

Year 5/6 Newsletter – Autumn 1

Welcome

We would like to extend a very warm welcome back to all our Year 5/6 children and families after the summer holidays. We hope everyone has had a restful, enjoyable break and is ready for an exciting year of learning ahead.

This term, we are looking forward to seeing the children settle back into school routines, reconnect with friends and embrace new challenges. Year 5/6 is an important stage of the children's learning journey, where we will continue to develop independence, resilience and a love of learning across all areas of the curriculum.

We have a fantastic range of topics, enrichment opportunities and memorable experiences planned for the year. We encourage all children to approach each day with enthusiasm, curiosity and a positive attitude, striving to do their very best both in and out of the classroom.

We are excited to work together to ensure every child reaches their full potential and enjoys a successful and rewarding year. Thank you for your continued support—we look forward to sharing plenty of achievements and celebrations with you throughout the year.

Welcome back, Year 5/6 – let's make it a fantastic year!  

If you need to contact us, please do not hesitate to arrange a meeting with us via the office at admin@seathorneprimaryacademy.org

The Year 5/6 team

Spelling and Reading

We focus on one spelling rule at a time and spread the learning over a number of weeks, and this is chosen from our recent assessments. We also revisit previously taught spelling rules in low-stake quizzes.

We will be reading a wide variety of texts, continuing to work on skills such as inference and explanation, finding evidence in the text to support our arguments.

Our class story is "Hatchet" by Gary Paulsen then "Holes" by Louis Sachar.



English

This term in English, we will be exploring the fascinating continent of North America through a range of exciting reading and writing opportunities. We will be reading *Snow White in New York* by Fiona French to develop our understanding of narrative writing. The children will create their own imaginative stories based on the themes, settings and characters from these books.

Alongside our narrative work, we will be developing our non-fiction writing skills by writing instructions and non-chronological reports from our class book "Hatchet"



Maths



This term, pupils in our Year 5/6 classes will develop their understanding of place value, building confidence with reading, writing, ordering and comparing numbers. Year 5 pupils will work with numbers up to 1,000,000, while Year 6 pupils will extend this understanding to numbers up to 10,000,000. Children will use their knowledge of number to round, estimate and solve increasingly complex problems. We will also focus on the four operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Pupils will practise formal written methods, develop mental calculation strategies and apply their skills to real-life problem-solving and reasoning tasks. Learning will include multiplying and dividing by powers of 10, using factors and multiples, and strengthening recall of multiplication facts. Throughout the term, children will be encouraged to explain their mathematical thinking, justify their answers and use mathematical vocabulary accurately. Regular opportunities for reasoning and problem-solving will help pupils become confident, resilient mathematicians who can apply their knowledge in a range of contexts. To support learning at home, we encourage pupils to practise times tables regularly and discuss numbers and calculations in everyday situations.

Science

This term, we will be investigating the fascinating properties of matter. Through practical experiments and investigations, the children will explore and compare different materials, examining their properties such as hardness, solubility, transparency, conductivity and magnetism. They will learn how materials can change state and discover how scientific evidence can be used to classify and select materials for different purposes. We look forward to developing the children's curiosity, enquiry skills and scientific understanding through hands-on learning experiences. 

Art

Through art this term, we will encourage pupils to explore portraiture through a range of creative techniques. Children will create portraits using words, printmaking and mixed media, experimenting with different materials, backgrounds and compositions. They will develop their ability to communicate ideas, evaluate artwork using appropriate art vocabulary, research artists and express their own opinions. By the end of the unit, pupils will create a meaningful self-portrait that reflects their identity while demonstrating thoughtful artistic choices and techniques.

Geography

This term, we will be exploring the diverse continent of North America. They will investigate its countries, major cities and physical features, including mountains, rivers and climate zones. Children will compare different regions, learn about human and physical geography, and discover how people live across this varied and fascinating continent. Through map work, research and discussions, pupils will develop a deeper understanding of North America's landscapes, cultures and environments

Music



This term, pupils will be exploring the rich tradition of sea shanties. They will learn about the history and purpose of these sailors' work songs, discovering how music was used to coordinate tasks and boost morale at sea. Through singing, listening and performing, children will develop their understanding of rhythm, pitch and harmony while enjoying some of the most famous sea shanties. Pupils will also have opportunities to create and perform their own musical pieces inspired by this lively and historic genre. 

