

Russia/China class Newsletter

Autumn 1 2019

TOPIC

Our topic in year 6 this half term is World War One - we will be looking into aspects such as the causes and effects of the war, soldiers' experiences and how we pay respect to soldiers today. The children will be given the opportunity to explore areas of the topic that spark their interest through research and projects.

SIGNIFICANT LEARNING

Significant learning focuses on a cross-curricular approach and allows children to link their learning across topics. All learning this half term will be linked to WW1, such as: war poetry in literacy, map work around countries involved in the war in geography and building war based models in art and DT. All topic work will be completed in a 'Learning Journey', which is a book that documents the link that the children are making across different areas of their learning.

READING

This year, as a school, we are really promoting reading to the children and have implemented many things to our daily routine to create a love of reading. In year 6, we would like the children to read for pleasure and show enthusiasm for different types of literature. Some of the things that we have introduced are:

- 'Starbooks', where the children each have a starbooks card and every time they finish a whole book, they get a stamp. When their card is full, they will receive a prize for being a super reader!
- Each child writes a book review once they have finished reading book.
- Each class is read to twice a day (a novel that links to their topic).

During daily reciprocal reading, children read in different groups and each have a different role (which changes weekly). The roles are: Boss, Predictor, Summariser, Questioner and Clarifier. The adult working with them will write in their diary that they have read in a group.

Children are expected to read a **minimum of three times a week**. By year 6, we understand that a lot of children read independently, however, we still ask for parents/carers to sign their reading diaries so that we can monitor and to ensure every child benefits from reading rewards at school.

SPELLINGS

The children will now be tested on their spellings every Wednesday and get given their new spellings on the same day - these will be stuck inside their reading diaries. Please ensure that children have their reading diaries in school **every day**. It would be much appreciated if parents could support the children in learning their weekly spellings.

MATHS

This year, every child has been placed into a set according to their ability in order to target any gaps in their learning. Over the next half term, we will be focusing on place value and the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division).

PE

PE will be on a Thursday - please ensure children have their full PE kit, which consists of trainers, shorts, trousers and a T-shirt, in school **every day**. Children with medium-long hair must be tied back. **Earrings need to be removed on this day otherwise they will be unable to take part.**

HOMEWORK

From constructive feedback from the parents at Winter Gardens, the structure of homework has changed this year. Every child will still have a purple book to stick in their homework sheets and to complete any writing-based homework.

Project work - will be set once, at the beginning of every half term and is to be handed in at the end of the half term. It will be based around the topic we are learning about and will provide the children with the opportunity to be creative. **This homework is optional.**

Weekly homework - This consists of Times Table Rockstars, daily reading and learning and practicing of spellings. The children will be assessed on these weekly at school. **This homework is not optional.**

At 8:30 am, children will be working on their Literacy/Maths learning and next steps, therefore we would ask that your child arrives at school promptly.

If you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to come and ask.

Miss Lake and Miss Roche