



Our Year 6 Classroom News

Spring Term Information

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From the Year 6 Team

Thank you for a supportive start to the year 6 and we are very pleased with the children's attitude to their learning and their progress this term.

We hope you all have a lovely Christmas break, and the children return in January refreshed and raring to go for our new term and an exciting new topic! Have a very merry Christmas and a happy new year!

Alex Robertson, Jen Stanley, Dawn Burton and the team

Our Topic

We are very excited to announce our spring term topic, 'Survival of the Fittest'. It will have a geography focus, when we will be looking at Antarctica (including Ernest Shackleton's expedition there) and comparing its environment with different environments around the world (including Grove Park!). There will also be a science and history focus, looking at 'Evolution and Inheritance' and the work of Charles Darwin and Mary Anning. We will be exploring these learning questions:

- How can we survive in Antarctica?
- What is life like in Antarctica?
- How do penguins look after their eggs?
- Why is Charles Darwin famous?
- How is Grove Park different to Antarctica and Buenos Aires?
- Where and when did the Endurance travel?
- What events happened to the crew of the Endurance?
- What finally happened to the crew of the Endurance?
- Who was more influential, Charles Darwin or Mary Anning?
- Can we scale models and maps up and down?
- What does 'Survival of the Fittest' mean for the future?

We will be learning in an exciting, cross-curricular way next term, meaning lots of subjects will be combined and taught in creative ways, producing wonderful outcomes and promoting a real enthusiasm for the topic.

The children will continue to practise their computing skills with Miss Riley and also work on French and RE with Mr Watts.

On Friday 6th January, we will have our topic **Launch Day** and we would like the children to dress in 'Survival' outfits. These could include cold weather clothes, camouflage outfits etc. We would also like the children to bring in a survival kit, in which they have packed items they consider essential for survival. Throughout that day, we will be doing fun and exciting activities to launch our topic.

Things to Remember

Home Learning: The children will continue to have Reading Journal, maths and spelling homework each week. Occasionally, they will also be set other homework. Please continue to ensure that your child completes their homework to the best of their ability and returns it to school on the correct day:
Reading Journals are due in on Mondays
Spelling homework is due in on Tuesdays
Maths homework is due in on Wednesdays.
In year 6, it is very important that the children develop good habits for their homework, as it helps prepare them for the transition to secondary school.

PE Times for both classes:

Indoor PE on Mondays
Outdoor PE on Tuesdays

LAUNCH DAY:

Our 'Survival of the Fittest' Launch Day is on Friday 6th January and the children should wear a 'survival' costume and bring in an emergency survival kit (see left for details).



Important Dates

LAUNCH DAY: Friday 6th January 2016
PARENT CONFERENCES: 11th & 12th January
WORLD BOOK WEEK: w/b Monday 27th February
TRIP TO DOWN HOUSE:
Monument - Wednesday 15th March
Marble Arch - Thursday 16th March