

Year 6 Class Newsletter

2nd Half Autumn term 2018



Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope you have all had a restful and relaxing half term. We have got a busy but exciting term ahead of us. This term is a very important term as it allows children to consolidate the basic skills in all areas of their learning. Children need to be getting a good night's sleep to ensure that they are alert enough to progress in their learning. I look forward to meeting you all at parents' evening on the 13th, 14th and 20th November.

Our half termly topic this term is: Family Tree

What we will be learning as part of our topic: we will explore the scientific theory of evolution by natural selection which was created by Charles Darwin. This theory will allow us to explore how animals and people have changed and adapted to their environments over long periods of time, looking at the evidence of this through fossils. We will explore how offspring inherit attributes from their parents. The children will also learn about artificial selection and come to understand how we can select attributes that we want in dog breeding and crop growing. They will create and perform a song using all that they have learned.

What we will be learning in English: we will be reading the works of William Shakespeare. We will be immersed in the mystical world of Macbeth; we will explore the events of the story which include betrayal, manipulation and regret. We will use drama to explore the complicated characters in this tragic tale and the children will have the chance to write as these characters. We will also discuss ideas around fate and self-fulfilling prophecies. The children will get the chance to read Romeo and Juliet and to compare the two Shakespearean tales.

What we will be learning in Maths: to use calculation techniques in different contexts. We will be honing our mental maths skills in daily sessions. The children will be using critical thinking when approaching maths problems and making decisions about whether a calculation can be done mentally or using a formal method. The children will be given problems in many different contexts to help them develop confidence in their skills. We will be carrying out different investigations throughout the term to allow all children to explore maths deeply and come to their own conclusions and to develop their critical thinking.

Other activities, trips and events this half term:

- On Thursday 15th November we will be visiting the O2 to watch the Nitto ATP Tennis finals
- The 21st November 12 children will attend the Tower Hamlets book awards final. I would love to take the whole class but unfortunately the venue does not have the capacity.

What you can do to help: children should be reading for half an hour every single day- this will help them to have more stamina in their reading ability. If you can read with your child, it will help develop a love of reading. If you have access to the internet then please visit websites such as Skoolbo and BBC BITESIZE .

Things to remember:

- PE kits need to be brought in every Monday and taken home every Friday to be washed.
- Homework is given out every Friday and is due back to school the following Wednesday.
- Remember! – school starts at 8:55. All children should be lined up and ready each morning.
- Every child should have a bottle of water in school, please ensure your child has one.
- It is also essential that children remember their glasses if they wear them.

Other information: week beginning 12th November is anti-bullying week we will be focusing on the importance of not being a bystander.

Best wishes from the class team:

Alice White - class teacher, Emily Harris-Casey - HTLA