PE

This term, we will be developing their teamwork, communication and physical skills through Tag Rugby and Outdoor Adventurous Activities (OAA). In Tag Rugby, children will learn and practise key skills such as passing, catching, evasion and teamwork while developing an understanding of tactics and game play. Through OAA, pupils will take part in a range of problem-solving challenges that encourage cooperation, resilience and leadership. These activities will help children build confidence, stay active and work effectively with others in a fun and supportive environment.



Orangutans and Macaws PE lessons are Mondays and Tuesdays

PSHE

This term, we will be following the Jigsaw PSHE programme, which helps children develop the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to thrive both in school and beyond. Through engaging discussions and activities, pupils will explore topics such as building positive relationships, managing emotions, setting goals, recognising their strengths and understanding their role as responsible members of the community. Jigsaw encourages children to develop confidence, resilience, empathy and respect for others, supporting their personal growth and wellbeing.

Computing

This term, we will be learning about the internet and how it connects computers and people around the world. They will explore how information is shared online, discover how websites and search engines work, and develop their understanding of staying safe and responsible when using digital technology. Through practical activities and discussions, children will build their digital literacy skills and gain a greater appreciation of the opportunities and challenges of our connected world.

RE

This term, we will explore how Christians express their beliefs through different forms of worship, prayer, service and acts of kindness. They will learn how worship can be both personal and communal and investigate how Christian beliefs inspire people to care for others.

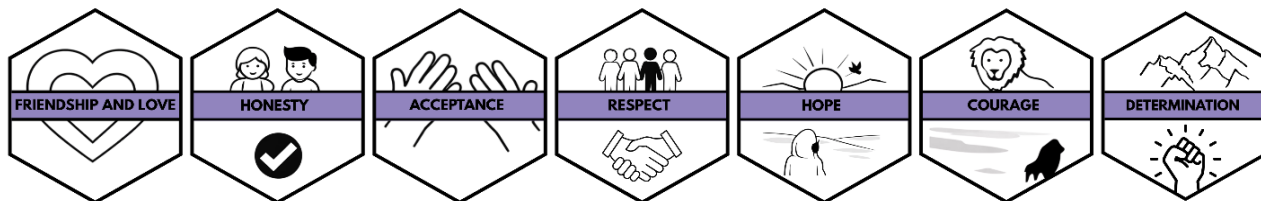


Reminders

As a reminder, our school uniform for Upper Key Stage 2 is a white shirt (with stiff collar i.e buttoned up shirt) and school tie with black or grey trousers/skirt and black shoes.

Children are expected to read at home daily. Reading records should be brought into school each Friday for Dojo points to be awarded. These will be checked by an adult.





Skills Builder

The Skills Builder Universal Framework provides a common language for building essential skills with children and young people.

Research shows that building essential skills supports social and emotional wellbeing, learning and academic outcomes and careers and opportunities.



Times Tables Rockstars



Year group information

Macaws

Class Teacher: Mrs. Brader

Teaching Assistants: Mrs. Fletcher and Mrs. Clarke

Orangutans

Class Teacher: Mr. Baker

Teaching Assistants: Mrs. Shortland

Please remember to name your child's uniform and belongings

Please remember if you are making your child a packed lunch, we ask you not to put anything in that contains nuts.



Dates for the diary!

Autumn 1

Wednesday 2nd September – We welcome our pupils back.

Friday 11th September – 11+ Verbal Reasoning

W/C Monday 14th September – 1st Year 6 Assessments

Friday 18th September – 11+ Non-Verbal Reasoning

Friday 9th October – 11+ results sent to parents at midday.

Wednesday 14th October – British Museum: the Bayeux Tapestry School Broadcast

Friday 23rd October – Break up for the half term break.

Saturday 31st October – Year 6 Secondary School Admission closes