day can now be found with the relevant update on the school website.

<https://whiterosemaths.com/homelearning/year-6/>

These lessons do follow a sequence so if your child has missed one of the sessions, they may have to go back and watch the video for that lesson even if they do not do the activity – this is similar to missing a day in school when either myself or Miss Hirst may need to go over a new concept before the next maths lesson starts.

Similarly, in class we find that we sometimes need to revise previous learning before we can move the children on so if you feel that your child needs to look back at previous learning then click on the year 5 section and use those resources. At this difficult time, we are all trying to do what is best and it is better that your child is doing their work and being successful than avoiding it because it is too difficult. Reinforcing and practising what they know is just as valuable as learning new skills.

Finally, please continue to encourage your child to challenge themselves on **TT Rockstars** at least twice a week and to make sure they enter and play on **Studio** once a week so that I can look at their score on the soundcheck. Well done to those of you who have done this – your scores are looking fantastic!

Summer Term – Week 2

Lesson 1: Angles in special quadrilaterals

Lesson 2: Angles in regular polygons (shapes)

Lesson 3: Problem solving

Lesson 4: Problem solving

The last two lessons use “bar models” in their explanations, which the children are familiar with but are sometimes reluctant to use. If they have an alternative method, which works and they can explain their thinking, then please allow them to find their solution in this way.

Science – Light and How We See

Last week the children looked at the idea that light travels in a straight line. This week we are thinking about how light reflects.

Investigation: In a dimly lit or completely dark room, use a torch (not your phone) to see what happens to the beam of light when you direct it onto different surfaces. Which surfaces reflect the best and why?

Complete the activity **Mirror Image** on Education City to compare your findings.

Investigating further: Watch the video below to discover how light reflects. Can you create your own investigation to prove the science? How does this link to your work in maths?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vt-SG7Pn8UU>

English

The grammar focus for this week is to understand the difference between formal and informal writing and I would therefore like the children to complete pages **27, 28 and 29 in their SPAG book**, using the notes at the top of each page to help them. As before, the activities on Education City are also related to formal writing.

I have also included the answers to last week's guided reading sheet for the children to mark and assess their work along with the next set of guided reading questions (called "Summit Success for Intrepid Becky")

Spelling Shed

There are two assignments for the children to complete this week:

- words with origins in other countries
- Challenge words List 1

As an additional challenge, the children could find out where the 10 words on the list originate from and how they came to be part of our language.

Writing Task 2

Last week, Mr Batstone introduced the idea of researching someone of their choice to do with the film industry, a director, an actor or even a writer or a musician.

I would like the children to use this research to write a biography or a fact-file about their chosen person using the skills and format that they learnt when they wrote about Thomas Edison in the Autumn term and John Cadbury in the Spring term.

The focus would be for the text to be written in a formal style and to contain factual information, linked together in a cohesive, interesting way. The length of the biography may vary from just one page to three or four, there is no specific requirement other than it is written in the children's "own words" and it could even be completed on the computer to allow them to easily include photographs if they so wish.

Again, I would suggest that the writing takes place over a couple of days:

- initial research & fact finding (this may have already been done)
- planning & organising the information into paragraphs (see suggested plan below)
- writing the first draft and then editing and improving their work until they are happy with it.

Features	Notes for my biography
Title	
Overview paragraph	☐ ☐ ☐
Childhood events	
Early life, events and achievements	
Later life, events and achievements	
Concluding paragraph	

Biography Sentence Starters	
At the age of	As a child
When he	A few years later
In her childhood	The following year
Two years later	Sadly
In January 1995	Unfortunately
During	Luckily
While this was happening	As he grew older
From that time	Although
Often he	However
Even though	Once
Eventually	Later
Many times	Early in 2008
Many months later	Soon afterwards
He will be most remembered for	In her final years
Finally	Several months passed
At that time	Her dedication to
Years passed before	After she retired
Shortly before	

As always, please do not hesitate to email admin@madley.hereford.sch.uk if you wish to contact me or if you have any pictures of the exciting things that the children have been up to (such as camping out in the garden as Charlie and William did) that you would like to share.

Best wishes to you all for week ahead.

From Mrs Lacey and the Year 6 Team.