

Enfield Heights Academy

Spring Term 2019 Year 6

English

Year 6 have been working in class from our new 'Literacy and Language' scheme, developed by the same team that created our phonics programme. This scheme introduced the children to a range of age-appropriate texts and writing techniques. Through structured class reading and discussion, the children incrementally plan their extended writing. This scheme has now inspired the year 6 teachers to style their next English lessons, implementing these teaching strategies. In the Spring Term, year 6 are focusing on the text 'Macbeth' which will provide them with many extended writing opportunities.

For comprehension, key stage two have been using 'Comprehension X' in which ten key transferrable comprehension skills are taught through a variety of interesting texts. As we are now at the completion of this scheme, year 6 teachers have taken these strategies of the 'expert tip cards' and are applying them to others texts suitable for the year 6 curriculum. Children continue to engage and enjoy these sessions, allowing them to express character moods and movements through the use of drama.

Children have been placed in small matched ability Reading groups in order to ensure children achieve their full potential in anticipation of the Key Stage 2 SATs examinations this May.

Maths

Following the National Curriculum children will be prepared with the appropriate skills to develop and progress in line with, and exceed National expectations. Children have been placed in small matched ability Mathematics groups in order to ensure children achieve their full potential and are fully prepared for the Key Stage 2 SATs examinations this May. The year 6 teachers, along with a Mathematics specialist have devised a robust medium term plan. From this, teachers have been able to plan succinct lessons, personalising learning in each of the areas of Maths (Number, Measure, Geometry and Statistics).

Enfield Heights Academy has invested money to provide children with a range of concrete resources to support children in developing a deep contextual understanding of Mathematics topics. Teachers have also implemented some teaching strategies used in *Inspire Maths*, the UK version of a highly acclaimed Singapore maths programme. The curriculum places an emphasis on building children's deep contextual understanding and problem solving, through developing key skills and concepts around a CPA approach (Concrete, Pictorial, Abstract). CPA involves using physical objects (concrete), then diagrams or pictures (pictorial) and ultimately using representations such as numerals (abstract). It will also provide further opportunities to check children's understanding by observing their use of concrete apparatus. This guided practice will develop children's deep understanding required for mastery.

Science

Our topics for this half term in Science are Light and Evolution. Year six will be learning about how light travels, developing a deeper understanding of a wide range of scientific ideas through exploring and talking about their ideas, asking their own questions and drawing conclusions based upon their data and observations. In addition to this, they will be looking at how animals and plants were created and changed over time.

Geography

In Topic this term our focus question is '*Where is California located and what is it like?*' We will be introducing the children to North America, focusing more closely on its location, population and economy. We will be further investigating the key features of California's natural and human environments and investigating the impact of migration on population characteristics.

GPS

Children in Year 6 are having daily grammar, punctuation and spelling lessons to aid and improve their writing. They will be looking at word, sentence and text structure, punctuation and vocabulary. Year 6 teachers are teaching and rehearsing the skills needed in order to identify key grammar features within text and improve their understanding of *how* to use these features to strengthen their writing.

Art & Design

Throughout the year, children will be learning to use a range of materials creatively to design and make products. Over the course of this term children will be focussing on the gods/goddesses of Ancient Egypt, looking at the symbolism of these deities and creating their own. By the end of this term children will have produced their own Egyptian mask and known figures from the Egyptian time using clay. In addition to this, children will be working together to explore how printing can be used to create texture.

P.E.

This half term the children will be learning gymnastics and invasion games. By the end of the term children will be able to:

- Use their knowledge of compositional principals to develop sequences that show an awareness of matching and mirroring.
- Use skills, strategies and tactics to outwit their opposition within games such as; netball, basketball and hockey.

Please ensure your child's full PE kit is in school on **Mondays**.

Homework

Homework will be set weekly on a Friday and will be expected to be returned by **Wednesday**. Homework will consist of English and Maths which will be a consolidation of their learning in class. Children are also reminded to continually rehearse their list of Year 5 / 6 spellings which were sent out on parents' consultation day.

Children are expected to read out loud to an adult daily and be observed reading independently. Adults are encouraged to ask their children questions about the book, to further cement their understanding. Children's reading books will be changed once a week. Please ensure your child brings in their library book and reading record daily.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Miss Williams